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19TH AMENDMENT
CREATED AN
IMBALANCE IN
GOVT HIERARCHY



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BOGOLLAGAMA SLAMS SOLHEIM'S CONTROVERSIAL TWEETS



By Maneshka Borham

Former Minister of Foreign Affairs Rohitha Bogollagama has slammed the recent controversial tweets by the then Norwegian peace negotiator Erik Solheim during the last stages of Sri Lanka's battle against terrorism. "Their partial conduct at the time is evident from the recent statements," he told the *Sunday Observer*. ▶ TO PAGE 2

ANGODA LOKKA'S DEATH

SUSPECT'S DAUGHTER RAISED SUSPICION

By Maneshka Borham

The parents of Indian counsel D. Sivakami Sundari (36), one of the suspects arrested for forging documents and helping the Sri Lankan underworld figure Maddumage Lasantha Chandana Perera, alias Angoda Lokka to remain in India illegally has claimed that it was their daughter who first raised suspicions on his sudden death.

Her father, Dinakaran, a known LTTE sympathiser has told Indian media that it was because of her suspicion that an autopsy was performed on Lokka. ▶ TO PAGE 2

Expose Yahapalanaya fraudulent trade policy

- GMOA

By Nadira Gunatilleke

The Government Medical Officers' Association (GMOA) has called upon the Government to appoint a Presidential Commission to expose the fraudulent trade policy presented by the Yahapalana junta led by former parliamentarian Malik Samarawickrama, GMOA Secretary Dr. Senal Fernando said.

He told a media briefing in Colombo that the entire Parliament, Cabinet and the country were misled by Malik Samarawickrama, Mangala Yapa, Ravi Rathnayake and Chandani Wijewardena by formulating a fraudulent 'Trade Policy'. The gang named this fraudulent trade policy as the... ▶ TO PAGE 2



SJB VOWS TO FIGHT GOVT'S BID

20th AMENDMENT BEFORE 2021 BUDGET

By Manjula Fernando

The 20th Amendment to the Constitution which will change many provisions in the 19th Amendment while preserving certain features, will be presented in Parliament before November and it will precede the 2021 Budget, authoritative sources in the Government said. Justice Minister Ali Sabry presented the Cabinet pro-

posal for the 20th Amendment at the last Cabinet meeting and the sources said the Legal Draftsman was already preparing the new legislation.

The first draft of the 20th Amendment is expected to be taken up by the Cabinet shortly.

Education Minister Prof. G.L. Peiris told the *Sunday Observer* the 20th Amendment will negate certain conundrums in the 19th

Amendment. "We will do away with the four and a half year rule to dissolve Parliament and the executive powers transferred to the Prime Minister will be reinstated among others."

However, the Government has not made it known what the fate would be of the Constitutional Council, the National Election Commission and the Police Commission. ▶ TO PAGE 2



Ensuring basic needs of villagers: President Gotabaya Rajapaksa at the Neluwa-Lankagama road site where he listened to the grievances of the villagers with no road connecting their villages to main towns, directed the officials to continue the road construction work without harming the environment. He was accompanied by Highways Minister Johnston Fernando, Environment Minister Mahinda Amaraweera, Plantation Industries Minister Ramesh Pathirana, State Minister Mohan de Silva, MPs Sampath Athukorala, Nipuna Ranawaka, Chandima Weerakkody, Weerasumana Weersinghe and Southern Province Governor Willie Gamage Pic: Courtesy PMD

PRESIDENT GIVES GREEN LIGHT

Work on Neluwa-Lankagama road to continue

By Aanya Wipulasena

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa yesterday said that construction work on the Neluwa-Lankagama road that bordered the Sinharaja Forest Reserve should be continued

and added that the people's needs would be fulfilled without harming the environment. The objective of the President's visit to the area was to seek the views of residents in the area on how to continue the project that was subjected to scrutiny by environmentalists who claimed that the road construction could cause damage to the forest reserve. Soon after the protests by environmentalists the President ordered that construction work be halted on the road. ▶ TO PAGE 2

SLPP won't welcome Rauff and Rishad

By Lakshme Parasuraman

Several parliamentarians elected to Parliament from the Sri Lanka Muslim Congress (SLMC) and the All Ceylon Makkal Congress (ACMC)

are having discussions to join hands under a different banner to extend their support to the Government, sources said.

The proposed political party has been named, Muslim National

Alliance. A newly elected SLMC parliamentarian has taken the lead to form the new party. He met Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa on several occasions and held... ▶ TO PAGE 2

19th Amendment, an impediment in forward march - Aluthgamage

By Uditha Kumarasinghe

Agriculture Minister Mahindananda Aluthgamage said the 19th Amendment has become a great impediment in the country's forward march while the people have given the Govern-



ment a resounding mandate of a two-thirds majority for a new Constitution and this was one of the Government's election pledges. We would include the Right to Information in the proposed 20th Amendment and we will not remove the salutary features in the 19th Amendment. However, we have serious issues... ▶ TO PAGE 2

Tax on imported plastics soon



By Aanya Wipulasena

The Government will introduce a new tax on all imported plastic products shortly to protect wildlife and the environment, Minister of Environment Mahinda Amaraweera said.

The decision was taken after plastic was found in the carcass

of elephants and deer and the effect of plastic on the environment. The tax will include imported polythene products.

"We are planning to impose a heavy tax on these..." ▶ TO PAGE 2

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News

DWC seeks to recruit 3,000 range officers

BY MANESHKA BORHAM

The understaffed Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWC) has put forward a proposal to recruit 3,000 range officers.

According to DWC Director General Chandana Sooriyabandara, the proposal has been forwarded to the National Pay Commission.

"They have asked us for a clarification on our requirement," he said, adding that the DWC will make a further presentation to the Commission on the matter.

The Department has only 1,000 range officers to protect the land mass and wildlife that come under the purview of the DWC in accordance with the Fauna and Flora Ordinance. The need for more range officers arose when part of the Anawilundawa wetland sanctuary was illegally cleared by several persons on June 25.

According to Sooriyabandara, the Department has only two wildlife range officers to man over 1,000 hectares of the wetland park.

"We have a few civil security defence officers helping us," he said. "This is the situation in all parks and sanctuaries under the DWC," Sooriyabandara added. Attorney-at Law and environmentalist Jagath Gunawardana said the DWC cannot be blamed for what happened at the Anawilundawa wetland sanctuary as the Department is understaffed.

"The two range officers cannot cover the area even if they travel within the park all day," he said. A businessman at Udappuwa was arrested by the Police yesterday for illegal clearing of the Anawilundawa wetland sanctuary. On Friday, the Police also arrested the operator of the bulldozer used for the clearing. Nearly a hectare had been cleared by the suspects on June 25.

Education Ministry and UN to uplift education sector

Rising demand for opportunities in Vocational Training

BY AANYA WIPUALSENA

The Education Ministry and United Nations representatives will hold discussions in a bid to start a program to support skills development in the education sector in the country within the next three months, Ministry sources said.

The decision to hold discussions was reached when Education Minister Prof. G. L. Peiris met UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative Hanna Singer last week.

The Minister has said that there was an urgent need to respond to the rising demand for opportunities in vocational training, a statement by the Ministry said.

"The Ministry is planning to strengthen and diversify avenues of entry at different stages into vocational training institutions, such as the Sri Lanka Institute of Advanced Technology, the National Apprenticeship and Industrial Training Authority and the Department of Technical and

Educational Training," the statement said.

He said that the key challenge in the educational system is linking together general, higher, tertiary, technical and vocational education systems.

The UN representatives have expressed interest in training and skills development of the youth in the country.

The contribution which UNICEF could make into primary education, nutrition and related matters was also discussed.



PCoI on the Easter Sunday attacks

Former Govt's lethargic attitude to national security revealed

BY MANESHKA BORHAM

The lethargic attitude of the former Government to national security was revealed this week when former Director of the State Intelligence Service (SIS) Senior DIG Nilantha Jayawardena told the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) on the Easter Sunday attacks that only five Intelligence review meetings were held since January 2019. According to Jayawardena, 26 such meetings should have been held prior to the date of the attack. Jayawardena has appeared before the Commission for 21 consecutive days.

Jayawardena said that he had sent 347 reports on terror mastermind Zahran Hashim to various officials periodically. Former IGP Pujith Jayasundara had requested further reports on two or three occasions, he

said, adding that no other officer had paid any attention to SIS reports. "If at least one official read the reports I sent, innocent people would have not died," he said.

Jayawardena's evidence before the PCoI also raised doubts on the ability of former officials to understand reports on intelligence information submitted by the SIS. On Thursday, Jayawardena was cross-examined by counsel Dilshan Jayasuriya appearing on behalf of former Secretary of Defence Hemasiri Fernando.

Asked as to why he had merely mentioned as 'Top Secret' but had not elaborated on the tip received on April 4, 2019 about a possible attack in a document sent to the Former Chief of National Intelligence (CNI) DIG (Rtd.) Sisira Mendis, Jayawardena said, "I thought he would understand what 'top secret' meant. All my super-

iors had knowledge of intelligence information. He was the CNI from 2015 and this is not the first piece of information I had sent after labelling it as top secret."

"I believed that officers appointed by the Cabinet would be able to read a report and understand its content. But now I feel I should have, in writing, detailed the recommendations on what action to take as well," he added.

According to Jayawardena, the issue was perhaps that he was focused on Zahran Hashim and his activities till the attack occurred. "I think the fault here is that I focused only on Zahran," he said.

Jayawardena revealed that IGP Pujith Jayasundara had not attended security council meetings since October 2018. "After October the year before until the day after the attack,

he attended only one security council meeting," he said. Jayawardena said though the security council too had not met regularly prior to the attack, they had met daily after the attacks on April 21.

The PCoI has issued summons to five parliamentarians and four former parliamentarians to report to the Police investigation unit of the PCoI.

Ranjith Maddumabandara, Sivanesathurai Chandrakanthan, Minister Keheliya Rambukwella, State Minister Dilum Amunugama and A.H.M Haleem have been summoned along with former MPs Sunil Handunetti, Akila Viraj Kariyawasam, Ashu Marasinghe and Mangala Samaraweera. They have been summoned to give a statement on comments they have made on the Easter Sunday attacks and IS terrorists, a spokesman for the PCoI said.



Indian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka Gopal Baglay paid a courtesy call on Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardane at the Parliamentary Complex on Thursday. Secretary General of Parliament Dhammika Dasanayake was also present.

20th Amendment... From page 1

The term of the National Election Commission will expire in November.

One of the major flaws in the 19th Amendment is the quorum of the National Election Commission - without having all three members present, the Commission cannot convene and it became a serious concern during the last parliamentary election with one of the Commission members Prof. Ratnajeewan Hoole taking a stance against holding the election.

Prof. Peiris said that the Audit Commission will continue to function even after the 20th Amendment.

In response to the Opposition's allegations, Justice Minister Ali Sabry said even the architects of the 19th Amendment, Dr. Jayampathy Wick-

remaratne and M.A.Sumanthiran held the view that the particular amendment to the Constitution was faulty and, therefore, cannot be sustained.

If the draft receives the green light at the Cabinet, it will be tabled in Parliament where the Speaker will refer it to the Supreme Court to test its constitutionality and later placed in the order paper for debate.

The Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB), the main Opposition in Parliament, has vowed to fight the Government's bid to repeal the 19th Amendment. SLMC leader, Rauf Hakeem, a main constituent of the SJB, however, said they will support the Government to remove obnoxious features in the Amendment but will not agree to abolish the law completely.

SLPP won't welcome... From page 1

...discussions in this connection, the sources said. The members discussed supporting the Government on the 20th Amendment in Parliament too.

However, Sri Lanka Podujana

Peramuna (SLPP) sources said they would not entertain any discussions with parliamentarians Rauf Hakeem and Rishad Bathiudeen or welcome them to the Government.

Expose Yahapalanaya... From page 1

... 'New Trade Policy' and not National Trade Policy.

According to Dr. Fernando, this fraudulent Trade Policy was used to sign an extremely harmful trade agreement with Singapore. This should be now rectified and the truth revealed to

the country. The GMOA thanks Minister Bandula Gunawardena for agreeing to obtain Cabinet approval to formulate the National Trade Policy. The GMOA feels that he would use his vast knowledge to perform this national task successfully, he added.

Work on Neluwa-Lankagama... From page 1

During his inspection yesterday the President gave the green light to develop 18 kilometres of the Deniyaya road via Neluwa, Warukandeniya and Lankagama. He said that the 1,100 metre road through the Sinharaja Forest Reserve should be built under the supervision of government officials.

The road will be constructed by the Sri Lanka Army under the supervision of the Road Development Authority. It is expected to reduce the travelling time from Lankagama to Deniyaya from four hours to 45 minutes.

The President said that the road should not damage the reserve or the ecosystem.

The road will connect villages such as Lankagama, bordering the Sinharaja Forest Reserve to the main

cities.

"The existing road is about 40 years old. We are now widening this road because the villagers do not have any other access to the closest towns," Director General, Presidential Media Mohan Samaranyake said.

A media release from the Presidential media unit stated that Lankagama dates back to the days of King Walagamba and added that tea cultivation was the main livelihood of the people in the area. For over a century, villagers have been carrying tea leaves to Deniyaya and Neluwa on the road near the Sinharaja Forest Reserve where the roads were a major obstacle during their travel.

It was also decided to introduce a bus service daily from Neluwa to Deniyaya.

19th Amendment... From page 1

...regarding the independent commissions appointed by the former Yahapalana Government, the Minister told the Sunday Observer yesterday.

He said that anybody can send an anonymous letter to the Bribery Commission, so that an investigation will be conducted. Then they will bring the complainant to the Bribery Commission where perhaps he would be subjected to harassment. Earlier, there was no such practice in the Bribery Commission. The normal procedure was changed by the Yahapalana Government to repress their political opponents. Therefore, those Commissions were not independent at all.

Minister Aluthgamage said many changes need to be made to

these independent commissions. We are studying this and no final decision has been taken. There is a series of issues with regard to the independent commissions. First, we would only abolish the 19th Amendment and later we would dispositionally discuss the contents of the 20th Amendment.

Asked whether the main Opposition SJB asserts that the Government attempts to bring in the 20th Amendment to realise its ulterior motives, the Minister said we should not take the SJB seriously. They could not win even a single district. There is no point in talking about a party rejected by the people. The people have given a resounding mandate to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and our task is to work for the well-being of the people.

Bogollagama slams... From page 1

In a controversial tweet recently Solheim referred to LTTE terror leader Pulidevan as his dear friend and labelled the deaths of terrorists Pulidevan and Nadesan during the last stages of Sri Lanka's battle against terrorism as war crimes.

"We did our utmost to help but could not stop this horrendous act. Those in the Sri Lanka Army and politicians should be held responsible for the deaths of the terror leaders" Sol-

heim's tweet read. "A comment from the Norwegian peace intermediary Solheim on a subject matter that amounted to several thousands of innocent people being killed by the LTTE both in Sri Lanka and India, including the killing of two Heads of State, President Ranasinghe Premadasa and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, Foreign Minister Lakshman Karidgramar and several Tamil leaders in Sri Lanka including Appapillai Amirthalingam and

Neelan Thiruchelvam speaks volumes for the bias and the most inclined assessment in favour of the terrorist organisation," he said.

Had Sri Lanka's destiny been vested in the hands of the so-called mediators such as Solheim and the Norwegian King, without President Mahinda Rajapaksa's immediate intervention in defeating terrorism and restoring peace, the country would still be saddled with the most prolonged conflict

in the world, Bogollagama said.

"Fortunately, the 2005 election was in favour of President Rajapaksa which brought in a dimension not witnessed in the annals of Sri Lanka's politics for nearly 30 years in defeating terrorism and restoring democracy," he added.

Bogollagama said some are now waking up to the ground realities of the defeat of terrorism in Sri Lanka and regretting their own failure in perpetuating an evil terror regime in Sri Lanka.

Suspect's daughter... From page 1

Dinakaran has said that after Sivakami was informed by someone about Angoda Lokka's death on the phone, she had left Madurai for Coimbatore.

"Had Lokka's postmortem report raised any suspicion of unnatural death, the police could have made the arrests on murder charges. But all the people were arrested on charges of forging documents," he said.

Her parents had said that Sivakami was accompanied by Amani Dhanji, the purported mistress of Angoda Lokka when she returned home after the cremation of Lokka at Thathaneri in Madurai.

The Indian Police have accused Sundari on Dhanji's instructions of having visited the Peelamedu Police station after Angoda Lokka's death on July 4 claiming that a relative of her named Pradeep Singh had died

Tax on imported... From page 1

...products to discourage imports," Minister Amaraweera said.

He said the Government will also halt manufacturing plastic and polythene in the country, but that will not be immediately," he said.

According to a report of the Auditor General's Department, almost 70 percent of the plastic imported to the country is disposed directly to the environment.

However, this is not the first time that such a ban was introduced. Two attempts in 1994 and 2006 were futile due to pressure from polythene manufacturers and

retailers.

Through the enactment of the Environmental Conservation Levy Act No. 26 of 2008, an Environmental Conservation Levy was imposed to change the behavioural patterns of consumers.

Later in 2018, a partial ban that limited the use of polythene or polythene products of 20 microns or below in thickness came into effect.

Any person who violates the ban under the 2018 law, on conviction can be imprisoned for two years or fined up to Rs. 15,000 or be subject to both penalties.

territorial integrity of Sri Lanka," he said.

As the then Minister of Foreign Affairs he had witnessed on two occasions how biased the Norwegian negotiators were in Geneva in accommodating the voice of the terrorists over the legitimacy of the Government of Sri Lanka. "The sudden comments made now are due to the overwhelming mandate secured by the Sri Lankan Government recently," he said.

Lanka, Norway to strengthen fisheries and maritime sector ties

The fisheries sector has been an important part of the Sri Lanka-Norway bilateral relations and Norway is interested in further strengthening the ties through a number of projects in the fisheries and maritime sectors.

The Ambassador of Norway to Sri Lanka Trine Jorlanli Eskedal during a meeting with Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa at Temple Trees last week spoke about the long-standing friendship between the two countries that commenced with the cooperation in the fisheries sector.

"Fisheries is the cornerstone of our bilateral

relations," Ambassador Eskedal said.

Noting the importance of the fisheries sector to Sri Lanka, Prime Minister Rajapaksa stressed the need to address the problem of bottom trawling that is destroying the marine environment.

Prime Minister Rajapaksa also conveyed to Ambassador Eskedal that the main priority for Sri Lanka now and during the post Covid-19 years will be economic development, with a specific focus on attracting investors who can now have more confidence in doing business in Sri Lanka following the stability achieved after the

Presidential and General Elections. Ambassador Eskedal commended the government for its swift and quick reaction to the global pandemic.

"Congratulations on managing the election during Covid," the Ambassador said. "It was a

peaceful election and well-managed with the challenges of Covid. Congratulations on your successful campaign."

The two delegations discussed a number of ongoing projects that has Norwegian involve-

ment and several new projects that are being planned for future implementation. "We already have good bilateral relations; we want to strengthen that," Ambassador Eskedal said. "We want to confirm our commitment to Sri Lanka."



Ambassador of Norway to Sri Lanka Trine Jorlanli Eskedal and her delegation meet Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa

Snr. DIG Roshan Fernando conferred PhD by British American University

Senior Deputy Inspector General of Police, Roshan Fernando was awarded Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Honouris Causa in law and criminology by the British American University of Florida, USA at a ceremony at the BMICH, Colombo last week.

Fernando is the longest serving Senior DIG who has completed over 38 years as a Field Officer in Sri Lanka Police. He joined the Sri Lanka Police as a Sub Inspector in 1982 and is a pioneer member of the STF. He was trained in Israel for anti-terrorist combat and later gained professional qualifications in Japan, Singapore, Nepal, Iran and China.

He had served in Chilaw, Puttalam, Gampola, Nugegoda and Jaffna Divisions as SSP and Badulla, Moneragala, Kurunegala and Special Protection Range as DIG and Northern, Southern, Sabaragamuwa and Central Provinces as Senior DIG. At present he serves on a Special Assignment on the Prevention of the Spread of Covid-19 at the Police Headquarters. He has been awarded seven IG's Commendations and two Special Increments for his unblemished career.

He is an all-round product of Royal College, Colombo who captained Royal College athletics in 1979, where he led to the victory of all three major schools championships- the Junior John Tarbet Meet, Senior Tarbet Meet and the Relay Carnival. He was a Public Schools senior meet record holder. He was also a Senior Prefect and became the Head Prefect of Royal College Hostel and in 1980 he won the Best All-Round Hosteller Award.

He started his schooling at St. Mary's College, Negombo, where his Under 11



Snr. DIG Roshan Fernando

Long Jump record in athletics for the Marians still remain unbroken for 49 years. As an Under 16 athlete at Royal College, he had accounted for five records, including the Long Jump which still remains intact after 44 years.

His research interests include Human Rights law, criminology and International Relations. He is a researcher who has published several researches in many international symposiums. In 2007, he was awarded "Singapore Excellence Award" for the contribution in the field of Government Defense Activities and he is also a recipient of "Northern Humanitarian Operation Medal" for his untiring service rendered during the battle against terrorism.

PM to open Pain Management Centre in Colombo



Consultant in pain medicine Dr. Namal Senasinghe

Rajapaksa on September 2 at Horton Place Colombo on the invitation of consultant in pain medicine Dr. Namal Senasinghe. The centre has residential facilities for overseas and outstation patients. It will provide physiotherapy services to meet international standards.

Dr. Senasinghe had his early education at Trinity College, Kandy. He graduated from the North Colombo Medical College with a MBBS. Four years after his graduation he immigrated to England for his higher studies. He underwent training in anes-



thesia, intensive care and pain medicine at the London School of Anesthesia at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London. He became a consultant in pain medicine in 2003 at East Kent University NHS trust.

He gave up private practice in the UK 13 years ago and brings with him 17 years of experience as a consultant in pain medicine.

Pain is poorly managed due to lack of expertise and medication. Dr. Senasinghe's mission is to introduce proper pain management to Sri Lanka.

However, this is a major challenge due to lack of resources and support from the health authorities.

"No one should be made to suffer due to pain. To improve pain services in Sri Lanka we need proper medication according to the World Health Organization's steps such as morphines, physiotherapy, trained consultants in pain medicine, multidisciplinary team work and funding

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Overwhelming mandate to change Constitution

— Minister Aluthgamage

By
Uditha
Kumarasinghe



Agriculture Minister Mahindananda Aluthgamage said that the former Yahapalana Government introduced the 19th Amendment to the Constitution for their political survival. The sole purpose of the 19th Amendment was to prevent the Rajapaksa re-entering politics. At present, the 19th Amendment has created a lot of difficulties. For example, the Executive President is not in a position to appoint the IGP.

Whoever is opposed, it won't be an issue as there are many MPs in Parliament who are willing to extend their support to abolish the 19th Amendment. When we were in the Opposition, we also raised our hands to pass the 19th Amendment due to the assurance given by the then Yahapalana Government to introduce the 20th Amendment but they didn't fulfill that pledge.

Q. The Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) questioned when all Government lawmakers who were in the Opposition at that time extended their support to the 19th Amendment in Parliament now why the Government is going to abolish the 19th Amendment to the Constitution?

A. Actually, those who introduced the 19th Amendment are opposed to abolishing it. The 19th Amendment was brought in by the Yahapalana Government to completely sweep out the Rajapaksa from politics. It was introduced to cater to the interests of the international community to destabilise the country. Another purpose of introducing the 19th Amendment was to divide the country. Therefore, it is not unfair that the SJB is now opposed to abolish the 19th Amendment. The former Government introduced

the 19th Amendment for their political survival. The sole purpose of the 19th Amendment was to prevent Rajapaksa re-entering politics. At present, the 19th Amendment has created a lot of difficulties. For example, the Executive President is not in a position to appoint the IGP.

Whoever is opposed, it won't be an issue as there are many MPs in Parliament who are willing to extend their support to abolish the 19th Amendment. When we were in the Opposition, we also raised our hands to pass the 19th Amendment due to the assurance given by the then Yahapalana Government to introduce the 20th Amendment but they didn't fulfill that pledge.

Q. Will the Government include good features of the 19th Amendment into the proposed 20th Amendment such as independent commissions and the right to information?

A. We would include the right to information to the proposed 20th Amendment. However, we have serious issues regarding the independent commissions appointed by the former Government. If we take the Bribery Commission, anybody can send an anonymous letter to it so that an investigation will be conducted regarding it. Then, they will bring the complainant to the Bribery Commission where perhaps he would be subjected to harassment.

Earlier, there was no such practice in the Bribery Commission. Actually, the normal procedure was changed by the former Government to repress their political opponents. Therefore, those Commissions were not independent at all. Many changes have to be made to their criteria. We are studying this and no final decision has been taken so far.

There is a series of issues with regard to the independent commissions. At first, we would only abolish the 19th Amendment and later we would discuss the contents of the 20th Amendment independently. However, we will not remove those salutary features in the 19th Amendment.

Q. The main Opposition SJB says the Government attempts to bring the 20th Amendment to realise its ulterior motives. They will launch a struggle against the repealing of the 19th Amendment. Your comments?

A. We should not take the SJB seriously. They could not win even a single district. Earlier, the number of eight seats secured by them from Kandy district came down to three at the

August 5 General Election. There is no use of talking about a party which has been rejected by the people. The People have given a resounding mandate to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa. Therefore, our task is to work for the people.

Q. The SJB attempts to create an opinion that the President cannot hold any ministerial portfolios under the 19th Amendment. Would you like to comment on this?

A. If the SJB wants they can go to courts. If they are so interested in why don't they challenge it in courts. These are mere baseless remarks by the SJB to mislead the people due to their political bankruptcy.

Q. Even Education Minister Prof. G. L. Peiris has said that the new Government cannot move forward due to the 19th Amendment to the Constitution and that their priority would be to do away with the controversial sections in the 19th Amendment which cause hindrance to the new administration. Are you of the same view?

A. Certainly. The 19th Amendment has become a great impediment to the forward march of the country. To fulfill the aspirations of the people, there should be a Constitution which is favourable to the country. Therefore, we should definitely go for a Constitutional amendment and this is one of our election pledges as well. The people have given us a resounding mandate of a two-thirds majority for this.

Q. How do you view SJB Parliamentarian Rajitha Senarathne's comment that the Government is in a hurry to bring in the 20th Amendment so that dual citizens like former Minister Basil Rajapaksa can be appointed to Parliament?

A. If President Gotabaya Rajapaksa could withdraw his dual citizenship to contest the Presidential Election, SLPP National Organiser Basil Rajapaksa can also follow the same steps and there is no need to bring the 20th Amendment for that. Basil Rajapaksa can just make a request to withdraw his dual citizenship. All these are petty issues highlighted by the SJB to cover their humiliating defeat.

If the SJB says that the Government attempts to introduce the 20th Amendment to bring Basil Rajapaksa back to Parliament, it is a childish and silly statement. If the SJB is genuinely concerned about the people, there are so many issues to be taken up.

Q. Is there any clash of opinion within

THE 19TH AMENDMENT HAS BECOME A GREAT IMPEDIMENT TO THE FORWARD MARCH OF THE COUNTRY. TO FULFILL THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE, THERE SHOULD BE A CONSTITUTION WHICH IS FAVOURABLE TO THE COUNTRY. THEREFORE, WE SHOULD DEFINITELY GO FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND THIS IS ONE OF OUR ELECTION PLEDGES AS WELL. THE PEOPLE HAVE GIVEN US A RESOUNDING MANDATE OF A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY FOR THIS



the Government about offering a portfolio to former President Maithripala Sirisena?

A. There is no official discussion conducted so far to create a Deputy Prime Minister post. However, some sort of justice should be meted out to former President Sirisena. When the proposed 20th Amendment is introduced, we would be able to discuss it. So far, no final decision has been taken in this regard.

Q. How do you view the ongoing infighting within the UNP for leadership and the National List slot?

A. God has punished them for the destruction they caused to the country. They attempted to divide the country and take our war heroes to the international war tribunal. This is a country hallowed by the Buddha's visits. God has punished the UNP for their wrongdoings.

We can see the severe setback suffered by the UNP as they have not yet been able to fill even their National List slot.

This is the first time that an inaugural parliamentary session was convened without any UNP MP in the Chamber.

"However, we didn't feel it as Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa spoke in English at the inaugural session of the ninth Parliament! Therefore, we didn't feel the absence of UNP Leader Ranil Wickremesinghe in Parliament. Sajith Premadasa could very well fill the void left by Wickremesinghe."

Q. Former Speaker Karu Jayasuriya has said that he is ready to take over the UNP leadership. However, UNP Leader Ranil Wickremesinghe has informed the Working Committee that since Jayasuriya is not a member of the Working Committee, he cannot be appointed as the Leader. Your views?

A. All these are power struggles. Wickremesinghe attempts to further retain the party leadership. Jayasuriya attempts to become the UNP Leader.

think the CC would be able to function independently under the present dispensation?

A. Definitely. The tenure of the other members of the CC has not yet expired so they can continue in office. I have been appointed as the President's nominee to the CC.

It is said that one civil society member is going to resign. Therefore, another person will have to be nominated to fill that vacancy. The functions of the CC should be transparent.

During the tenure of the former Government, politicians such as Champika Ranawaka used the CC to cover up their court cases and various other purposes. We would maintain the CC as an independent institution and take it in the right direction by safeguarding democracy.

Q. Eighty-one new MPs have been elected to Parliament. Does this mean that the people have expected a change of the present political culture?

A. It is not so. These new faces are there because of our landslide victory. Only a few former Parliamentarians have been defeated. The number of seats obtained by the SLPP has increased due to our electoral success. Therefore, many new faces have been elected to Parliament. I think these new faces are a good omen and they would certainly contribute to strengthening democracy.

Q. The SJB has raised serious concern on the controversial remarks by MP C.V. Vigneswaran at the opening of the ninth session of the ninth Parliament. What is the Government's position regarding this?

A. This is not an issue which should be taken into account seriously. If attempts are made to expunge the speeches by MPs in Parliament as requested by the SJB, there won't be a Hansard.

Continued on page 5



FACT-FILE Mahindananda Aluthgamage

► 1964: Born in Nawalapitiya, Central Province to a political family. Educated at Gangasiripura Vidyalaya, Gampola and Royal College, Colombo

► 2005: Deputy Minister of Power and Energy in the United People's Freedom Alliance (UPFA)

► 2010: Minister of Sports in the UPFA Government

► 2019: State Minister of Power and Energy in the Government of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa

► January, 2020: Appointed Government Spokesman

► March, 2020: Completed the 30th year of his political career

► August, 2020: Re-elected to Parliament from Kandy district having contested under Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) and secured 161,471 preferential votes

► August 2020: Minister of Agriculture in the cabinet of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa

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Can creativity be taught and learned?

By
Dr. Thilana
Hewage



"Imagination is the beginning of creation. You imagine what you desire, you will what you imagine, and at last, you create what you will."

- George Bernard Shaw

If we ask a group of randomly picked schoolchildren, university students or even people at a train station: Are you a creative person? about 75% of them would say "no" and only about 2 - 3% would say "yes" with a confident voice. The rest would say that they think the space scientists and got Dr. George Land, a leading expert in evaluating creative performances of humans, at the time, to develop a test for the purpose. Later, Dr. Land conducted a study of 1,600 five-year olds using the same concept and found that 98% of the children scored in the 'highly creative/creative genius' range.

When the same children were tested five years later only 30% of them scored in the 'creative genius' range. By the age of 15 this percentage dropped to 12 and when they got to the age of 25 only 2% of them got to that category. According to those findings, one might

even say that our future was in our children's hands. This, together with some of the other answers people give in similar surveys conducted around the world, can be used as supporting evidence to reaffirm the saying: "We are all born geniuses but the process of living de-geniuses us".

When we consider this process of "de-geniusing" humans from birth to adulthood, we certainly will have to analyse our system of education since most humans from ages 3 to 18 get their knowledge and training while they are processed through these systems all over the world. Studies such as this clearly show that by the time we finish school we are much less creative than we were, going in. Ironically, 'creativity' is one of the most 'in-demand' skills in the 21st century, irrespective of one's field of interest.

Rapid changes

With rapid changes in technology and its applications we face the challenge of finding innovative solutions to new sets of problems almost on a daily basis. Therefore, it certainly makes sense to find out whether creativity can be taught and/or learned, or not. You may find enough and more supporting facts on either side of the argument leaving you in the middle so that



you would agree with whichever makes more sense to your own cognition.

It is interesting to see that the words 'creativity' and 'creative' were not in general usage prior to the introduction of the 'Theory of Evolution' by Charles Darwin in mid-19th century.

The word 'creator' was associated with the divine and the 'creation' was known as the act of bringing the universe into being. Creative power, or creativity, of human beings was associated with spirituality until the middle of the twentieth century.

The Oxford dictionary defines creativity as: the use of skill and imagination to produce something new or to produce art. One will find similar defini-

itions in other dictionaries or web pages too. A common theme one might notice in almost all of those definitions is that they refer to producing something new, mostly in art, music and language.

That is also one of the main reasons why people, more often than not, say they are not creative. What is not highlighted much is creative thinking. Producing innovative thoughts is the foundation of creativity. It is also important to notice that the definition says: "the use of skill and imagination...". The word 'imagination' would perhaps make it easier to understand that we should be somewhat creative since we can imagine things, as long as we are

not 'brain-dead'. If you can remember some of your dreams you would not have any trouble accepting the strength of your imagination and hence creativity too.

Creativity

Research shows that creativity, which is at the highest level at the age of five, diminishes gradually through the process of living. Irrespective of whether it can be taught or not, what we can safely conclude from such results is that, the process of formal education certainly is a factor in learning the non-creative thinking.

This was brought to the surface in the USA mainly in Prof Arthur Bestor's book 'Educational Wasteland: The Retreat from Learning in Our Public Schools' in 1953. That created a public outcry saying that their education system promoted conformity and produced mediocrity on a mass scale. The public debate created by media about it converged on a vision of a future dependent on creative brains.

This was about the same time that Russians launched the Sputnik pushing the insufficiency of the education system of the USA to the front page of their national news, which was news to the international community too. This prompted President John F. Kennedy to

suggest educational reform and especially, to challenge the country to send a man to the moon during his term, which eventually got NASA to have a test developed for creativity of humans.

The school should not be a place that robs us of our creativity for the purpose of serving the wants of the rich instead of the common people.

An education system should not just be a factory of producing workers to sustain an economy, the benefits of which are mostly enjoyed by the richest in a country through unending exploitation and scarcities created artificially to show that an employment is the highest achievement in one's life.

If we are to come out of this kind of an educational prison, in which the hard labour, intentionally or unintentionally, is designed to kill the creativity of the inmate gradually, we should entrust our education to creative and innovative people who can understand and define the shortcomings of the existing system and suggest feasible solutions that can be sustained over two or three generations, at least, within an environment where creativity is uncovered at no cost to the student.

The writer has served in the higher education sector as an academic for over twenty years in the USA and thirteen years in Sri Lanka and can be contacted at thilanh@gmail.com

Feature

Overwhelming... Continued from page 4

This is not the opinion of the country and this is Vigneswaran's personal point of view. We should not panic about his speech. A Parliamentarian has a right to express his views in Parliament. Similarly, another parliamentarian can counter or criticise that view. Politicians such as Vigneswaran have come to Parliament by marketing such separatist ideology.

If he failed to speak in such manner, he can't really go back to his village! Vigneswaran is also doing his politics. However, the SJB attempts to become heroes by taking up this kind of trivial matters.

Q. There is a dramatic change in the pattern of voting in the North at the recently concluded General Election and the number of seats obtained by the TNA has dropped drastically. How do you view this new political scenario in northern politics?

A. When all votes obtained by our constituent parties are taken together, it is equal to the total number of votes obtained by the TNA.

It seems the people in the North have placed much confidence at this time in the newly elected Government. As the Agriculture Minister, I would make my first official visit to Jaffna. One of my key priorities is to develop the economy of northern farmers. At present, the people in the North have faced severe economic hardships. Therefore, my intention is to have a dialogue with them and provide speedy solutions to their issues.

Q. What are your plans to develop the agriculture sector?

A. At present, the agriculture sector contributes only seven percent to the GDP. Earlier, this was around 37 per cent. Today, only 30 percent of the country's milk requirement is produced locally. US\$ one million worth powdered milk is imported to the country daily. We are the third biggest powdered milk importer of New Zealand. Therefore, we spend billions of rupees to import various food commodities. Our intention is to minimise the import of food commodities at least by 75 percent within the next three years. We have already taken steps to increase the local milk production. We are an agricultural country and all resources are available to develop the agriculture sector. What we need is to properly manage the available resources. At present, new export markets have been created following the emergence of the Covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, our main focus is to stop a huge amount of foreign exchange earnings of the agriculture sector going over to foreign countries. The agriculture sector should make at least 25 percent contribution to the GDP within the next three years.

If we produce quality rice, we can increase our production and export them. We should provide quality seeds to the farmers. Steps should be taken to prevent the use of agrochemicals and promote organic fertiliser. In future, we would

provide the subsidy for agrochemicals for organic fertiliser. Our intention is to introduce modern technology to the agriculture sector. We are discussing to convert farmers into entrepreneurs. I am still studying the agriculture sector and it would take another one week for me to complete my study. We would unveil our three year agriculture plan to the country within a month. Our intention is to make the country self sufficient in potato, onion, chilies and paddy. I think we have the necessary potential to realise this target.

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News Feature

The controversial speech by Jaffna District Parliamentarian C.V. Vigneswaran at the inaugural session of the ninth Parliament turned into a hot topic during the two-day debate on the Vote on Account on Thursday and Friday.

A heated debate arose in the well of the House as some Government and Opposition lawmakers were highly critical of Vigneswaran's controversial remarks and demanded that it be expunged from the Hansard, pointing out that he was trying to fuel animosity between communities and promote racist politics.

MP Manusha Nanayakkara raising a Point of Order said that the speech by MP Vigneswaran was in the unedited version of the Hansard. MP Nanayakkara pointed out that MP Vigneswaran's statement with regard to a Tamil homeland in the North and the East of the country was against the oath we have taken and demanded that it should be expunged. However, it has been printed in the Hansard. This should be revised and the controversial statement expunged.

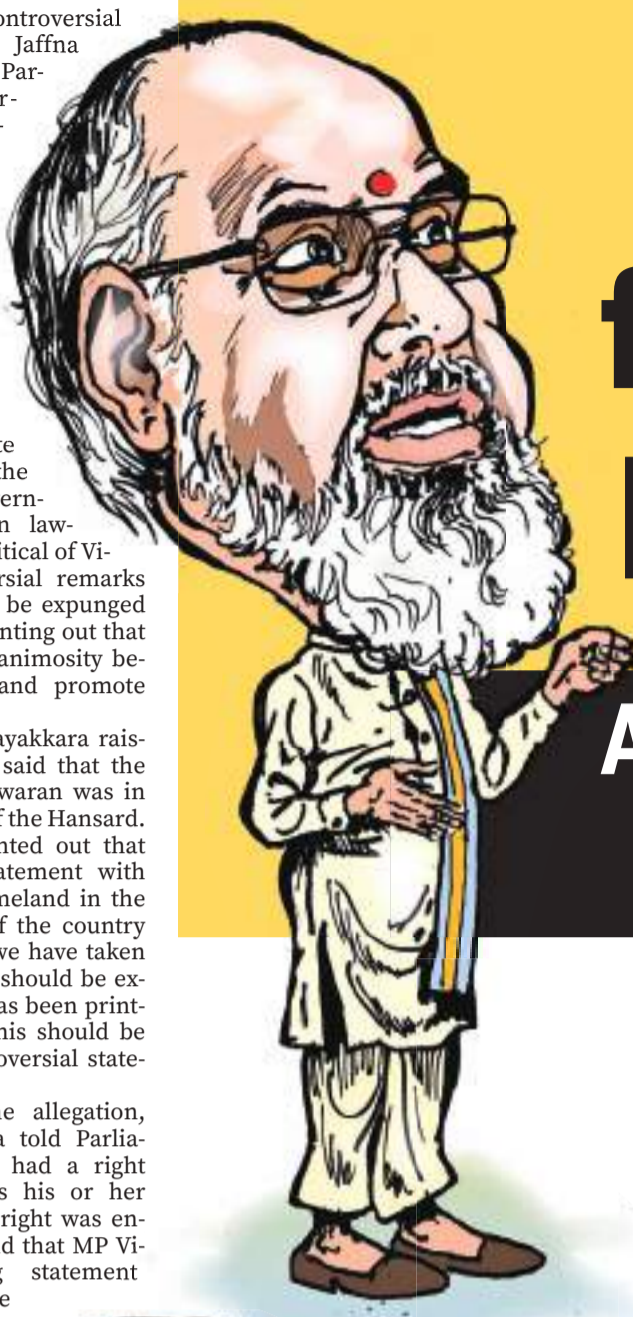
Responding to the allegation, Speaker Abeywardena told Parliament that every MP had a right to speak and express his or her views freely and that right was ensured in the House and that MP Vigneswaran's opening statement with references to the Tamil homeland concept would not be expunged from Hansard.

Participating in the debate on the Vote on Account, SJB Gampaha district Parliamentarian Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka told MP Vigneswaran not to try to emulate Velupillai Prabhakaran by making racist statements because he (Vigneswaran) was too old for that.

Field Marshal Fonseka said that Vigneswaran must keep in mind that there were others in the past who attempted to undermine the status quo of the Sinhalese and were eventually shot dead. LTTE leader Velupillai Prabhakaran also attempted to divide the country and create a separate State but suffered a similar fate.

"Settle down. Be happy with what you have. Never try to underestimate and undermine the status quo of the Sinhalese in this country. If you do that you will face consequences, which will be very unpleasant," he said.

Energy Minister Udaya Gammanpila said Vigneswaran's claims about the earliest inhabitants of Sri Lanka being Tamils are untrue. "I have challenged him to a public debate on this matter. The people of the North are ready to cooperate with the people in the South. They have given more preferential votes to Minister Douglas Devananda than



Brickbats for Viggy in Parliament

Accused of promoting racist politics



University of Politics

By Prof. Backbencher

most other Tamil politicians."

On Friday, August 28, Parliament approved the Vote on Account of the Government. The Vote on Account seeking approval to spend a sum not exceeding Rs.1,300 billion from September until December, was presented to Parliament on Thursday, August 27.

It was passed on Friday without a division. Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa presenting the Vote on Account, said the Government will review all project loans amounting to around

Rs. 9 billion.

The Premier said that around half of the loan basket comprised foreign loans and the time had come for the Government to give priority to investment promotion rather than depending on loans.

He said when his Government handed over the reins of power in 2014, the growth rate of the economy had been between five and six per cent. That situation deteriorated gradually and at the end of 2019 it became the lowest growth rate in South Asia at 2 per cent.

Premier Rajapaksa said that all 225 MPs had a responsibility to revive the national economy and called on them to team up with the President and the Government to develop the country.

In continuation of the much discussed topic on SLPP Parli-

mentarian and former President Maithripala Sirisena being given a government position, Transport Minister Gamini Lokuge said that the ruling party has not agreed to grant him a 'Deputy Premiership' as speculated in the media.

He said the party should be consulted in this regard, emphasising that such a decision has not yet been taken, despite endless comments by various figures during the elections. Minister Lokuge told reporters, "During Elections, promises were made to grant ministerial portfolios to a number of people. Now that the election has been won, and questions surface as to why they were not granted ministries. Politicians tend to say many things during an election to secure votes."

Earlier SLPP General Secretary and State Minister Dayasiri Jayasekara after attending the first sitting of the ninth Parliament told reporters that discussions are under way to vest former President Sirisena with Government titles and this will probably take place after the 20th Amendment to Constitution is passed in Parliament.

However, SLPP Chairman Minister Prof. G. L. Peiris told a recent news briefing that there was no official discussion within the Government to create a 'Deputy Prime Minister' post when making Constitutional amendments.

Minister Wimal Weerawansa speaking during the debate on the Vote on Account said all members of the ruling party have a responsibility to honour the two-thirds mandate given by the people at the August 5 General Election and abuse of power will not be tolerated.

Minister Weerawansa made these remarks responding to the eco disaster committed in the setting up a prawn farm in a forest reserve of the Anawilundawa Sanctuary. The Minister said although he is not aware of who is responsible for this damage, he is certain that some powerful figure of the Government or their associates are responsible, and the Government cannot slip away from the responsibility of protecting this reserve.

He said the reserve has been named the 'Ramsar Wetlands' due to its highly valuable ecosystem. The Government should take steps to stop this environmental damage, as the people have given them a mandate to protect the country and its people, he said.

UNP leadership stakes

UNP Leader Ranil Wickremesinghe and the Legal Secretary of the UNP informed the Party Working Committee (WC) which met at Sirikotha recently that since Karu Jayasuriya was not a member of the WC he cannot be appointed as the Party leader.

Former Speaker Karu Jayasuriya in a statement shot back at the UNP members who have said that he cannot become the Party leader

because he is no longer a member of the party.

The veteran politician said that he is a lifetime member of the UNP as he obtained the 1000M card in 2000. The 1000M card is equal to a 50-year membership. However, the WC failed to reach a consensus even after three hours of deliberation regarding the National List slot and changes to the Party.

Jayasuriya had earlier expressed willingness to take over the UNP leadership. The letter sent to Wickremesinghe in this regard had been discussed and several senior members said since Jayasuriya was not a member of the WC, a decision should be taken only after he joins the WC.

Divergent views had been expressed regarding the leadership crisis and former Minister Vajira Abeywardena had levelled several allegations against Jayasuriya. Abeywardena had thrown his lot into the fray and said that he is qualified to lead the party and the party should only give leadership to someone who is committed to the Party.



The SJB has said that it will launch a countrywide people's movement to safeguard the freedoms and rights granted to the average citizen by the 19th Amendment.

Silly statement

SJB Parliamentarian Rajitha Senaratne told the media at the SJB headquarters that the Government was in a hurry to bring the 20th Amendment so that dual citizens can be appointed to Parliament. He said, "This is to enable Basil Rajapaksa to enter Parliament and be ap-

sters and create hatred between the Sinhalese and Tamils and is laying the foundation for another conflict, then their true nudity should be exposed.

Parliament canteen

The price and cost of heavily subsidised meals provided to the MPs in the Parliament canteen were raised afresh by SJB Colombo District MP S.M. Marikkar.

Raising a Point of Order MP Marikkar said that there were newspaper reports stating that a meal of an MP costs Rs 3,000.

"People ask whether we eat gold here. The fish served this morning in the parliamentary canteen was not fresh. That is the quality of food being served to MPs. We eat better at home. Someone has to correct this situation and tell the truth. This had been stated at the orientation program for MPs on August 25. The correct figures must be given.

"I am speaking on behalf of all 225 MPs. The impression the reports created is wrong. It seems that the cost of all who eat here is totalled and divided by 225 to arrive at the conclusion that one meal costs Rs 3,000," he said.

Speaker Abeywardena said that he would present a detailed bill of the expenditure on the food in Parliament soon. He said the cost of meals per MP is around Rs. 296, adding that the cost had been incorrectly calculated by the officer by dividing the entire food cost by 225.



THE OPPOSITION ATTEMPTED TO DESTABILISE THE COUNTRY ECONOMICALLY AND POLITICALLY DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC WITHOUT COOPERATING WITH THE PRESIDENT AND THE PRIME MINISTER - MINISTER DINESH

Aspirations

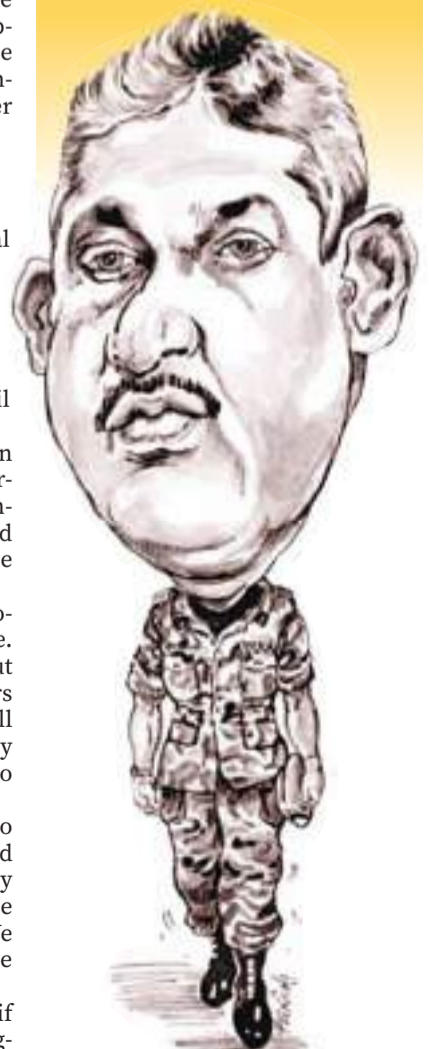
State Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government, Rear Admiral (Rtd.) Sarath Weerasekara on Thursday challenged Tamil MPs in the Opposition to prove that they have genuine concern for the welfare of the Tamil people.

Participating in the debate on the Vote on Account, Minister Weerasekara said that so-called representatives of the Tamil people would not even donate blood for the people they represented.

"I ask them if they have ever donated blood for their own people. When the Jaffna Hospital runs out of blood it is the Sinhalese soldiers who donate blood. The Vellalas will never donate their blood as they don't want the low caste people to receive their blood.

"These are the very people who are talking about the aspirations and welfare of the Tamil people. They don't have the right to talk about the aspirations of the Tamil people. We have a greater right to talk about the Tamil People," he said.

The State Minister said that if anyone is trying to instigate young-



SPEAKER ABEYWARDENA TOLD PARLIAMENT THAT EVERY MP HAD A RIGHT TO SPEAK AND EXPRESS HIS OR HER VIEWS FREELY AND THAT RIGHT WAS ENSURED IN THE HOUSE AND THAT MP VIGNESWARAN'S OPENING STATEMENT WITH REFERENCES TO THE TAMIL HOMELAND CONCEPT WOULD NOT BE EXPUNGED FROM HANSARD

The horror behind child marriages

Bill in Parliament to raise marriageable age

By
Aanya Wipulasena



Farah* was only 17 when she arrived at her husband's home. He was 21 and addicted to drugs.

Scared of what was to come, she refused to enter their bedroom on the first night. Farah said she cried but her parents forced her into the bedroom.

"When I was five months pregnant with our child he left with another woman," she said.

Poverty pushed her into a second marriage, but that marriage was short lived too.

Her husband died from a gas leak when the couple was working in Saudi Arabia.

Now Farah is 26 and feels helpless.

"I was too young to get married. I didn't even know what sex was," she said.

She feels that the Bill which was presented in Parliament to set the minimum age of marriage for all at 18 years will drastically change the lives of Muslim girls, especially those from low economic backgrounds.

"This way the children can finish their education and even be financially independent. They will also have an idea of how to raise a child," Farah said.

Bill

The Bill presented by Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna parliamentarian Premitha Bandara Tennakoon this week (August), is a new step towards helping girls like Farah.

MP Tennakoon said his objective is to protect the rights of all children,



Shreen Abdul Saroor

SRI LANKA'S GENERAL LAW AND THE KANDYAN LAW SETS 18 YEARS AS THE MINIMUM AGE OF MARRIAGE BUT DECADES-OLD MUSLIM MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE ACT (MMDA) ALLOWS MUSLIM MEN TO MARRY UNDERAGE GIRLS AT A QUAZI COURT

registrar would manipulate the real age of the young bride to 18 years or above in his records.

Therefore, it is almost impossible to keep track of how many such marriages take place in the country annually.

Research

MP Tennakoon's Bill states that 'underage marriage is an infringement of a young person's right to education, development and security and as such is considered a serious social evil that may render vulnerable the children of Sri Lanka to forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse'.

This is reflected in the findings of Fathima who is working on a paper by researching into 10 case studies of child marriages, where the brides were between 13 to 17, in the North Western Province.

"In most cases these children are married as a result of financial constraints. Their parents' approve these marriages," Fathima said.

She shared information of two

cases that she is currently studying in her research.

One is of a girl who was married at the age of 13 years by her mother who wished to protect her from her abusive father. She is married to a man who is addicted to drugs.

The second case is of a woman who is in her late 20s now. "Her family forced her to get married at the age of 16. Because she didn't know how to consummate the marriage her husband became abusive towards her. At the age of 17 she got pregnant with her first child," Fathima said.

But she miscarried after her husband assaulted her. "Now she is back at home with her parents. Her husband broke her hand and now she is getting a divorce."

She said her school friend who is 29 is getting married this year."

Statistics

According to statistics by the Women's Action Network (WAN) which collected data from 350 participants, all child brides, in Puttalam between 2005 and 2015, Ampara and Batticaloa, 85 have undergone abortions.

Nine of the child brides have undergone abortions three times and 34 of them twice. One child, when she got pregnant, was 12 years old.

Not all activists who are pushing for the minimum age of marriage can come out to voice their concerns.

One activist said she received death threats and warnings about abducting her daughter from Islamic leaders if she continued.

Unfazed, activist Shreen Abdul Saroor of WAN, said she is not ready to back down.

"If Muslim MPs have arguments against abolishing child marriage in the name of their religion or just oppose this Bill for the sake of attracting voters then they are simply

doing ethnic politics to secure their vote base," she said explaining that it is crucial to have the support of parliamentarians to protect the girls from these premature and forced marriages.

MMDA reform

"They (the Muslim MPs) are not even true to themselves because they came up with MMDA reform proposal under the previous government.

That proposed raising the minimum age of marriage and they know child marriage and teenage pregnancy is rampant in their community."

Former United National Party parliamentarian Dr. Thusitha Wijemanne was the first to introduce the 'Minimum Age of Marriage' Bill. She presented the Bill at the end of the previous government's tenure.

"We researched about this issue. And considering the physical and mental effects on young children drafted this Bill," Dr. Wijemanne said.

MP Tennakoon said he commended Dr. Wijemanne's efforts. "We are from two parties but want the same thing for our children," he

said referring to Dr. Wijemanne's in the to change the existing laws.

This sets a good example of a new government carrying forward the projects taken up by a former government, a rare occasion in Sri Lankan politics.

The Bill will be presented by the Parliament General Secretary's office to the Attorney General who will study it and take necessary steps to carry it forward.

"It is a long procedure. But I will see it through," MP Tennakoon said.

*Farah's name was changed to protect her identity.



MP Pramitha Bandara Tennakoon

"A CHILD IS A CHILD," HE SAID. "OUR INTENTIONS ARE CLEAR. WE WANT TO PROTECT OUR CHILDREN IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR BACKGROUND, RELIGION, OR RACE. IT ALSO COMES UNDER THE VISION OF THE PRESIDENT 'ONE COUNTRY, ONE VOICE'".



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SUNDAY OBSERVER

No room for separatist ideology

Every MP has to take an oath that he or she would not either directly or indirectly espouse the cause of a separate state within the territory of Sri Lanka. Ministers, the Prime Minister and the President also have to take this oath. This was one of the features added to State administration following the LTTE's separatist campaign that lasted for nearly 30 years. It ended just 11 years ago, in May 2009.

Unfortunately, even the eradication of the LTTE does not seem to have eliminated separatist ideologies in some persons and organisations. There is a number of Tamil Diaspora organisations that still actively campaign for the establishment of a separate state in Sri Lanka. They still engage in demonstrations and raise funds with this aim in mind, supported by several MPs of Sri Lankan origin in various Parliaments. While most of these organisations are banned in Sri Lanka and elsewhere, the Yahapalana Government lifted the ban on some of them in a misguided move and some other countries have taken the cue, which has emboldened them.

However, the local Tamil polity has by and large moved away from this belligerent position, knowing very well that establishing a separate state in Sri Lanka is an impossible dream under the present circumstances. In fact, this was one of the main reasons for the split in the Tamil National Alliance (TNA), as moderates who saw the futility of separatist ideologies backed away from hardliners including former Justice of the Supreme Court and former Northern Province Chief Minister C.V. Wigneswaran.

If the recent polls results were anything to go by, the message from the Northern voters is crystal clear: they want peace and development, not war and separatist rhetoric. In giving a historic mandate to a candidate from a mainstream national party, (Angajan Ramanathan of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party), they have fired a shot across the bow of the separatists' vessel. In fact, the TNA itself fared rather poorly, getting only 10 seats instead of the 16 it got in 2015. Moreover, the voting percentages in the North were consistently higher than those of other provinces, proving once again the avowed commitment of the Northerner to the democratic process in a unitary Sri Lanka. It is clear that a majority of Northerners have rejected communal and extremist politics that can take the North back by another few decades.

However, there are signs that some Northern politicians have still not learned the lessons of history. Wigneswaran used his maiden speech in the ninth Parliament to make a vituperative speech that cast aspersions on the majority community while espousing the cause of separatism. Similar sentiments were expressed later by MP Gajendrakumar Ponnambalam. Incidentally, both have lived among the Sinhalese and Muslims in the Southern parts of the country and one of them has Sinhalese relatives. Their speeches naturally shocked MPs representing all parties in the House to the core. In fact, SJB MP Manusha Nanayakkara was the first to condemn MP Wigneswaran's incendiary speech. He and several MPs called for expunging that speech from the Hansard. MPs including Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka and Rear Admiral (Retd) Sarath Weerasekera, who had experienced the harsh realities of the battle against terrorism first hand, were among those who heavily criticised Wigneswaran's speech.

While Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena has defended the right of any MP to express his or her opinions in the House, it is still saddening that a couple of MPs used the mandate given to them by the people to violate the very unity of the House. This has left even their former colleagues in the TNA petrified and few of them did make an effort to mend fences with the Sinhala community. At least one TNA MP made his maiden Parliamentary speech in flawless Sinhala, pointing out the need for amity among communities. That is also one way in which the Tamil MPs can reach out to the Sinhalese community, bearing in mind that Parliament proceedings are shown on television and given wide airplay in the TV newscasts. Wigneswaran himself, having been educated in Colombo, is a fluent speaker of the Sinhala language and should use that as a bridge to close the gap between communities instead of engaging in vitriolic communalist politics.

The time has come to call for a complete ban on any new ethno-religious extremist parties or entities, regardless of the community or religion they represent. The Easter terror attacks last year were an abhorrent manifestation of such religious extremism. LTTE terrorism too was based on the false premise of 'liberating' a particular community they claimed to represent, though they ended up ripping that community apart. There are entities holding extremist views in the majority community too who eschew reconciliation with other communities. All these extremist organisations are a toxic blend that inhibits our progress as one nation, one people.

The recent poll results indicate that Tamils and Muslims are increasingly voting for mainstream secular and national parties such as the SLPP and SJB. Many new Tamil and Muslim candidates also contested through these parties and won. This augurs well for the future. It seems that the sell-by date of communal politics has long since passed. The likes of Ponnambalam and Wigneswaran must realise their folly even at this late stage, give up their divisive politics and join the political mainstream to serve all Sri Lankans irrespective of any divisions. That is what the people expect of them.

Mapping end of history in Northern theatre

by
Rajpal Abeynayake

It's the end of history for Tamil politics, they say — or the Tamil politics as we knew existed. Mapping out the details may be the role of the subject experts who know their ITAK from their TNA to a fault. I take a bow to DBS. Jeyaraj, Kumar David and others on that score.

But, does the August 2020 election signify the fact, as regards the Tamil political cohort that the more you try to control something, the more it controls you?

Tamil politicians had a streak of the control-freakishness in them no doubt. It may have been the legacy of the extent of control the late LTTE leader Velupillai Prabhakaran exercised over the Tamil people of the Northern and Eastern provinces.

The control by civilian politicians that followed was measured in terms of how the Tamil people, when they were asked by their leadership to jump, asked how high, and took off.

That ended, partly because Basil Rajapaksa the maestro of the SLPP victory this month had decided that the party led by the Rajapaksas and representing essentially the Sinhala nationalist sentiment, cannot lose any more.

Poignantly

So, clinically, every loophole and trapdoor that would possibly lead them to future election losses was identified, and closed shut. There were scores of things that were looked into, and there is a video of a meeting held by Basil Rajapaksa in which he addresses some of the rural party faithful and is seen telling them, poignantly, "we can't lose elections anymore, period."

Today's political alignments and political appointments in the largely SLPP government are not happenstance. 'Cannot lose anymore' is written into the core of every detail of the post November 2019 governing paradigm of the SLPP. Gotabaya Rajapaksa's apotheosis is in itself no doubt due to this strategy of closing shut any — and all — possibilities of losing future polls.

There is your story or at least part of the story about why Tamil politics of control and domination by a largely absentee Tamil elite who stood for election in the provinces, largely ended in August, 2020.

This, was waiting to happen, and if it happened courtesy Rajapaksa and the SLPP's quest for a break in the monotony of Tamil politics, its genesis is owed to more natural developments.

After the conclusion of the battle against terrorism Tamil political history ended, and it had to end — that was inevitable. This is reminiscent of the politics of 'youth' after the macabre JVP troubles in 1989. It's not an exact match, but how the obsession with youth politics ended in short order when the '89 insurrection ended, has some parallels with the end



of history for Tamil politics in August this year. A guilt-ridden government had youth problems on their mind when the '89 armed rebellion petered out. The government of the day appointed a so called Youth Commission which was rather undistinguished if not pedestrian, but these tasks were undertaken with such a sense of purpose that it was thought that youth politics will be the single important issue in the Sri Lankan political firmament for the next hundred years.

Followed

But the Youth Commission deliberated, society went into paroxysms of guilty atonement about the plight of young people, and then the Commission report gathered dust. Before one election cycle had ended, the obsession with youth politics had vanished to the extent that youth — as a collective — disappeared back into the woodwork, never to appear as a force with any reckoning in local politics in the future that followed.

After the conclusion of the battle against terrorism Tamil politics ended in the identical cul-de-sac, but there was a reason, and it was the way the Tamil political leadership considered the mass of provincial Tamil folk as part of the plantation. They were supposed to do what was dictated to them in the way slaves were supposed to carry out their masters' bidding in the cotton plantations of the US. But plantation politics died on August 5, 2020, for the most part due to the arrogance of the Tamil political elite who essentially in demeanour demanded servility and near tribal obedience.

So, for anyone who wanted to dive in and take apart that plantation vote, the simmering resentment towards Tamil master-servant political dynamic was there as slim pickings. Credit to Basil Rajapaksa for seizing the opportunity and ending history. This is the broad brush stroke analysis. A detailed deconstruction will reveal other undercurrents but this

big picture is what's important.

This writer remembers the day he met Sumanthiran at least ten years back and told the latter how he should try to grow up a tad and measure up to the stature of some of the Tamil political giants of the past. He asked who I had in mind, and was somewhat delighted that no names were named for him. But Chelliah Kumarasuriar should have been mentioned except that if I did mention him on that occasion the naming would have been met with a sneer.

Sumanthiran would have told me that Kumarasuriar slaved in the Sinhala plantation. At that time he would have perchance been able to get away with that type of rude dismissal but not today. Tamil voters seem to have realised there is one plantation, and that's the one their Tamil leadership condemned them to.

Hectored

On the other hand, the appointment of a new Deputy Chairman of Committees to Parliament, Angajan Ramanathan from the UPFA National List, confirms that plantation life has ended in the best of settings, and there is nothing Wigneswaran or some others can do about it. They can't call somebody a traitor to the cause when the people have voted in spades for that wperson's party.

With Sumanthiran of the ITAK on the other hand, people may think his bark is worse than his bite. But he's judged not only by his pronouncements of conciliation towards the Sinhalese but also by his manner — the way he came up to Ranil Wickremesinghe or Lakshman Kiriella or both of them of the governing UNP in Parliament, and hectored them rudely during the 2018 constitutional fiasco, left TV watchers aghast, and most UNPers too had their jaws dropping to the ground at the sight.

Small wonder one might say, that Sumanthiran was fond of plantation politics in his Tamil constituencies. If it was

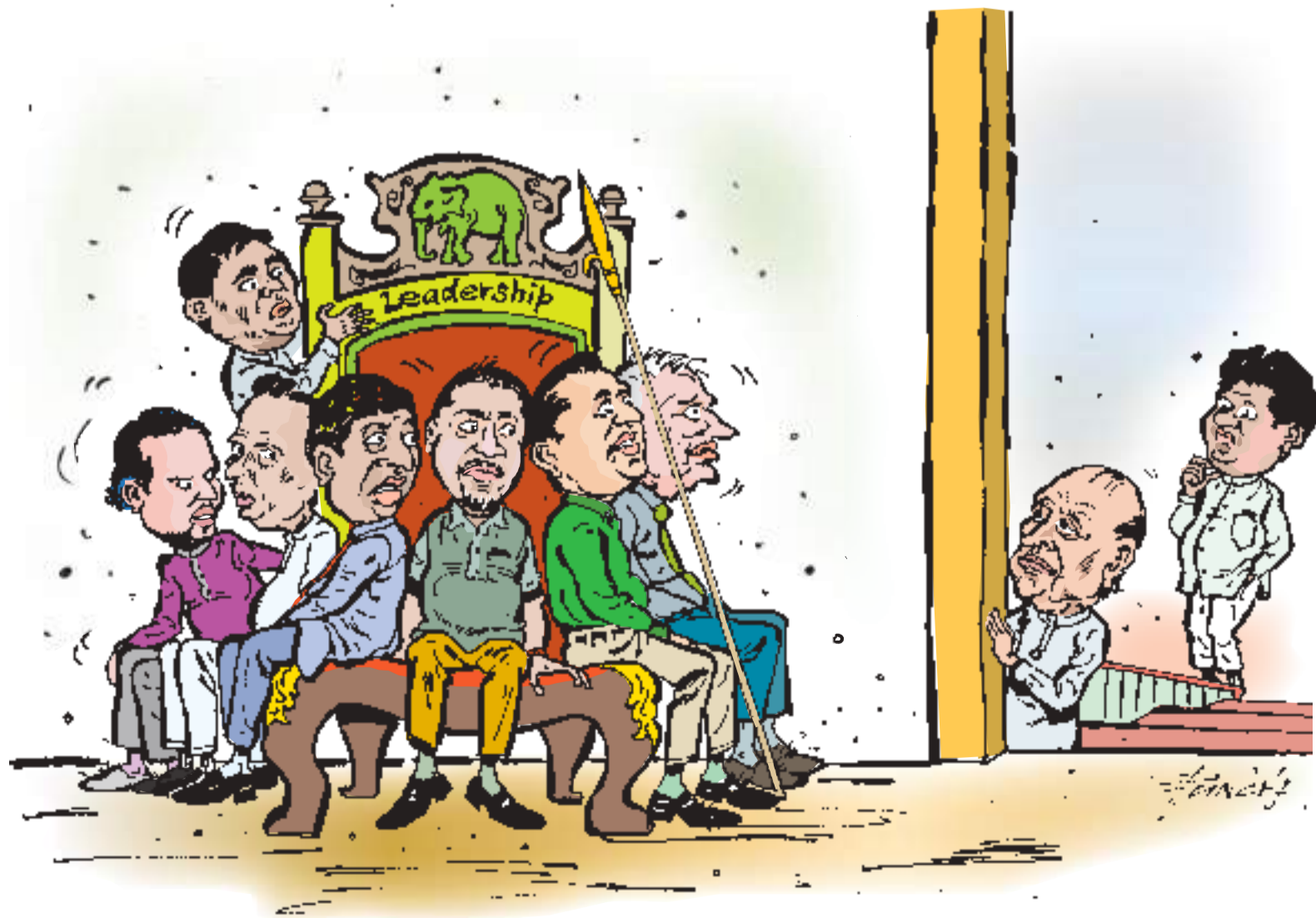
just last year that the TNA propped up a Government, providing structural support for the limp and dying UNP coalition in 2019, the Tamil people were watching how all that turned out and they got nothing out of those elite trusts in Colombo where their plantation masters held the fort, and hardly took a sidelong glance at them when they laboured hard in the plantation just to keep going from one day to the next.

But it's known that Sumanthiran also had the door loosely ajar and was fantasising about the possibility of working with a Rajapaksa government, but simply put, the Sinhalese would have none of that because they wanted no saloon door and gave the Rajapaksa government a two-thirds majority so that it could keep its self-respect intact.

The public service equivalent of Sumanthiran is Rajan Hoole and that Jaffna worthy gave the independent commissions such a bad name that these institutions are now one constitutional Amendment away from becoming a forgotten historical experiment. There are former Central Bank pundits, beating their breasts about the Commissions and their near-death status, but they cannot forget the fact that the people voted in large numbers to get rid of these institutions or at least some part of them obviously, with constitutional overhaul being such a large part of the SLPP election manifesto.

When you think about the end of history for Tamil politics or at least after the conclusion of the battle against terrorism, the myth of Icarus and Daedalus comes to mind.

This father and son duo attempted to escape Crete with wings made out of wax, but everything went south when they flew too close to the sun and the wax melted. Sumanthiran and others tried to dance where angels feared to tread, and there is so little wax on their wings now they can hardly lift themselves up to say 'we used to come from Jaffna.'





19th AMENDMENT

created an imbalance in Govt hierarchy

Prof. G. L. Peiris

BY MANJULA FERNANDO

Based on a discussion with Education Minister Prof. G. L. Peiris

On August 5, the people of Sri Lanka, yet again ensured a resounding mandate for President Gotabaya Rajapaksa to correct the wrongs committed by the previous government and usher in prosperity. At the parliamentary election, the people renewed the mandate he received in November with a two-thirds majority. The people have done their part and now it's up to the Government to deliver the election promises.

First of all we need to clear our path to fulfil the task before us.

One of the biggest obstacles at present is the piece of legislation introduced to the Constitution under the 19th Amendment in 2015.

The 19th Amendment has created an imbalance in the government hierarchy by creating two separate power centres in the President and the Prime Minister. It has removed certain inalienable powers of the President in an ad-hoc manner and vested it with the Prime Minister.

Tug-of-war

It is common knowledge that the last government failed due to the tug-of-war between these top leaders, as a result of which the country and the people had to suffer.

In addition, a Constitutional Council - a supreme institution has been placed above the Executive.

Hence, no business of the gov-

ernment was smooth during the Yahapalana regime since the President and the Prime Minister were often busy trying to overpower each other on key fronts such as Defence and Economy while neither had power to take action against top officials who shirked or neglected their responsibility.

The case of IGP Pujith Jayasundera investigated for the Easter Sunday terror attacks is the latest example. The sitting IGP has been implicated but the Government cannot remove and appoint a new IGP.

After the investigators found he had failed in his responsibility to prevent the church attacks which killed over 250 in April 2019, former President Maithripala Sirisena called upon him to resign but he refused. To date he remains the IGP.

The 19-A has handicapped the office of the President. Hence, the Police Department is functioning under an acting IGP for the past many months.

At the outset, decisions on all economic matters of the Yahapalana

Government were taken at a Cabinet subcommittee which operated like a de-facto Cabinet. The Prime Minister's confidantes were appointed to this subcommittee. President Sirisena noticed for some time what went on and later took steps to abolish this unit and appoint a National Economic Council. He appointed several persons who he can trust to this Council.

After three months, the former President declared that he was paying

Rs.500,000 to the head of this Council who is not even in the country. He said he was sacking the officer. The fight for power and the uncertainty that resulted was not at all conducive for the much needed investments and the country's economic prosperity.

About the Defence portfolio, the current President is responsible for security but he cannot hold the Defence Ministry or any portfolio for that matter, which meant he had re-

sponsibility without authority.

This conundrum was created under the 19-A which spelt out that the President cannot hold any portfolios during his tenure. President Sirisena who sanctioned the 19-A however, retained the Environment and Defence portfolios. This particular provision came into full effect after his tenure which meant that President Gotabaya Rajapaksa cannot have the Defence portfolio under him. But he would be the Commander in Chief of the armed forces.

Before the 19th Amendment there was a provision in the Constitution to submit urgent Bills. When there is an unexpected threat to security, such as the Easter Sunday carnage the Government could bring in an urgent bill within seven days to address a shortcoming in the law. The 19th Amendment took away this crucial provision

and that itself is a threat to national security and in a way a victory for the elements who would work to destabilise the country.

When it comes to the independent commissions also, there are underlying flaws. The behaviour of some members of these commissions clearly indicate that these were not independent intrinsically. For instance, Election Commission Member, Prof. Ratnajeewan Hoole's behaviour tarnished the image of the Election Commission and exposed their political biases, proving that these were nothing but political instruments.

Quorum

Apart from that there is another flaw, the Commission membership was three and the quorum to convene a meeting was also three. If by any chance, one member cannot be present, the Commission cannot convene or hold elections. Before the parliamentary election - amid his outrageous attempts to postpone the election - we feared that Prof. Hoole might travel overseas and refuse to attend Commission meetings. This alone will be sufficient to delay the parliamentary election further. The Commission cannot convene with even one member absent. Despite

his behaviour, there was nothing the President or anyone could do to replace Prof. Hoole unless he resigned.

Similarly, the former head of SL Human Rights Commission was on record welcoming the election defeat of Mahinda Rajapaksa in 2015. Such actions show that they are not apolitical. That person was appointed to the SLHRC by the new government in 2015.

13th Amendment

With regard to the 13th Amendment, there is a strong voice to abrogate 13-A and abolish Provincial Councils (PC) but that is not an option considered by the Government yet. Manohara de Silva, Gunadasa Amarasekera, Gevindu Kumaratunga of the National Joint Committee and many others question the necessity of the PCs, since the Provincial Councils which are non-functioning for the past two years did not actively get involved in provincial administration. However, such decisions will always be guided by proper evaluation of views from all sides.

The Cabinet subcommittee consisting of Ministers Prof. G. L. Peiris, Dinesh Gunawardena, Nimal Siripala de Silva, Ali Sabri and Udaya Gammanpila, appointed to call for public views on constitutional reforms and the introduction of 20-A will look into all the possibilities and recommend what is aspired by the people.

The 19th Amendment has created an imbalance in the government hierarchy by creating two separate power centres in the President and the Prime Minister

The legal constraints on the time to abolish Parliament, which is four and a half years at present, will also be changed. But there will be a set minimum time. President Gotabaya Rajapaksa had to wait for nearly one year to appoint his government to get to work due to this constraint. It was a great injustice to the people who voted him into office expecting a change. The old government did nothing to help him but derail his forward march.

However, some of the good features of the 19-A will remain. The five-year term of office of the President, the number of times a person can be elected as Executive President which is two, and the Independent Audit Commission are some of the features that will be preserved under the 20-A.

We need to correct this constitutional flaw and unclip our wings to deliver the promises to the people so that President Rajapaksa is free to expeditiously implement his vision for prosperity within the next four to five years.

People have spoken: Over to legislature for action

by Hemantha Kulatunga



The 16th-century Florentine philosopher, Niccolò Machiavelli, in his famous book 'The Prince' stated, "It is much safer to be feared than loved". This is the conduct expected by the masses from the incumbent President Gotabaya Rajapaksa. Indeed, the saying was later modified as "it is better to be feared than loved if you cannot have both." Public opinion in general is that the modified meaning is more suited to the President because, in the present state of affairs, while wrongdoers fear him, the public loves him. This is the reason for the more than adequate mandate given to him at the recent election.

Trend

It is a refreshing sign that people have voted to bring in 81 new parliamentarians while sending home 76, including seniors. This indicates that there are no permanent voters for green, red, or blue in society anymore. Instead, they have placed absolute trust on a brand new party, colour, and symbol and the trend is likely to be continued at future elections as well.

The knowledgeable and better-informed public has sent an apparent message to the politicians that their opinion is no longer prone to petty politics and empty promises that existed in the past. It is also an inspiring sign

how the appointments of Cabinet and State Ministers were made.

All the ministries were decided as per the President's manifesto in the Presidential and general election campaigns in line with his vision of a 'People-centric economy'. Perceptibly, as in any elected government, the appointment of Ministers were done taking certain political reasons into consideration.

However, the scope of the ministries was decided on the widely anticipated prosperity of the nation.

Irrespective of petty criticism by the weak Opposition that has no credible opinion to offer, the subjects allocated to most of the state ministries in particular, can bring immense results by way of the growth of the rural economy.

The appointees, whether pro-active or not, are in a 'must-win' situation as the President signalled that it is a do or die battle and he will not hesitate to remove the losers.

Hence, they must win not only on behalf of the country's economic prosperity but also for their own survival. Failure of the assigned subjects will be conspicuous due to the keen public eye. Non-fulfilment will probably show them the exit from politics as the voters will not favour such politicians.

Taking a cue from the leadership, several young Ministers and State Ministers have straightway plunged into action.

To name a few, Prof. Channa Jayasumana, Prasanna Ranaweera, Dayasiri Jayasekera, Namal Rajapaksa and some others have already commenced action on their respective assignments without further ado. Specifically, the country welcomed the newly appoint-

ed National Sports Council comprising eminent personalities from sports and management fields, under the chairmanship of the versatile Mahela Jayawardana.

While all appointees are prominent, the inclusion of two top business executives, Supun Weerasinghe of Dialog Axiata and Ms. Kasthuri Wilson of Hemas Holdings will undoubtedly add management skill for the future developments of the sports arena of the country that currently is in dire straits. The young Minister has taken constructive action which the public has hailed and would wish other Ministers to follow suit.

Expectations

When public consent is higher than normal, the expectations are also similarly elevated. The public will not accept any more excuses as they have given more than was anticipated. The majority of the Cabinet and State Ministers seem to be already keenly engaged in public issues. We have not seen a single unwanted appointment yet from any of the Ministers for their respective institutions.

It is no secret that the practice up to now by previous governments was to fill available or created positions and recruit family members, friends, or henchmen. Even if this practice cannot be eradicated in a hurry, President Rajapaksa's actions will curtail it to a great extent.

The Government, no doubt, is directed by a new set of ideas and policies through the 'Vistas of Prosperity'. However, if the Government machinery, the key factor in implementing these policies and ideas does not func-



tion properly, the outcome would be hampered. Unless the age-old negative attitude of public servants is changed to be aligned with the new Government's thinking, the execution of many such programs will be delayed or discontinued.

Historically, we have seen this phenomenon taking place many times previously. Therefore, some of the 'Machiavellian theories' will be useful at times to crack the whip on lackluster attitudes. To achieve greatness, a great leadership is imperative, whether in politics, sports, business, or any other sphere.

At present the citizenry witnesses a sensible and strong leadership in President Gotabaya Rajapaksa. He has already proven himself as an exceptionally good leader during his tenure as the Defence Secretary. He has not only demonstrated leadership success by defeating LTTE terror but also by making Colombo an exemplary city in beauty, cleanliness, and discipline.

However, it is important to be

aware of the adulators who surround the leadership with flattery for their gains. Throughout history, we have seen such apple-polishing leeches who hang on powerful politicians. Fortunately, President Rajapaksa does not seem to be a person who succumbs to flattery.

The natural aura of authority with quality military training and discipline makes him different from the traditional politician the country has witnessed thus far.

Economic revival

In my last article, I said that the presidential task force appointed on economic revival under the chairmanship of Basil Rajapaksa has been silent for a few months. It is a pleasure to note that they have come back to the scene and are ready to begin the tasks assigned on the subject. Now, they too have a clear mandate with more people's power to act accurately and inde-

pendently.

The existing weak Opposition headed by an equally weak leader who does not demonstrate any personal quality to lead, will not be a hindrance to the new Government. According to political analysts, they are nowhere near in strength compared to the previous Opposition that had the exact number of members in Parliament.

Robust leadership

The absence of a proper and robust leadership will likely break the hurriedly arranged temporary coalition sooner or later as they have already shown considerable differences of opinion on the parliamentary appointments. Besides, elected members of the smaller political parties in this coalition would probably grab the first opportunity to cross over. Alternatively, if the Government rejects, they act as independent members.

Finally, Lee Kuan Yew, the founding father of Singapore and a role model for many world leaders, in his last national day rally in 1990, said, a government should provide equal opportunities, and not equal results. He cites an example of an iron rice bowl in which there is a very little rice because nobody works, everybody does their minimum.

He, in that speech, sends out a strong message that those who are faint-hearted will be shown the exit. President Rajapaksa, more than once, delivered such strong messages to his Cabinet, State Ministers and officials that he will not tolerate failures and will not hesitate to remove those who are unsuccessful.

NEWS FEATURES

BY MANESHKA BORHAM

The pristine Anawilundawa wetland sanctuary lies on the coastal belt between Negombo and Puttalam. Covering an area of 1,397 hectares it is one of the six RAMSAR Wetlands in Sri Lanka. Significant for the diverse ecosystems found within the sanctuary it is a haven for bird watchers and nature enthusiasts alike. Therefore, the news that nearly one hectare of the sanctuary had been cleared illegally overnight and prepared for shrimp farming has left them shocked and they have demanded the perpetrators be punished for the desecration of the wildlife sanctuary protected by law.

Cabinet Minister of Wildlife and Forest Conservation, C.B Rathnayake has promised to deliver on their demands. The businessman behind the illegal clearing of the sanctuary was arrested by the Police yesterday (29). As rumours were rife of possible political involvement the Minister told the *Sunday Observer* that all the culprits behind the brazen act will be revealed to the country despite their status, stature, or political affiliation. "I have ordered for their identities to be revealed," he said. The Minister has also ordered a probe into the incident and on Friday (28) the Arachchikattuwa Police also arrested a bulldozer operator they believed had cleared the area. In his initial statement to the Police, the driver claimed he had cleared the area on the instructions of the businessman who is now under Police custody.

The Director-General of the Department of Wildlife (DWC) Chandana Sooriyabandara said it was the department's own officers that the destruction caused on the night of June 25. "People in the area do not tip us off on illegal activities being carried out," he said. While the DWC has reported facts to the courts, Sooriyabandara said investigations are continuing.

Desecration of ANAWILUNDAWA



Nearly one hectare of the sanctuary had been cleared illegally overnight and prepared for shrimp farming

the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance in 1997. Later, it was declared a RAMSAR wetland in 2001. "Though it was a group of volunteers that led to Anawilundawa being declared a sanctuary the benefit has been for the entire country," he said.

Negative effects

According to Gunawardena, having shrimp farms in the area can have many negative effects. "The environmental damage from shrimp farming can be severe. The tanks are the main ecosystem in this area. When you place saltwater near a freshwater system the saltwater often leaks into the freshwater thereby affecting the quality of the freshwater resulting in the change of the whole ecosystem. This also affects negatively on the paddy farming of villagers in the area. There is a fertile paddy field in the area but they will not be able to cultivate it if this happens"

he said. "It could also lead to the farmers killing birds to prevent them from feeding on the shrimp," he said. According to Gunawardena, establishing farms in a sanctuary can only create a path for clashes between the environment and the farmers.

Environmentalists and others have also raised their suspicions on who could be brazen enough to clear land in a protected area. While shrimp farming is not profitable overnight and is a long term business venture, Gunawardena said the person who ordered the land to be cleared must either be foolish, be powerful, or believe he has some power to carry out such an act.

"He has to be under the impression that he can circumvent the law," he said. As area residents suspect the involvement of a politician behind the destruction the topic also drew the attention of the Parliament this week. "Regardless of who is involved, the people didn't give us a two-thirds majority to destroy wetlands and the environment," Minister Wimal Weerawansa said in Parliament.

Continued on page 12

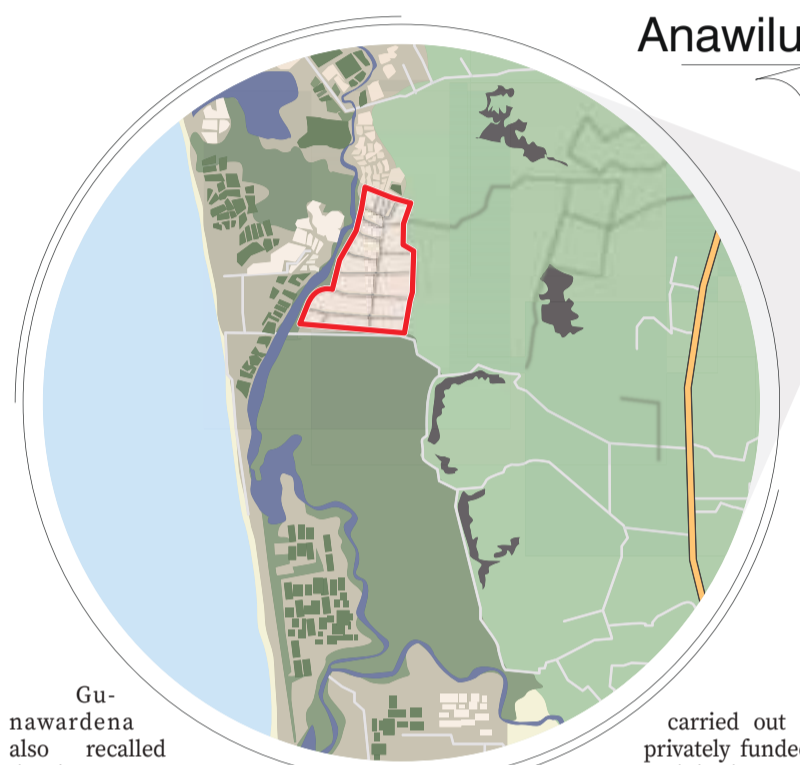
ing. "We have zeroed in on who the possible suspects could be," he said. The restoration of mangroves in the destroyed area will be carried out immediately, a spokesman for the Ministry of Wildlife and Forest Conservation said.

But environmentalists are now concerned if the damage done to the protected area can be reversed. According to Attorney-at-law and environmentalist Jagath Gunawardana, the tragedy of the incident is that it occurred on the very day the DWC officials had visited the same area to check the soil and determine which mangrove plants will be suitable to rehabilitate the mangroves in the sanctuary. "The project to reha-

bilitate the mangroves commenced led by the DWC, and supported by the University of Wayamba and a volunteer organisation recently as we have a national commitment to protect and increase the mangroves areas in the country," he said. However, according to Gunawardana, unfortunately, the remaining mangroves have now been cleared illegally and the future of the project is doubtful.

Biodiversity

Explaining the significance of the wetland, Gunawardana said that the area consists of forested wetlands, including mangrove swamps to the west and freshwater swamps and the freshwater lakes. "There are a number of ecosystems coexisting in the area rich in biodiversity," he said, adding that the sanctuary provides a number of environmental services to the area. "People living in the area depend on the sanctuary for their livelihoods. Therefore, this sanctuary is important not only to the environment and wildlife but to the society at large," he said. While the sanctuary could bring in revenue to the country, Gunawardana said this opportunity has not been fully explored yet. Commenting on the recent incident,



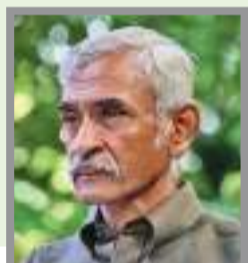
Gunawardena also recalled that it was a group of bird watchers who led the area being declared a sanctuary. "Thilo Hoffman of the Ceylon Bird Club, ornithologists Deepal Warakagoda and Upali Ekanayake in the 80s carried out a privately funded research in the area as they understood its significance and realised something must be done to protect it," he said. As a result of their efforts, Anawilundawa was then declared a sanctuary under



"I HAVE ORDERED FOR THEIR IDENTITIES TO BE REVEALED"



THERE ARE A NUMBER OF ECOSYSTEMS COEXISTING IN THE AREA RICH IN BIODIVERSITY"



Atrocities by LTTE terrorists AUGUST



The world's most ruthless terrorist outfit – the LTTE, had launched hundreds of terror attacks, massive bomb explosions targeting innocent civilians and brutal killings for almost three decades until they were crushed militarily on May 18, 2009 with the killing of LTTE leader Velupillai Prabhakaran in Vellamullaivaikkal.

In the guise of the liberation of Tamils, they inflicted untold misery on hundreds of thousands of Sinhala civilians, including their own community.

The *Sunday Observer* highlighted these attacks as a graphic series in the past. Today, we take a look at the key points of the month of August.

► **August 12, 1981:** LTTE cadres attacked Division 3, 6, Michnagar, Meerakerny, Satham Hussain Village of Eravur, killing 121 Muslims and injuring 20 others

► **August 17, 1988:** An IDE explosion, killing eight civilians and injuring four others in Nochchikulam, Vavuniya



Kattankudy mosque attack

► **August 3, 1990:** Over 30 LTTE cadres attacked four Muslim mosques in Kattankudy in Batticaloa, killing at least 147 Muslims who were praying in the mosques

► **August 5, 1990:** LTTE cadres killed 17 Muslim farmers who were working in a paddy-field in Mulliyankadu, Ampara

► **August 8, 1990:** LTTE attacked a Sinhala village and killed seven civilians in Navagamuwa, Anuradhapura

► **August 3, 1990:** 53 Muslim civilians were killed by LTTE at Ambalanthurai, Mutter



Six Muslim farmers killed by LTTE cadres in Sammanthurai, Batticaloa

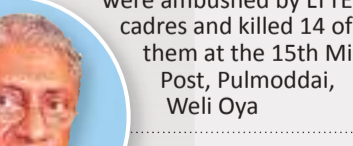


Private bus explosion at Trincomalee

► **August 30, 1992:** LTTE planted a bomb in a private bus at the bus-stand in Trincomalee Town and exploded, killing nine civilians and injuring 34 (including four soldiers, two reserve policemen)

► **August 7, 1995:** An LTTE suicide bomber exploded a trishaw killing 22 civilians in Colombo

► **August 13, 2003:** Twenty-five civilians who were travelling in a lorry from Negombo to Kokuvil were ambushed by LTTE cadres and killed 14 of them at the 15th Mile Post, Pulmoddai, Weli Oya



Bashir Wali Mohammad

► **August 12, 2005:** Lakshman Kadiragamar, a distinguished lawyer and former Foreign Minister was assassinated by an LTTE sniper attack. He achieved international prominence in this position due to his wide-ranging condemnation of the LTTE (Tamil Tigers) and his efforts to have them banned internationally

► **August 13, 2005:** A Muslim village adjoining a Sinhalese village was attacked by LTTE cadres in Awarantalawa Vavuniya. Nine Muslims and one Sinhalese were killed. Three others were injured

► **August 14, 2006:** At least seven persons, including four soldiers of the SLA, were killed and 17 others sustained injuries in a suicide attack carried out by the LTTE targeting Pakistan High Commissioner Bashir Wali Mohammad in Colombo. The envoy, returning from the Pakistan Independence day function at the mission, escaped unhurt though his vehicle suffered minor damage



High commissioner's damaged car

► **August 2, 2009:** LTTE cadres shot dead three Buddhist monks and three civilians while they were worshipping at the Somawathi Chaitya in Trikonamadu, Polonnaruwa

The freedom enjoyed by one and all today has been achieved due to the supreme sacrifices by the Security Forces, the political sagacity of former President Mahinda Rajapaksa and the military strategies of former Defence Secretary and incumbent President Gotabaya Rajapaksa

How can Sri Lanka be gender-inclusive?

BY SATHYA KARUARATHNE

Sri Lanka's General Election dawned at a crucial time of extreme uncertainty and precariousness. The island's political, social and economic spheres had been dismantled by an unexpected global pandemic that drove the country into a political limbo with the dissolution of Parliament.

The task of untangling the island from its woes has now been handed over to a male-led Parliament elected by the people ostensibly upholding the values of a democracy. In contrast, Sri Lanka's female demographic which constitutes 52 percent of the population is left under-represented in Parliament, forgotten and deprived of positions of power and access to the national decision making and policy implementation.

Sri Lanka is ranked 182 out of 193 countries on the inter-Parliamentary union of rankings which assesses the percentage share of women in government. In the previous Parliament, 13 legislators, or rather a handful of 5.8 percent of 225 MPs represented the voice and needs of 52 percent of the population. Moreover, there was only one woman under 40 in Parliament that represented the needs of young women.

The newly elected Parliament boasts one Cabinet and two women State Ministers with five more women Members of Parliament being elected by popular vote. SLPP, SJB and NPP have collectively appointed four women representatives through their National Lists.

The World Gender Gap Report published by the World Economic Forum ranked Sri Lanka among the top 20 countries in 2006. However, Sri Lanka has slipped in the rankings and has descended to be ranked 102 out of 153 countries in 2020 despite performing well on other indicators, such as health and education. In 2006, Sri Lanka ranked 84th on the economic participation and opportunity sub-index while in 2020, we ranked 126, slipping 42 places.

Wage equality for similar work has degraded by 27 places since 2006 from being ranked 55 to being ranked 82. Sri Lanka has performed poorly on the political empowerment sub-



indicator ranking seven in 2006 and 73 in 2020. Even though Sri Lanka has ranked nine on "years with a woman head of state" indicator, the index takes into consideration countries with the most years of a woman head of state in the past 50 years. As this is an extended time-frame, it does not reflect consistency in women political empowerment.

Women representation

The World Economic Forum states that women are under-represented in the political sphere globally, with women making up only 23 percent of national parliamentarians. This under-representation has an empirical correlation with policy choices and adverse consequences in women's and children's welfare. A study by the World Economic Forum addressed this issue by analysing gender representation in local municipalities and the provision of public childcare in Bavaria.

To assess the effect women councillors would have on public childcare, a study was carried out to compare the expansion of public childcare across Municipalities that have similar characteristics but differ in their share of women councillors. Results emphasised that one additional woman in the local council accelerates the expansion of public childcare by 0.4 spots per 1,000 inhabitants or by 40 percent. A comparison of over

7,700 minutes of council meetings displayed that one additional woman translates to child care being spoken of more frequently and that it creates the ambience for other women Councillors to voice their opinion confidently and to play a more active role in the process of policymaking and implementation.

These findings are relevant to Sri Lanka now more so than ever as Sri Lanka has seen a spike in the number of child abuse and violation of child rights, highlighting the lack of women perspective in policymaking.

Sri Lanka is no stranger to policies and laws that are gender discriminatory.

Marital rape being legal under the penal code which dehumanises the "role and duty of a wife", the Muslim Marriage and Divorce Act (MMDA) of 1951 that has a multitude of discriminatory provisions with regard to marriage, divorce, maintenance, inheritance, property rights and access to justice for Muslim women, discriminatory principles in the Kandyan law on divorce and inheritance, limitations on property rights applicable to women in Jaffna under the Tesawalamai law, mammoth taxes on menstrual hygiene products that are considered a luxury despite 4.2 million menstruating women, 14-year justice struggle for victims of rape, lack of incentive provided for women to enter...

Continued on page 12

Sri Lanka takes steps to prevent child trafficking

The trafficking and exploitation of children in Sri Lanka has been a serious issue for decades, however the country has made tremendous progress in mitigating the problem over the past years. A national survey conducted by the Department of Census and Statistics in 2016 put children engaged in economic activities at 2.3% compared to the 12.9% in survey in 2009. This is from a total of 103,704 children, of which 39,007 were engaged in hazard forms of labour. Most concerning for the government and civil society however, is the unreported and hidden issue of sexual exploitation of children, especially in the areas popular to both local and foreign tourists.

Sri Lanka is a state party to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. The country submitted its first report on the Optional Protocol in 2019 in which the UN Child Rights Committee recommended that the government,

“Undertake research on the root causes and extent of the sexual exploitation of boys and girls, including in the context of travel and tourism, and the sale of children, child prostitution and pornography, including online, to identify children at risk, assess the extent of the problem and develop targeted policies and programmes. In that regard, protective measures to combat child sexual exploitation should be closely linked with poverty reduction interventions and a awareness-raising activities”.

Several small scale studies have also clearly indicated the issue of child sexual exploitation in the country. It is a challenge to identify, report and take legal action on such exploitation due its secretive nature and the economic benefits to children and their families. It should be acknowledged however, that the government of Sri Lanka has taken many steps in an effort to

address the issue. This includes the setting up of the National Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force under the Ministry of Justice, National Child Protection Authority interventions to strengthen law enforcement processes and the Department of Probation and Child Care Service's efforts to provide better care for child victims of trafficking in detention care facilities.

Human Trafficking is a global issue affecting people in all countries regardless of social, economic and political context. The International Labour Organisation reports there are 40.3 million victims of trafficking globally, of which 25% are children.

Sri Lanka was downgraded to the Tier 2 Watch List status by the U.S. State Department in its 2019 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) report. The TIP report of 2020 has highlighted Sri Lanka's issues as the exploitation of boys and girls in the commercial sex trade in coastal areas; child labour in small shops, agriculture and informal markets; and children forced to beg or engage in criminal activities in Sri Lanka's larger cities.

The key challenges faced by both the public and law enforcement to prevent and respond to child trafficking include data collection, public awareness, as well as identifying child victims and perpetrators. The Ministry of Women and Child Affairs, the National Child Protection Authority (NCPA), the Department of Probation and Child Care, and the Police Women and Children's Bureau are working in partnership with Save the Children and IOM to introduce Standard Operating procedures to identify, refer and protect child victims of trafficking. The objective is to streamline and coordinate efforts among key authorities in addressing the issue of effective response mechanisms.

Section 360C (1) (c) of The Penal Code of Sri Lanka defines child trafficking as follows:

“recruits, transports, transfers, harbours or receives a child or does any other act whether with or without the consent of such child for the purpose of securing forced or compulsory labour or services, slavery, servitude or the

removal of organs, prostitution or other forms of sexual exploitation, or any other act which constitutes an offence under any law”. Under the Penal Code, any person who is guilty of the offence of trafficking of a child, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 20 years and may also be punished with fine.

The signs that identify a trafficked child do not differ vastly from those associated with other types of violence against children. Trafficked children do however experience multiple forms of abuse and exploitation.

Save the Children (SCI) and IOM work with the government of Sri Lanka to counter child trafficking in the country. The joint interventions are aimed at addressing key challenges in

tackling child trafficking in Sri Lanka. This includes research on push and pull factors, efforts to effectively re-integrate child victims of trafficking, raising awareness among the public to increase reporting, and building the capacities of government and civil society frontline officials.

Early intervention is imperative for trafficked children to recover and heal from the violence, abuse and exploitation they may have faced.

Violence against children, including suspected child trafficking, can be reported to the NCPA child helpline **1929**. Alternatively members of the public can call the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) hotline **0766 588 688** or the Children and Women's Desk on **0112444444**

SIGNS OF CHILD TRAFFICKING

- BE WORKING AND NOT IN SCHOOL
- BE TRAVELLING OR LIVING WITH ADULTS THAT S/HE HAS NO RELATIONS WITH
- BE UNSURE WHAT TOWN, CITY, OR EVEN COUNTRY THEY ARE IN
- HAVE MONEY OR POSSESSIONS THAT YOU WOULDN'T EXPECT THEM TO HAVE. (E.G. DISPLAYS EXPENSIVE CLOTHES OR ACCESSORIES)
- BE FEARFUL, ANXIOUS, DEPRESSED, SUBMISSIVE, TENSE, NERVOUS OR PARANOID
- SHOW SIGNS OF FATIGUE AND AN INABILITY TO FOCUS
- APPEAR TO HAVE LOST SENSE OF TIME
- SHOW SIGNS OF DRUG USE OR ADDICTION
- SHARE SCRIPTED, CONFUSING, OR INCONSISTENT STORIES
- HAVE LIMITED OR NO CONTACT WITH THEIR PARENTS OR GUARDIANS
- BE DISTRUSTFUL OF AUTHORITIES; ANXIOUS AROUND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS.
- BE RELUCTANT TO RECEIVE HELP
- SHOW SIGNS OF PHYSICAL AND/OR SEXUAL ABUSE, PHYSICAL RESTRAINT, CONFINEMENT, OR TORTURE
- LOOK YOUNGER THAN THEY SAY THEY ARE (TRAFFICKERS SOMETIMES TELL A CHILD TO SAY THEY



 Sri Lanka has zero tolerance for child exploitation

**SOME THINGS SHOULD NEVER BE FOR SALE!
SPOT IT. STOP IT. REPORT IT.**

**Sri Lanka promotes child safe tourism.
Call 1929 or 011-2444444 to report.**



 **Save the Children**

News/Obituaries

How can Sri Lanka... Continued from page 10

the labour force resulting in only 34.3 percent of women being economically active, failure and delay of the government in midst of the Covid-19 pandemic to repatriate migrant workers that mostly comprise of women who are Sri Lanka's highest foreign exchange earners, lack of a monetary body/mechanism to assist families and children of migrant workers are just a few among a host of gender insensitive and discriminatory laws and policies that haunt the quality of life, day-to-day activities and even threaten the lives of women across the island. It takes no expert to identify that needed reforms have been conveniently pushed under the rug over the years due to lack of women perspective and representation in positions of power

and parliament where laws and policies are debated and solidified.

Glass ceiling

A glance at the number of women contestants from each major party in the recent General Election depicts the difficulty women expectants face in being nominated as a candidate. With the aim of addressing these issues and ensuring women representation in local government, Local Authorities Elections (Amendment) Act, No. 1 of 2016 was introduced which presented a 25 percent mandatory quota for women. The practicality of abruptly coercing women into positions of power was lost in this attempt.

Candidates were provided with zero training and preparation to enter local government, despite years of convincing them that their expertise lies within the boundaries of a kitchen. The lack of preparation in this regard resulted in priority being given to relatives and close associates of politicians overlooking qualified and competent candidates.

Since Mrs. Bandaranaike's debut, Sri Lanka's lineage of women leaders has repeatedly painted a dramatic chronicle of the devoted woman, who steps out of their male counterpart's shadow in the case of his demise to dutifully carry on the legacy of the deceased. This narrative does not only rob these women of an authentic career and individuality but also leaves a permanent imprint of pedigree that doesn't necessarily reflect the aspirations of the average woman. This phenomenon compromises the quality of leadership as overnight shifts to the political sphere has a certain degree of risk attached to it.

Women continue to be severely under-represented due to the unequal access to finances and resources needed to seek nominations and to participate in electoral campaigns. According to research by UN Women in 2013, over 80 percent of respondents identified the lack of access to funding as one of the biggest obstacles for women to participate in a political competition (Ballington and Kahane, 2014). Politics and campaigning is a sphere dominated by big money and more often than not the economically disempowered woman is ruled out from this rich man's club.

Women employed in the corporate sector, activists and legislature experts are disincentivised to enter politics due

to the high costs involved financially and otherwise.

Psychological, sexual and physical violence against women swamps the arena of politics. Sexually provocative comments publicly directed on media, abuse from traditional media, the pressure to conform to a subordinate, the stereotypical image of an ideal woman, threats and physical violence scourges the day-to-day experiences of a woman contesting to enter Government.

Recommendations

Despite Sri Lanka ratifying the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and enshrined its commitment in the Women's Charter of Sri Lanka (1993) and the National Plan of Action for Women (1996) reflecting constitutional and international commitments to securing the rights of the woman, the country is yet to implement progressive reforms that will increase women's participation in the democratic process.

While there are a multitude of reform recommendations that can assist in improving Sri Lanka's women representation in Government, a transparent and fair framework to finance election campaigns through the Election Finance Campaign Act takes precedence and can pave the way to level the playing field in electoral competition between genders. Introducing a cap for spending on election campaigning and amending election laws to include disclosure of information pertaining to the amount and sources of campaign contributions can combat illicit campaign financing and high costs involved. Voluntary, non legislated practices, such as internal fundraising mechanisms in-kind contributions can help address the gender funding gap within parties. Countries, such as Brazil have put in place provisions to ensure a certain airtime for women contestants from each political party.

Initiating training programs and capacity building for women aspiring to run for office is crucial in increasing and solidifying effective women representation. The programs can be targeted at grassroots level activists and even extend to local school levels to encourage and motivate young women to pursue a career in politics. Special attention should be given to proper selection criteria and conducting the programs trilingually. Within parties, training programs and capacity building should be provided to women along with due recognition and equal opportunity.

Introducing a mandatory quota for women on the National List for major parties is yet another step that can be taken in addressing gender under-representation. This can facilitate female expectants to avoid financial burdens and gender-based violence and aggression associated with campaigning.



The Standard Chartered Bank donated Rs. 92.5 million (US \$ 500,000) to the Itukama Covid-19 Healthcare and Social Security Fund. The Chief Executive Officer of the Bank, Bingsun Thewarathanthri presented the cheque to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa at the Presidential Secretariat on Friday, August 28.

Health Ministry messages to go on social media

BY NADIRA GUNATILLEKE

The Health Promotion Bureau (HPB) will launch a program to publicise Health Ministry messages and other health messages on social media, Health Department Media Coordinator Janaka Suneth Bandara said.

According to Bandara, the program will commence under the direction of HPB Director Dr. Palitha Karunapema. A training program for health officials was held at the HPB recently with the assistance of Facebook trainers.

Health authorities used social media to publicise Covid-19 prevention messages successfully and achieved significant success. Covid-19 prevention messages reached many people in Sri Lanka, he said. Health officials were educated on the behaviour of social media, technical know-how and marketing, he added.



Police get chemical detection devices from Australia

Several Australian supplied hand-held chemical detection devices were presented to Acting Inspector General of Police C D Wickramaratne by Australian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka David Holly and Australian Federal Police Detective Superintendent Rob Wilson recently.

High Commissioner Holly said, "Australia expresses solidarity with Sri Lanka in facing the impact of the global threats of terrorism, organised crime and narcotics trafficking. Providing Chemical Detection Devices will assist front-line police officers in Sri Lanka to respond to these crimes, and continues the long standing friendship between the Sri Lanka Police and the Australian Federal Police".

Riot in Sweden after anti-Muslim Danish leader banned

STOCKHOLM, Aug 29 (AFP) - At least 10 people were arrested in southern Sweden and several police officers were injured in violence which broke out after an anti-Muslim Danish politician was blocked from attending a Koran-burning rally, police said Saturday.

Protesters threw stones at police and burned tyres on the streets of Malmo late Friday, with violence escalating as the evening wore on, according to police and local media. The demonstration of about 300 people was connected to an incident earlier in the day in which protesters burned a copy of the Islamic holy book, police spokesman Rickard Lundqvist told Swedish tabloid Expressen.

Between 10 and 20 protesters were arrested late Friday and "have all been released," police spokesman Patric Fors told AFP.

Desecration of... Continued from page 10

Minister C.B Rathnayake said the suspects will be brought before the law. "What use is there of a signboard claiming the land is protected if such acts are carried out illegally," he said. "If close to a hectare can be cleared what does it mean for the future of our environment" he added. According to the Minister, the perpetrators have attempted to misuse protected state land and this cannot be allowed. "I love my country more than my ministerial position. Therefore, the real perpetrators will be unmasked soon" he said.

But the incident has also revealed a host of other issues faced in protecting the country's natural treasures. According to Gunawardana, it is somewhat unfair to blame the DWC for the incident as the Anawilundawa sanctuary only has two DWC officers to protect it.

Sooriyabandara admitted that the Department faces a staff shortage across the island. "It is the same across the country," he said.

The DWC only has 1000 staffers to ensure that all the protected areas and wildlife in Sri Lanka are safe. According to Gunawardana, staff numbers must increase by six-fold. "Anawilundawa only has two rangers and they can't protect the area which is over 1000 hectares throughout the day," he said. The DWC has now asked the Government to recruit 3000 new officers to its fold.

Gunawardana also pointed out that the lack of a national plan for land has also led to these issues. "The protected areas amount to just 17 percent of the country's whole landmass," he said adding that the lack of a plan for available land has led to people attempting to carry out similar economic activities in protected areas.

"Shrimps for example are not for local consumption but for export. Destroying our environment for short term gain can impede the country's development. Therefore, a decision must be taken considering the continuity of our country. Investors must understand misusing our environment for the benefit of another country is harmful. The money he earns he can put it into another business but we cannot replace the environment that was destroyed" he said.

New ward at Rosewood Hospital

The new ward complex, operation theatre and laboratory at the Rosewood Private Hospital, Mahara was opened by Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa yesterday.

Prime Minister Rajapaksa said that he was happy to learn that people of the area have a hospital for their benefit and expressed his appreciation to the Managing Director of the hospital, Dr. Asela Wijesundara, for taking steps to set up a hospital.

"I have known Dr. Wijesundara more as an outstanding artist than a dentist. I believe he has enhanced knowledge in art and his profession as a physician owing to his rural background, Kurunegala, Mahawa and Nagollagama.

Ven. Kirinde Assaji Thera of the Ganga-rana Temple, Ven. Hurigaswewe Sathavaasa Thera, Gampaha District MP Sahana Pradeep, Biyagama Pradeshia Sabha Chairman Ganepola, Attorney-at-Law Prasanna Lal de Alwis, Deshaya Editor Ranjith Ananda Jayasingha, Dr. Vijith Gunasekera and singer Amarasiri Peiris were also present. - PMD

Govt mulls BIA reopening

The Government is exploring the possibility of reopening the Bandaranaike International Airport (BIA) closed due to the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Tourism Ministry said discussions over the reopening are under way with the authorities.

More Sri Lankan expatriates, affected by the pandemic are hoping to return to the island. The Government may reopen the airport following the conclusion of the repatriation process.

The Tourism Ministry stressed that repatriating Sri Lankan expatriates who have made requests to be brought back to the island will not be halted under any circumstances.

3rd Month Remembrance

May he attain Supreme Bliss of Nibbana



Dr. Piyasena Samarakoon

Died - 05/06/2020

Died suddenly but peacefully in Canada.

Fondly remembered by your ever-loving wife Sunitha and 2 sons Dilshan & Saneth and all who loved you dearly. Bana & Almsgiving will be held to commemorate the 3 month passing away on 04th and 5th September at No. 1116, 116 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, T6J 6y3, Canada.

IN LOVING MEMORY



RAVI GUNARATNAM (Captain)

20th November 1956
30th June 2020

You are near, even if I don't see you.
You are with me,
even if you are far away.
You are in my heart, to my thoughts,
in my life always.
Till we meet again my Ba, rest easy
in the arms of our eternal father to
heaven.

A mass in celebration of his life,
will be held at St. Theresa's Church,
Thimbirigasyaya on 1st September
2020 at 4.30 p.m.

Janice

Feast of Our Lady of Matara on Sept. 6

The 113th annual feast of Our Lady of Matara will be celebrated on September 6.

The flagstaff will be hoisted on August 30 at 4 p.m. The Rosary will be recited on August 31 at 4.30 p.m. followed by Holy Mass and Novena. The Vicar General of the Galle diocese Fr. Charles Hewawasam will preside at the Holy Hour and Benediction on September 4 at 4.30 p.m.

Vespers will be held on Saturday, September 5 at 4.15 p.m. followed by the Marians procession with the miraculous statue

presided over by the Bishop of Kurunegala, Rev. Dr. Harold Anthony Perera.

The Bishop of Galle Rev. Dr. Raymond Wickramasinghe will officiate at the Festive High Mass on Sunday, September 6 at 8 a.m.

The Administrator of the shrine, Fr. Michael Colin Nixon said the feast will be celebrated this year under the guidelines issued by the Health Ministry. There will be no special trains from Chilaw (Bangadeniya) to Matara and there will be no accommodation for pilgrims in schools, he said.

"Therefore you too have grief now; but I will see you again and your heart will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you."

John 16:22



Dhavamoney Cyril Nathaniel

Beloved husband of Shriyani Nathaniel and loving father of Dhivya and Vidya Nathaniel, passed away on 17 August 2020. The funeral was held on 19 August 2020.

The family of Dhavamoney Cyril Nathaniel wishes to express their sincere gratitude for the support and comfort offered during their time of great sorrow.

Your thoughts, prayers and tributes have been a great source of strength, and are deeply appreciated.

We regret not being able to thank each of you individually, but please know that each of you have brought us comfort during this difficult time.



Death Acknowledgement

Manoranjan Lokubandara Angunawela

Retired Senior Superintendent of Police



Died on 14 July 2020

The members of the family of Mr Manoranjan Angunawela wish to sincerely thank all friends and relatives who attended the funeral, sent floral tributes and messages of condolences. We also extend our appreciation to the members of the Sri Lanka Police and all those who assisted us in numerous ways in our time of grief. We regret our inability to thank them individually.

266/3, Main Street, Panadura.

Obituaries

PERERA - ROHAN - The death is announced on 16th August of Liyanage Rohan Augustus Deepshanthi, youngest son of late Mr. L.R.N.H. Perera and late Mrs. Merlyn Perera, dearly beloved husband of Annie, darling father of Natalie and Neil, father-in-law of Tan & Meesa, adored Seeya of Daniel, Zaara & Zane, much loved little brother of Ranjini, (Negombo) late Chithrani (UK), late Pavithranama (Australia) Kanthi (UK), late Deva, late Anton, Maithri - Teena (UK) Nirmali - Nimmi (UK), brother-in-law Millie, Rita, & Vernon all of (UK) late Gamini Karunasena, Shanthi (Australia), Christopher Cole (UK), Shiromi, Michael (UK) and John Pannell (UK) passed into the kingdom of the Lord. His remains will be cremated on **28th August 2020 in UK** and his ashes will be brought to Sri Lanka to be interred as per his last will. 049980

RODRIGO - PHILOMINA LOURDES REGINA Called to rest with Jesus, loving wife of late Winston Rodrigo, mother of Heloise (Favourites Montessori), Hadley (ILM Shipping), Avril (late) & Alan (Asian Tiger), mother-in-law of Darren (SLII), Susan, Rex (Ceyoka) & Minoli (Uniliver), Loving grandmother of Jessica (Wendy Whatmore), Desree (JKH), Michael, Heliza (HNB), Meredith (Shiftx), Shevon, Onela, Stephan, Aimee) loving sister of Carlyle (late), Yvonne (late), Noelene, Rita Christo (Aust) & Kingsley (late), sister-in-law of Connie (late), Anian, Alwin (late, Neville, Gwen (Aust) & Barbara (UK), Milligent (late), Felix (late), Roxina (late), Festus (late), Cecil (late) & Arlene (Canada). Remains lie at **Supreme Florist, Borella** from 2 p.m. - 29/08/2020. Cortege leaves Supreme Florist at 3 p.m. on Sunday, 30/08/2020. Burial at General Cemetery, Borella. (Catholic Section). 050397

SAMSON - ISAAC NOEL SELLADURAI (Formerly of US embassy, Colombo, past grand inspector for Irish freemasonry in Sri Lanka) - Beloved son of late Mr. E.M. Samson & Mrs. Jessie Samson - Beloved husband of Wilma, loving father of Shimron (Lanka IOC) & Ranjini (UK - Formerly of Union Assurance & Sampath Bank), father-in-law of Russell (UK), brother of Regina Koilraj & late Grace Sundararaj, brother-in-law of late Abraham & late Herbert, loving grandfather of Joshua Akesh (UK) & Shani. Remains will lie at A.F. Raymonds Funeral Parlour. Service at 3.30 p.m. on Sunday the 30th August 2020 and thereafter burial at 4.30 p.m. at **General Cemetery, Borella - Anglican Section.** 050386

WICKREMASINGHE - OSWALD BERNARD (OSSIE), 85 years - Dearly beloved husband of Nimalika Boparachchy, loving father of Niranjan and Shamalika, father-in-law of Cynthia and Dilshan, brother of late Dougie, Neil, late Beeta, late Sheila, Annette and Bonny, brother-in-law of Rani, Ranjani, late Mervyn, Hubert, Lloyd, Bernie and of Gamini, Lalitha, Mallika, Vijey, Sarath, late Rohan and Kamal, passed away peacefully. Cortege leaves residence **No. 114 A, "Ave Maria", Welivita, Kaduwela** at 3.00 p.m. on Monday 31st August for burial at the Welivita Catholic Cemetery at 3.30 p.m. 050384

Facelift for irrigation networks

BY RAJA WAIDYASEKERA
- TISSAMAHARAMA SPECIAL CORR

Major and minor irrigation networks will be renovated to enable farmers cultivate paddy without any obstruction, Internal Security, Home Affairs and Disaster Management State Minister Chamal Rajapaksa said.

State Minister Rajapaksa told the media that Sri Lankans must be ashamed of having to import *kurakkan* which could be cultivated in the country. "We had *kurakkan* in abundance in Giruwapattu in the past.



The Yahapalana regime did not concentrate on this because it did not consider farming as an important

sector," the minister said.

He said people live in peace and harmony because they did not have fear psychosis with President Gotabaya Rajapaksa assuming presidency.

Politicians rejected by the people at the General Election, will fuel flames of racism and try to regain power. The people will not tolerate such acts. The MPs in the Opposition were rejected by the people to govern the country. They will keep spreading baseless rumours to mislead the people, the Minister said.



Want Want Group donated Slightly Acidic Hypochlorous Acid Water generators, which dispense a chlorine-based solution proven to be an effective disinfectant against the Covid-19 virus, to the Health Ministry recently. Here National Olympic Committee Secretary General Maxwell de Silva, who coordinated with Want Want Group, presents the donation to Health Minister Pavithra Wanniarachchi.



The Dambulla centre of the National Institute of Language Education and Training (NILET) held its certificate awarding ceremony recently. Here a trainee who completed the Sinhala Language Course receives her certificate from Public Services, Provincial Councils and Local Government Minister Janaka Bandara Tennakoon. NILET Chairman Jayampathy Heenkenda was also present. (Pic: M. S. M Munthasir, Panadura Central Gr. Corr)

Abandoned gem, graphite mines in Kalutara

BY KAPILA SOMARATNE, PANADURA GROUP CORRESPONDENT

There are abandoned gem and graphite mines worth billions of rupees in the Kalutara District, parliamentarian and District Development Committee Chairman Sanjaya Edirimanna said.

No Government had taken steps to use gem and graphite mines for the benefit of the country although the International Research Institutions had carried out research and uncovered the gem and graphite mines in Horana, Bulathsinhala and Bandaragama, he said.



The cultural unit of Samsul Uloom Vidyalaya, Akkaraipattu, celebrated the dawn of Muharram (Islamic New Year), recently in keeping with the guidelines by Health authorities on Covid-19.

(Pic: Addalaichenai Central Correspondent)

Bee-keeping to keep elephants at bay

TISSAMAHARAMA SPECIAL CORR

The Agriculture Department trained the people in areas where wild elephants roam in Hambantota, in bee-keeping as elephants fear bees. Department sources said bee-keeping will also provide self-employment to low income group families.

Unauthorised structures dismantled

TISSAMAHARAMA SPECIAL CORR

Irrigation Department officials removed dismantled structures at the reserves of the Tissa wewa. The Tissamaharama Irrigation Engineer said that unauthorised structures had posed a threat to the safety of the tank. He said that the Tissa wewa will be renovated under the *Wari Saubagya* development program.



Former Director General of the Media Centre for National Security Lakshman Hulugalle assumed duties as the Sri Lanka Consul General for Sydney, New South Wales and Queensland recently.



A blood donation camp for the third consecutive occasion, jointly organised by the British College of Applied Studies (BCAS) of Kalmunai Campus and AJM Brothers, in collaboration with the Kalmunai Ashraff Memorial Base Hospital (AMH), was held at the campus auditorium recently. (Pic: Addalaichenai Central Correspondent)



A ceremony to welcome SLPP National List Parliamentarian Marjan Faleel, organised by the Nabaviyya Media Centre and Education Forum, was held at the Nabaviyya Hall, Maligahena, Beruwala recently.

(Pic: M.S.M.Munthasir, Panadura Central Gr. Corr)

NOTICE



Mr Ajith Dassanayake holder of NIC number 771473342V, who was an Assistant Project Manager, is no more in the service with Netsys Solutions (Pvt) Limited with immediate effect. Accordingly we will not be responsible for any business or financial transactions that he might be involved with any organisation.

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Ampara district cattle owners are facing difficulties as the price of straw has soared. Here straw being transported from Oluvil to Akkaraipattu.

(Pic: Addalaichenai Central Correspondent)



Aurvedic Hospitals under the purview of the Kalmunai Regional Director of Health Services (RDHS) office recently received a stock of personal protective equipment. Here Dr. M.B. M. Rajees, the Medical Officer-in-charge of the Addalaichenai Base Aurvedic Hospital receives the stock from Coordinator for Kalmunai Regional Aurvedic Hospitals and Nintavur Aurvedic District Hospital Medical Superintendent Dr. M.A.Nafeel.

(Pic: Addalaichenai Central Correspondent)

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Disoriented Tamils at cross roads without a compass

By
H. L. D. Mahindapala



Of all the oddities displayed at the opening of the new Parliament – and there were some exceptional ones like an MP arriving in a prison van and another landing in a boat – the most significant one to my mind was the presence of two fathers-in-law sitting on opposite benches, facing each other, ready to go into verbal duels at any given moment. There are, of course, many precedents where distant and blood relatives crossed swords on the floor of the House. One of the earliest was Colvin R. de Silva (Bolshevik-Leninist Party of India /LSSP) in the Opposition benches firing at the politics of his brother, Walwin, a UNPer, and vice versa.

Another memorable instance was when Anura Bandaranaike joined the UNP government and tearing into his mother's politics who was sitting in the Opposition. Considering that the genealogy of Sri Lankans runs like a wild wine creeper twining practically through each other's legs in devious ways, there could have been many unaccounted relatives battling it out from the opposite benches.

But the marriage of Vasudeva Nanayakkara's son to C. V. Wigneswaran's daughter makes the two fathers-in-law a first in Parliament. Both will occupy their seats as two incendiary explosives that could go off any moment in the House. That is inevitable, particularly, because both are impulsive fire-brands. In fact, one report said that they were exchanging heated words in the lobby on their first day in Parliament when Prime Minister, Mahinda Rajapaksa, noticing the sparks flying between the two, eased his way through the crowd and stepped in to defuse the rising tensions. But this is only the prelude for more things – more ominous things – to come later.

Sword of Damocles

In the new Parliament they represent the two divisive polarities that are bound to collide. They are the outstanding and controversial symbols of the ominous forces of our time hanging overhead like the sword of Damocles.

Their politics has the potential to outweigh even the critical issues of the economy which are yet to unfold in all its fury. The proposed Constitution will be the new battleground for the old issues of power sharing that began in colonial times. It is predictable that the old wounds of the inter-ethnic relations between the North and the South will open up with the rival contenders going at each other's throats, hopefully without the devastating consequences experienced by both parties in the recent past.

The Northern political elite whose life and soul depended on exploiting mono-ethnic extremism (aka, Tamil nationalism, Eelamism, federalism, separatism, self-determination) bared its tigerish teeth on the very first day of the opening debate. C. V. Wigneswaran did not hesitate to demonstrate his style and substance with his provocative and controversial speech.

He did not hesitate to echo the old mantra that pull at the heartstrings of the Tamils: the Tamil language. Using his standard tactic, with nothing else to crow about, he paid homage to the Tamil language which resonates as the primary source of sustaining and pursuing Tamil identity politics. This is also his signature tune and he signalled that Parliament is going to hear more of it in the days, months and years to come. It is, of course, a variation of his notorious resolution passed in Northern Provincial Council condemning all Sinhala leaders since Independence as genocidal maniacs who had decimated the Tamils. The likes of Wigneswaran survive in the competitive politics of the peninsula only by distorting known facts, recorded history and the grim realities that refuse to surrender to their disproportionate and extremist demands.

Most of the leaders who welcomed the new Speaker maintained a neutral tone and the formal decorum expected on this occasion. Only Wigneswaran's speech went off the rails. He could not help being Wigneswaran – the new kid in the bloc showing off his no-hands-on-the-handle ride down the main street. I start my felicitations, Hon. Speaker, hailing you in my mother tongue, the oldest living language of this world and the language of the first indigenous inhabitants of this country, and proceed in the link language. I thank you for accepting such a high position in our Parliamentary tradition. Sir, I am sure, you would bring with your high Office your experience with men and matters gained throughout your long political career. We have

a very powerful Government now.

A similar Government was constituted under the late J.R. Jayewardene in 1977. It was during that regime that we had the 1983 Pogrom. Certainly, this Government too could follow the path of the Elephant of that time and end up as today reduced to a single Member in the future.

But, I am sure they would not. They would prefer to learn from our mistakes of the past and usher in a period of peace and prosperity where all communities would feel equal to each other and walk with dignity and pride as children of Mother Lanka. That freedom and equality could dawn only if we shed the false historical perspectives of the past and recognise the intrinsic rights of the people living in the North and the East of Sri Lanka, who are entitled to the right of self-determination as per Article 1 of Chapter 1 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in addition to their hereditary and traditional rights to be recognised as a nation. Sir, I hope, we would not be called upon in this august assembly of parliamentarians in the future, during your term of office, for your protective assistance since we would respect each other's rights and our duties towards each other. We are sure you will guide us all without fear or favour if any such impasse comes to pass.

There is no need Sir, in a country which professes Buddhism to expect a hegemonic dominance from anyone. We have not forgotten what the Sinhala villager is only too well familiar with, that every act has its opposite reaction; English equivalent: You will reap what you sow.

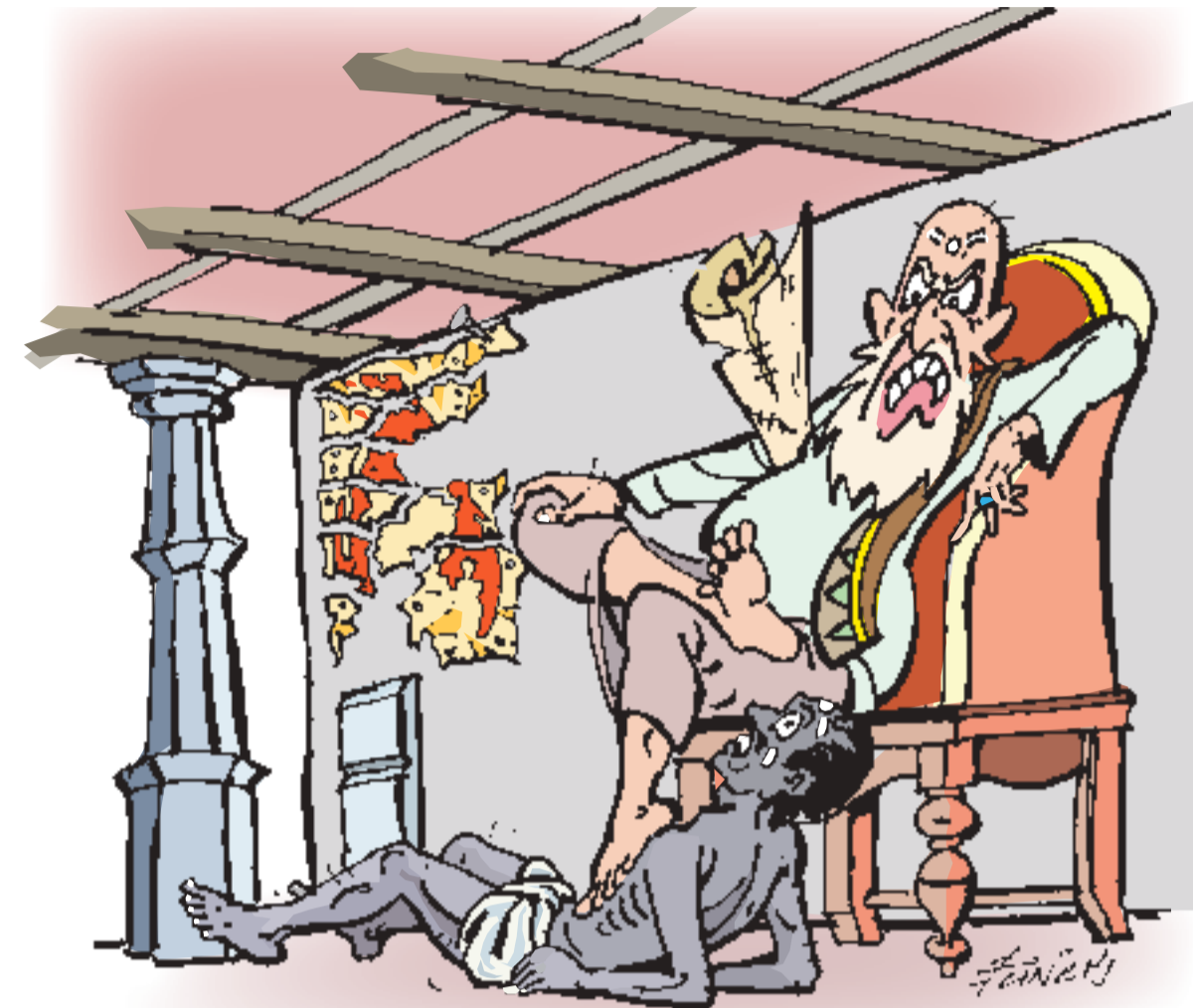
Though short it summarises the usual litany of complaints recycled unceasingly by the Tamil leadership blaming the Sinhalese. In the next day's sittings of the House G. G. Ponnambalam, the grandson of the father of virulent Tamil communalism, G. G. Ponnambalam, Snr., who sparked off the first communal riots in 1939 by attacking the Mahavamsa and the history of the nation, went beyond Wigneswaran to focus on the 'two nation' theory. That is a claim that must be dealt in a separate chapter next Sunday. First, attention must be focused on Wigneswaran dragging his aggressive, anti-Sinhala-Buddhist politics from his launching pad in the Provincial Council in the North to a higher level in Parliament. To begin with, there is nothing new in Wigneswaran's whingeing. He is only reiterating what every other Tamil propagandist has said for the nth time before. But what does it portend? It is this kind of rhetoric that paved the path to the Vadukoddai violence unleashed in 1976. Blaming the Sinhala-Buddhists has been the only ideological trick they had to seduce their people into the path of brutal and futile violence.

For instance, Prabhakaran was nurtured, encouraged, supported, financed and defended at all times by the Tamil Vellala elite which retained their grip on power in the peninsula by demonising the Sinhala-Buddhists. Prabhakaran knew nothing but the hate politics fed to him by the Tamil theoreticians / propagandists who manufactured a fake history of Tamils which invariably ended in projecting the Sinhala-Buddhists as the permanent enemies of the Tamils.

The essence of this ideology was encapsulated in the Vadukoddai Resolution which declared war on the Sinhala-Buddhist in 1976.

In the current political context of the post-Gotabaya Presidential election, the choice before the Tamils is either to go back to the Vadukoddai Resolution and kick-start the road to Nandikadal again, or carve out a more realistic path for peaceful co-existence taking into consideration the lessons learnt in Nandikadal. It is, indeed, sad that Wigneswaran has chosen to ignore the new realities haunting the Northern landscape. He has reverted to the same-old, same-old hate politics. He made use of the occasion to address the extremists who are likely to follow him into the never-never land of elusive Eelam. He talks of the 'right of self-determination', 'the right to be recognised as a nation', 'hegemonic dominance' of the majority, 'the 1983 pogrom', a claim to be 'the first indigenous inhabitants of this country', and, of course, 'the old

THEY MUST BE MORE PRAGMATIC AND ADMIT THAT IT IS 'THE FALSE HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE OF THE PAST' THAT LED THE TAMIL LEADERSHIP TO THE SELF-DESTRUCTIVE VADKODDAI RESOLUTION



EACH TIME THE TAMILS CLAIM THAT THEY ARE SUPERIOR TO ALL OTHERS IN THE ISLAND, THEY ARE FORCED TO EXPLAIN WHY THEY PLAYED SUCH AN INFERIOR ROLE IN THE HISTORY OF THE NATION

est living language of this world.'

Take the last one first. To boast about the Tamil language being the oldest, boosts only the egos of the Tamils who have nothing else to crow about in Sri Lanka. Besides, it is a specious argument because if antiquity is a mark of superiority then the Sinhalese language, which the Tamils say came into being only in the fifth century, should be considered superior to the English language which blossomed into what it is today, only in the 15th-16th centuries under Geoffrey Chaucer and modernised by Shakespeare later.

Besides, the Tamils of Jaffna did not create the Tamil language which, indeed, is a cultural gem. The local Tamils brought it in their bag and baggage when they crossed the Palk Strait in the 12th-13th centuries. Tamil historians have openly admitted that the Jaffna Tamils were merely second-hand imitators of Tamil Nadu culture. No original masterpieces ever came out of Jaffna. On the contrary, the Sinhalese created and gifted to the world a whole new language rich enough to express the subtle nuances of the great-est philosophy of India, Buddhism. As opposed to this, the imitative Jaffna Tamils are prone to pretend that they have been the virtual founders of the great Tamil culture that flourished in South India. Simply because Arumuka Navalar and C. W. Thamotherampillai excavated the neglected Tamil classical texts from South India and printed them in Jaffna they assume that they have been the virtual founders, discoverers, and revivalists of Tamil language and culture.

Creative genius

The fact is Jaffna had not contributed anything substantial to the greatness of the Tamil language. So which community can claim to be superior to the other? Is it those who are parroting a language borrowed from another land? Or those who with their creative genius minted a new language?

The Sinhala-Buddhists also gave the world a new civilisation and a new culture. In fact, the great aesthetic savant, Ananda Coomaraswamy, wrote a classic monograph on Medieval Sinhala Art.

Being a Tamil, wouldn't he have written an equally great monograph on Jaffna art if the Tamils had anything comparable to that of the Sinhalese? So what is Wigneswaran crowing about? Why is he trying to pretend that the Tamil language came from his father's loins when its origins go way back in time to the dim distant past in another land? In comparison let's take the case of the American and the Australian migrants who took the English language

with them as they migrated into new lands.

They do not bask in the supremacy and the glory of English language created in Britain. They take pride in the creative power of their own people who produced a new culture of their own demonstrating their innate genius. Can Wigneswaran at least point to the genius of the Jaffna Tamils comparable to that of the English migrants domiciled in America or Australia? He may not be familiar with these two cultures. Can he, therefore, tell us in what respects the Jaffna Tamil culture – not that of Tamil Nadu – is superior to that of the Sinhalese?

Then he talked about 'the first indigenous inhabitants of this country.' This is another symptom of the common Tamil malaise to imagine histories that never happened. Their political aspirations are based on believing in a fabricated past that could justify their current political agenda to create a separate state. Vadukoddai Resolution (1976) is a typical example of the Tamil mytho-maniacs concocting a political manifesto to sustain and pursue their unattainable aspirations.

Besides, conflicting theories question the validity of their self-serving history which eventually led to the Vadukoddai Declaration of war in 1976.

Political violence depends on the extent to which it is possible to manufacture hate politics, extremism and myths. As the primary aim of the Vadukoddai Resolution was to provide a valid justification to claim proprietary rights over Sri Lankan territory they went overboard by declaring the myth that they were the first arrivals.

This claim also makes them believe that they are superior to all other migrants who came later. Let us for the sake of argument concede that they came first. They must then explain why the inferior Sinhalese who came later built a unique civilisation, culture and language that stand to their glory surpassing all activities of the superior Tamils. Besides, if they came earlier why did they withdraw and confine themselves to a littoral strip in the sands of the North? Isn't it because the Tamils began their settlements, according to Tamil historians, only in the 12-13th centuries?

Each time the Tamils claim that they are superior to all others in the island, they are forced to explain why they played such an inferior role in the history of the nation. For instance, if the Tamils are so superior to the Sinhalese and the Tamils played such a pivotal role in the national history how did the inferior Sinhalese come out on top dominating every inch of the way in history to the 21st century, overcoming all challenges they faced, mostly from the Dravidians of the North?

Take, for instance, the simple issue of demographics. If they came first they had the field wide open for them, with no opposition, to populate and leave their indelible stamp on every conceivable aspect in history. But they didn't. They had Paskaralingams, Mahalingams, Panchalingams, and a whole lot of lingams none of whom had the capacity to populate the island with sufficient demographics to dominate the historical landscape. So how did the Tamils fail and why did the Sinhalese succeed? Recorded history states categorically that the Sinhalese were exceptional because they outstripped the Tamils in their historic journey through the ages gone by.

Throughout the better part of his-

tory, the Tamils lived under the shadow of Sinhala rulers. They accepted Sinhala as the official language with which to communicate, from royalty down to the common trader in Chekkhu Street. This also leads to a serious question: Does history belong to those who make spurious claims to justify the politics of the day or to those who made history with their blood, sweat and tears down the ages?

Perspectives

In one of Wigneswaran's sober moments he says that "we (should) shed the false historical perspectives of the past". True. Absolutely true. But he has a motive for saying this. He wants the world to accept his narrative of events rejecting the one that contradicts his version. As in any other conflict there are two sides to a story.

He wants the world to 'shed the false historical perspective' that contradicts his narrative. In other words, like all Tamil partisans marketing their one-sided story to the world he is making a strong bid to hide the subhuman history of Jaffna that humiliated, persecuted, oppressed, suppressed and even massacred their own people on a mass scale for centuries under fascist

IN ONE OF WIGNESWARAN'S SOBER MOMENTS HE SAYS THAT "WE (SHOULD) SHED THE FALSE HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES OF THE PAST". TRUE. ABSOLUTELY TRUE. BUT HE HAS A MOTIVE FOR SAYING THIS

Vellalaism. He is deliberately falsifying the historical perspectives of his past because the truth will blast his political myths to bits. He would, for instance, find it very difficult to give another example of the ruling class/caste denying their own people the right to walk in God-given sunlight. These outcasts were allowed to come out only at night declaring loudly as they walked that the Turumbas – the lowest of low castes – are coming, purely to warn the Vellalas to close their doors and windows to maintain the purity of their eyes.

So when he says, "we should shed the false historical perspective of the past" he should begin from his end before pointing fingers at his bete noir the Sinhalese. He should first examine critically and objectively how his forefathers treated their own people before he accuses the Sinhalese of discriminating against the Tamils, or denying them their dignity and rights. What dignity did his ancestors give the low-castes when they refused to open the doors of the Vellala-owned temples to the low-caste Hindus to worship their common God/gods? Or kept the front pews of the Church to the high castes and the last rows to the low-castes? In America the Negroes were not allowed to sit in the front rows in buses but only in the back seats. In the Vellala fiefdom the low-castes were not allowed to sit on any seat, front or back.

They had to sit on the floor of the bus. This was institutionalised

discrimination that dehumanised Wigneswaran's own people. He refuses to examine the horrifying tortures, persecutions, oppression and agonies of his own history. As a former judge it is his moral duty to weigh the available evidence before passing judgment. He should begin by asking: Why didn't our leaders make our own people "feel equal to each other and walk with dignity and pride as children" of Tamil homeland?

The debacle at Nandikadal must open the eyes of the Tamils to recognise that the Tamil leaders have been 'congenital idiots' (Prof. David Kumar). With all the accumulated knowledge gathered from their misadventure on the road to Nandikadal they must, at least, at this late stage, accept responsibility for their folly. Blaming the Sinhalese is not going to take them to their unattainable Eelam.

They must be more pragmatic and admit that it is 'the false historical perspective of the past' that led the Tamil leadership to the self-destructive Vadukoddai Resolution. They were arrogant and intransigent political animals who led their people to a humiliating and disastrous end in Nandikadal. The rhetoric recycled by Wigneswaran can lead only to the next Nandikadal. Is this what the Tamils want?

Lucid moments

Quite rightly he says, in one of his lucid moments, that we should "learn from our mistakes of the past and usher in a period of peace and prosperity where all communities would feel equal to each other and walk with dignity and pride as children of Mother Lanka". But here he is pointing his finger, as usual, at the Sinhalese. In saying this he is in denial. He is lying through his teeth. He is the living example of Tamils and Sinhalese 'walk(ing) with dignity and pride as children of Mother Lanka'. He was given a free education at Royal College, the best school run by the 'Sinhala state'. He was also given a free education at Law College run by 'the Sinhala state'. (In Chennai he would have had to pay through his nose to qualify as a lawyer).

He practised as a lawyer in the courts of 'the Sinhala state' and not in any of the pseudo courts in de facto state run by his Tamil hero, Velupillai Prabhakaran. He rose to the highest rank as judge in 'the Sinhala state' where he could walk with dignity and pride as an independent judge who would not have to bow down to the dictates of his Tamil Thalaivar.

Above all, his daughter is married to a Sinhalese. Would he ever have given his loving daughter to a Sinhalese if he knew that she would not feel equal to each other and walk with dignity and pride as children of Mother Lanka? Besides, should he not think compassionately about his own people, who had suffered enough due to the folly of their leaders, and ask what chances he has of taking his people beyond the next Nandikadal with his kind of logic and rhetoric? Wigneswaran is typical of the derelict, rudderless Tamil leader wandering in no-man's land in the post-Prabhakaran period. With Prabhakaran the Tamils had a centre to hold them together, however obnoxious he was to the civilised world horrified by his fascist violence. With Prabhakaran they had something to lean on.

After him the Tamils have fallen into a vacuum and they are running around like chooks without heads. Finding a new path that would not lead them to another Nandikadal is the task for the Tamil leadership. Threatening the nation with another round of Vadukoddai violence is counter-productive. But the rhetoric unleashed by Wigneswaran and his fellow-Vadukoddian, Ponnambalam, on the first two days in the new Parliament expose not only their obsession with the failed politics of the immediate past but also the bankruptcy of the Tamil leadership stuck at the cross-roads without a compass.

To go back to regain their political leverage by militarising and weaponising their separatist politics they have to find another Prabhakaran. Neither the ground realities of the post-Nandikadal period nor the international support for Prabhakaranist terrorism is there for them to go that far. Clearly, they have to find a more viable alternative. Ponnambalam spoke arrogantly of his 'two state theory' as if nothing has happened since his grandfather sparked off the first communal riots in 1939 with anti-Sinhala rhetoric in Nawalapitiya.

For what it is worth, this theory must be revisited next Sunday for the pragmatic Tamils to realise that they can no longer float forever in the dark clouds that thundered and drenched them with the blood of their own people at Nandikadal.

Ragging should be eradicated altogether

— Prof. G.L. Peiris

By
Lakshme
Parasuraman



Education Minister Professor G.L. Peiris in an interview with the *Sunday Observer* assured that he would fulfill President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's election promise to give a degree to all Advanced Level qualified students

The interview in full:

Q. Will there be any major reforms in the Education sector including universities?

A. There will be and there have to be major reforms. In the university sector we have very critical problems. We have about 184,000 students who have qualified for admission to the universities in our country. Today there is provision for only 31,000 students for entry to the universities. We are trying to increase the intake by about 15,000. But this means there is a shortfall of 153,000 students who are left out of the system. The only reason they are excluded is that infrastructure of university system is inadequate to accommodate them.

The University Grants Commission at present is working on a project to set up 10 new universities in different parts of the country and the Cabinet has identified the districts where they are to be established.

There is also an attempt to set up a 'virtual' university with 1,000 students to follow distance education before the end of this year.

The Open University at present has 45,000 students and we are trying to increase the intake by another 15,000. The drawback is the lack of IT and other equipment. We have decided to seek financial support of US\$ 300 million from the World Bank in this connection.

This is a serious problem in the conventional university system. 153,000 students who have qualified for university admission are excluded. Vocational training is also very important, because there are many who do not pursue a degree as there are many options for vocational training for good jobs in the country. The demand for vocational training right now is 240,000 but again there is a shortfall and currently the system is able to provide for only 175,000 of the 240,000. About 65,000 are left out and that is a very grave social problem.

The principal institution should be a university of vocational training with nine campuses called faculties in each province.

Under them there are 40 technical colleges catering to about 200 different trades such as carpentry, cooking, beauty culture, wood work and many such subjects.

We have good buildings but we do not have proper equipment and more than that the critical issue is lack of qualified staff. At present we have 500 vacancies which need to be filled as a matter of urgency to make the optimal use of the physical assets available in the system.

I have already spoken to the High Commissioner of India. India has wide expertise in this area of skills development and the response has been very encouraging since India is willing to help us. With regard to formal university education and the vocational education there are many changes to be made at present. This would be one of the urgent priorities for the Education Ministry.

Q. The President in his Election manifesto says that every student who passes the GCE (Advanced level) Examination will be assured of a degree. Can you explain how the government is going to implement it? And how many years will it take to complete it?

A. It has to be done in several ways. For that you have to increase the intake to the formal conventional universities. Then you must expand the ambit of distance education to help students to be partly employed. If you create such opportunities for them in a conventional university system they will not be able to benefit from it because they are not full-time students. So you must make provisions for them also.

In today's world, university education cannot be confined to the students full time upto 19 to 23 years. You have to provide opportunities to them to improve themselves and to achieve social mobility, while they are employed. So there is to be an expansion of distance education via Open Universities and other similar institutions and that's why I referred earlier to the institution which I call the 'virtual' university. So that is the way to cater to students who have demonstrated their competence to benefit from education. The current system cannot adequately cater to them.

Q. Every government changes its policies, and as such do you think there should be a National Policy for the Education sector?



THIS IS A SERIOUS PROBLEM IN THE CONVENTIONAL UNIVERSITY SYSTEM. 153,000 STUDENTS WHO HAVE QUALIFIED FOR UNIVERSITY ADMISSION ARE EXCLUDED. VOCATIONAL TRAINING IS ALSO VERY IMPORTANT, BECAUSE THERE ARE MANY WHO DO NOT PURSUE A DEGREE AS THERE ARE MANY OPTIONS FOR VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR GOOD JOBS IN THE COUNTRY

A. Definitely. There should be a National policy for Education. I think one of the problems in Sri Lanka is everything has become hugely politicised. But in a mature democracy it should be possible to identify certain areas where policy is formulated not on the basis of short term political consideration.

Not only the term of narrow political consideration, but taking a longer-term view in the national interest is important. It's to be central planning in the areas and you need medium term, short term and long term vision. In the interest of making a real progress of the goal you have to ensure there are no changes from time to time.

When governments or ministers change in a subject like education continuity is important. So the national policy in regard to the Education system is an urgent necessity for the country today.

Q. Making graduates employable is still a challenge. What is your comment on this?

A. We have to immediately undertake priority reforms of the curriculum as there must be a link between education and employment opportunity. The body of knowledge that is required must have a practical value and it must enhance the student's ability to obtain a good job, get a decent income, raise a family, build a house and live with dignity in his country. But if you find a system which produces graduates who cannot find employment then there will be serious social problems. The government is now doing its maximum. But there should be discussions with the private sector to ascertain what skills are required in the market place.

Education needs to be more structured to develop those skills. Otherwise there is a mismatch between education and employability and that is dangerous. So we have to modernise the curriculum. One of the faults in the present curriculum is that it has replaced a heavy premium on memory. Students are required to commit notes to memory to retain in their minds and then to reproduce it at examinations. That is not the meaning of education. Education promotes one's critical faculty to think independently and to apply knowledge for the practical problems in life.

But the present curriculum does not fulfill those expectations. There must be radical reforms of the existing curriculum. That is being undertaken immediately. I have prepared a Cabinet paper which will be presented to the Cabinet next Wednesday on curriculum reforms. It is essential. If that is to be successful there must be an inclusive consultation and it cannot be done only by the top level.

What we should do is to present a set of tentative ideas and then have an islandwide discussion with the stakeholders such as the parents, teachers, students, Alumnai Associations, PTA Associations and Civil society organisations to get their response, their ideas and thoughts. That will be conducted at district level and we will invite people from the Divisional Secretariats. It is only after gathering these responses from the community, at large, and we will formulate the final policy. Accordingly, the curriculum reform is very important.

Part of that will be 'language' training. President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has emphasized the value of science and technology and also English. There was one of the changes made to the Education system by the Rajapaksa government between 2010-2015. Until then there were only three streams. Arts, Science and

Commerce. He added the fourth stream technology. That is to cater to the needs of modern society.

English training is also important in the interest of the student. Today in Sri Lanka we have a situation where there is a high degree of motivation for one to learn English. The problem is we don't have teachers in sufficient numbers, to work in schools. The problem is to train the trainers. Figures are rather disturbing. According to an Assessment test done in 2019, 38% of students failed in English, 35% in science and 29% in Maths, English being the weakest. And there is also a disparity in the quality of teachers. In rural schools about 55% of the teachers teaching English need further training. But in the urban schools only 29% teachers teaching English need further training. These are all changes necessary to improve the Education system in our country.

Q. Do you think it is possible to hold the O/L exams in December?

A. We will be guided purely by the health authorities as the paramount concern is the health of the student. From this week schools will be open daily. We will be guided by the advice of the Health Ministry.

Q. For the first time preschool to higher education; all sectors have been brought under one ministry. Is there any special reason for this?

A. There is a reason. Human Resource Development is the principal emphasis of this government. President Gotabaya Rajapaksa had stated that the future of this country depends on the quality of human resources. There are five Ministries, but one single Ministry is entrusted with the overall responsibility for human resource development which will be helpful in the point of view of coordination and rapid implementation. That is the purpose of consolidating five sectors into one Ministry.

Q. As the new Education Minister have you discussed the issue of eradicating ragging from universities?

A. There should be policy of zero tolerance for ragging. Because today you have a situation where parents are, sometimes reluctant to send their children to the university. They may be physically mauled or they may out to be mental wrecks. We have a duty to eradicate ragging altogether. Criminal offences are criminal offences even if they occur within the premises of universities or outside. Ragging must be stopped in universities. It is an expression of sadism and it does serious damage to the society, in general.

Local food for enhanced immunity

By
Frances
Bulathsinghala



While we are now preoccupied with Covid-19 and waiting for some foreign nation to invent and sell us a vaccine, we are sitting on a goldmine of health-based wealth in the form of our multifarious endemic vegetables, fruits, leaves and herbs.

What we are consuming today is mostly the hybrid 'scientifically improved varieties. Because of our carelessness and apathy, most native varieties we refer to as *Deshiya Beeja* are now being wiped out by chemical fertiliser-dependent hybrid invaders.

Covid-19 is a phase the world is going through, but deaths due to wrong lifestyles and food have been happening everywhere. Diseases, such as cancer, kidney failure and diabetes were almost nonexistent in Sri Lanka 100 years ago.

The details below are from a conversation with Ayurveda Shastri qualified traditional medicine Doctor, Palitha Shri Gigana Arachchige, the author of *Hela Weda Athpotha*. He teaches at the Malavena Sri Gnanissara Ayurveda Medical College and promotes non-chemical farm-

ing in Sri Lanka.

We begin with the use of Karawila for health. What we hail as Karawila today is often the large hybrid variety of Karawila which is grown with the use of artificial fertiliser, pesticide and weedicide.

Karawila contains the medicinal property of removing poison. Dr. Arachchige said that this inherent feature gets tampered with chemical fertiliser, pesticide and weedicide.

"When such chemical-based substances are used for its growth, it becomes dangerous for consumption as the chemicals used clash with its natural feature as a poison remover and when absorbed into the body has the opposite of the original capacity, becoming a complex poison carrier," Dr. Arachchige said.

Karawila varieties

Among the local Karawila varieties that need no artificial fertiliser or weedicide and pesticide are *Kalu Karawila*, *Batu Karawila* and *Kele Thumbakarawila*. The other wild types of Karawila which are rare because of deforestation, include varieties, such as *Uru Karawila* which is mostly found in forest areas in the dry zone. Nutrition from these Karawila families varies, but all have health promoting properties as they are grown in natural settings and are ideal to be cultivated at home, provided only organic manure is used to

nurture it.

"Every produce has a natural genetic make-up. When you meddle with it, disturb it and change it, we are messing with nature, and this can have a seriously debilitating effect on our health," Dr. Arachchige said.

Asked whether native Karawila plants can be found for people to grow for domestic consumption, he said that it could be sourced from dry and intermediate zones.

Karawila, provided not tampered with genetically or with chemical substances, can prevent cancer, purify blood and control diabetes. It is also used as cures for several other ailments and imbalances in the body and for maintaining good reproductive health.

Jakfruit or *Kos Gaha* has incredible curative and illness preventive properties. The tree is also called *Buth Gaha*, because with one or two trees in the garden, we will not know hunger or disease.

The tree is a powerhouse of medicinal value and a magical immunity booster from leaf to seed. It also prevents cancer, Dr. Arachchige said.

Water, in which *Kos* has been boiled, mixed with freshly scraped coconut, when used for Dengue patients can increase their blood platelet count. Jakfruit and scraped coconut should be boiled with water, the quantity of which should not exceed



eggs. *Kos eta* can slightly raise sugar levels, but reduces some amount of gas. The best type of Jakfruit seed is *Welikos eta* which has the highest nutrition value compared to all other Jakfruit varieties and can even be given to diabetes patients.

Diabetes prevention

Kos Iri (the strands that we throw after taking the core for boiling) can be consumed as a snack, fried like chips and sprinkled with salt and chillie.

Kos mal (flower of the Jakfruit) is excellent for diabetes prevention and controlling sugar levels in the body. It can be consumed as a *sambol* with onions and burnt coconut.

Waraka Kos Gahaneti (twigs) are

used for diabetes patients where it is boiled until the colour becomes yellow gold. This is medicinal, but can be used occasionally in small quantities instead of tea, but not consecutively so as not to reduce sugar levels.

Kos dalu (tender leaf) is also used for diabetes and can be used as a *sambol*.

Diabetes is one of the silent killers of people in the world. If we educate Sri Lankans of the thousands of plant varieties that we have been growing on this soil, that can be used in our diet for diabetes prevention and cure, we will eradicate this menace from the country. The same goes for other lifestyle related illnesses, such as kidney diseases, lung issues, cancer and obesity.

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AUGUST 30, 2020

OVER 300 JOSTLE TO WELCOME NEW RUGBY CHIEF

BY CALLISTUS DAVY

Hundreds of well-wishers swooped in and swarmed all over the new President of Sri Lanka Rugby, Rizly Illyas, who was elected uncontested at what was a gentlemanly meeting at the Ramada Hotel in Colombo yesterday.

Among them were famous ex-Sri Lanka legends Priyantha Ekanayake, Hisham Abdeen and Michael Jayasekera and many others that also included the former Air Force commander and player Air Marshall Roshan Goonetilleke who is also the governor of the Western Province.

They were among over 300 invitees who witnessed Illyas take over the mantle from outgoing President Lasitha Gunaratne.

"I am rallying all those who are interested in the welfare of Sri Lanka Rugby and its future progress. We have already proved it at the 'kick-off' today," Illyas, a former flank forward told the Sunday Observer after spending nearly an hour posing for photographs on the podium with former rugby officials, coaches, referees and players.

Members of the women's team, a neglected tribe, were also at hand to meet Illyas who



Outgoing rugby chief Lasitha Gunaratne (left) and Rizly Illyas share a moment

had promised to grant them more recognition and opportunities.

Illyas will hold his first executive committee meeting this

week which in no way is expected to be like the hugs and handshakes he received.

Rugby, one of the most patronized spectator sports in Sri

Lanka, is currently at a crippling standstill because of the coronavirus and one of Illyas' priorities will be looking for an opening to restart the popular school matches and the next inter-club League.

Before his election yesterday Illyas warned that Sri Lanka was at a make or break situation in the absence of result-oriented provincial development, high performance management and funds to sustain a Sri Lanka squad especially in the Sevens format.

"Together we will take Sri Lanka Rugby to the next level and 2021 will be the year for change, innovation and excellence. We will develop our game so that enthusiasts in Sri Lanka and Asia will be able to cherish," Illyas told his guests.

Illyas initially broke into the rugby fraternity as a strapping third row forward playing for the little known Petersons team in the 1980s before venturing into private sector business and now believes his connections with the corporate heavyweights will put him in good stead to raise what he called "professional funding" to fulfill his pledges.

Sri Lanka Rugby already has a singular benefactor in mobile phone service and television channel provider Dialog.

Tennis, golf, squash guilty of holding back account statements

BY KASUN IRUGALBANDARA

As many as 14 national sports associations that include tennis, golf and squash have come under intense scrutiny for their failure to submit mandatory annual accounts statements almost six months passed the deadline.

Some of the associations are yet to even announce the date or conduct their annual general meeting despite given ample time.

"We have identified the officials responsible for these lapses which are of a serious nature and they face appropriate action," said RB Wickremasinghe, the Sports Ministry's Assistant Director of Sports.

Associations running Paralympics, cycling, baseball and wrestling have also been found guilty of failing to submit their annual accounts statements af-

ter an investigation was conducted under the direction of Amal Edirisooriya who is the Director General of Sports.

An official of one of the Associations said they needed more time due to the coronavirus and would be submitting their audited accounts statement.

But Wickremasinghe did not buy the argument saying that all sports associations were given enough and more time to fall in line with the requirements.

"Usually sports associations have to provide their annual accounts statements before the end of February and at that time we were not affected by the coronavirus. We cannot accept their excuses.

"We also gave them time until June 30 and yet they did not honour their obligations. We have to deal with them accordingly," said Wickremasinghe.

Table tennis to start off with Mayor's Cup in Kandy

BY TB RAHAMAN

After a break of six months the Sri Lanka Table Tennis Association (SLTTA) held a special general meeting yesterday to discuss ways to resume the activities by conducting a few local tournaments.

The Association is hoping to start off by conducting the Mayor's Cup in Kandy in October for leading players after the break of six months followed by the National championship in November.

This will be followed by the South Asian Junior Championship in November in Bangladesh. These agendas were revealed by Srinath Wijetunga at a media briefing held at the Sports Ministry Auditorium yesterday. Despite the little success that table tennis has achieved the association laments that

governments have not given them a place to call their own.

"Without a venue it is difficult to conduct training sessions of national players and tournaments that allow the players to display their talents," said Wijetunga.

The association hopes that new Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa will help them address their grievances in the new future. They have eyed a place at Narahenpita which is a warehouse that is large enough to construct more than five areas with tables and space for spectators.

"We are second only to India because they have many facilities and even sports schools to conduct training and raise the standards of their sportsmen," said Reza Latif a former secretary of the association.

Little known Igalagamage storms club scene

A relatively unheard of batsman Lahiru Igalagamage has taken the domestic club cricket arena by storm as he finished the concluded Premier League as the leading run-maker.

A product of St. John's College, Nugegoda, the 26-year old Igalagamage aggregated 1039 runs way ahead of the big guns to put himself on course for a passage into the Sri Lanka team. He has a best of 290 while batting for the Nondescripts Cricket Club (NCC). The nearest to chal-

lenge him was Dinesh Chandimal with an aggregate of 1027 runs while representing the civilian Army Sports Club and Bhanuka Rajapaksa from the Burgher Recreation Club (BRC) with 835 runs.

Another lesser known player who has hammered his way into contention is the former St. Peter's College wicket-keeper batsman Lahiru Milantha who cracked three centuries while playing for Badureliya Cricket Club that includes a career-best 252.

Rajans-Kingswood in November

BY UPANANDA JAYASUNDERA, KANDY SPL CORR

The much looked forward to oldest cricket big match in the hill capital between Dharmaraja College and Kingswood College for the 114th year will be played in November according to a joint organizing committee official of the schools.

The match is played for the TB Tennakoon Memorial Challenge Shield and was postponed due to the coronavirus.

So far out of the the 113 matches played, Dharmaraja have won 35 while Kingswood won 19 games with 55 matches ending in draws.

Gunawardena new rowing head

Dimuth Gunawardena was elected as the new president of the Amateur Rowing Association of Sri Lanka yesterday.

He replaces outgoing head Rohan Fernando who was recently appointed to the National Sports Council as a committee member.



Dimuth Gunawardena



Anika Seneviratne in full flight

Yasitha and Anika win Singles

Yasitha de Silva and Anika Seneviratne emerged men's and women's Singles tennis champions respectively at the clay court National final at the SLTA courts yesterday.

The victory marked Anika Seneviratne's third successive year when she registered an easy straight sets victory over Savini Jayasuriya 6-2, 6-1 in the final that lasted just over an hour.

The victory displayed how much Anika dominated the game throughout the three years. Her triumph over Savini was just a formality match without any stiff resistance.

The 25-year-old former Nalandian Yasitha de Silva played a well composed game with a little bit of aggression to win the first set easily on 6-2.

But it was a different match in the second set with the younger Savit Weerasinghe making a determined comeback.

The USA based Weerasinghe made some accurate placements to force his opponent into making a few mistakes.

The scoring went like a pendulum and after a hard fought contest De Silva emerged victorious 7-5. (TBR)



Lahiru Igalagamage



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AUGUST 30, 2020



SOCIOLOGY IS NOT BASED MERELY ON THEORY:

THINK DIFFERENTLY, FOR A BETTER SOCIETY

- Prof. Premakumara de Silva



By
Lakmal
Welabada



The new Parliament was sworn-in recently with a hint on the importance of absorbing the assistance of the patriotic intellectuals of the country, which must be the first time in Sri Lankan history after gaining independence from colonial rule.

"There are many untapped intelligentsia in the country whose knowledge is restricted to university lecture halls and to printed material they publish or a revelation of their work through the media. Besides that their lifelong scholastic erudition, research done with much effort and other experiences, go waste," Prof. D.A. Premakumara de Silva, Chair, Senior Prof. of Sociology and Dean, Arts Faculty, University of Colombo, said.

"Not much interest has been taken so far by the authorities to utilise their research work in implementing new projects in the development of the country, or find solutions for the social problems and relevant stigma. However, with the new Presidency there is a ray of hope that the prevailing system would end, and the educated would be availed of," said the Dean.

Undergraduates

As regards contemporary undergraduates in universities he said, "It may be due to the less accolade or recognition received, except for a few, that a majority of university students have less self persuasion for reading and digging into the history of their subject; enhancing their general knowledge and even going out to the field for research work which is a must, especially if one wants to become a good Sociologist. Many of them are satisfied with the day to day lecture notes and the guidance given by the lecturers, and hardly tune their brains to 'think differently' which is the need of the hour for a better society."

"A few years back, I noticed that our students found it difficult to grasp the theories of Sociology. This was because they had hardly any knowledge of the basics.

It made me translate the book written by Indian author, S.L.Doshi, a renowned sociologist. However, I omitted the segments that were not relevant to Sri Lankan society. It is a well guided book for Sri Lankan students when it comes to the theoretical

side, but Sociology is not merely based on theory, but in research and a practical sense as well," he said.

"Unlike in our time, today's students are not that inquisitive and interested to dig into the depth of issues found in society and reveal them in research form. This natural inquisitiveness moulds a skillful sociologist, and that is what our students lack at this moment.

May be due to their preference for easy access which is, memorise the notes, pass the exams, graduate and finally find a job for their living. But we must remember there are at least a few who know their responsibility to society and duty to the country," the Prof said.

He said that having an aim since the adolescent age would direct one to choose his or her most preferable field, and thereby gain satisfaction in one's profession. He stressed this because he sets himself as an example...

Dalkandura Arachchige Premakumara de Silva was born and bred in Pinwatta, a semi urban area in Panadura. After his

primary education at Siri Sivali Maha Vidyalaya he entered Sri Sumangala Maha Vidyalaya to complete his secondary education. Although his parents wished him to select the Maths stream for A/Ls to be a Math graduate or an Engineer, young Premakumara's vision was set on Arts. Hence he entered the Siri Saddhamma Pirivena (University College) at Pinwatta to study Arts. His subjects were Economics, Buddhist Civilisation, Sinhala and Geography which he could get through with flying colours, and was selected to the Colombo University.

Black July riots

In July 1983, he came to live in his aunt's house at Gothami Road, Borella to start his university journey. Until then his life was like neatly lined beads on a strong string as nothing much happened to shake him.

"I was 19-20 years then. Borella was the centre of the Black July riots. When we heard about the calamity at midnight on the first day, my cousin and I stepped out to see what was go-

ing on. We were eye witnesses to the heinous acts of the rioters, a group of Jathika Sevaka Sangamaya members of the United National Party (UNP) who were glancing at a sheet of paper containing a list of premises of Tamils and attacking them.

It was the group of UNPers and not the general Sinhala public who committed that. It was a very well organised crime," he said. "There were two houses of Tamil families living close to my aunt's.

One house was on flames (set by rioters). We rushed in and dragged the family out, including a baby and helped them to escape. We then quickly broke the wall between the two houses to stop the flames spreading. We were both injured and in shock.

But we can still recall it, marvelling at how we took an instant decision and acted with such strength and energy," he sighs.

Premakumara entered the Colombo University and selected Geography, Economics and Sociology for his first year. With his results he was eligible to do a Special degree either in Geography or Sociology. Sociology being a newly introduced subject, and the attractive style of teaching adapted by the Sociology lecturer, Dr. Newton Gunasingha made many a student including Premakumara to choose Sociology.

From the very first day that he sat in the lecture hall attending his first lesson, his love for Sociology has been growing and glowing to this date, making him one of the best lecturers and researchers doing his 'social' duty to the utmost satisfaction.

"Our batch should have passed out in 1987, but due to the JVP insurgency, we stagnated till 1990. What a waste of time of the youth," he said in dismay. After passing out with an Honours degree, the enthusiastic Premakumara was heading for more research work.

He willingly accepted the research offered him by the Sociology Department on the health and wealth of the

Janasaviya families (Janasaviya was a dole given by the Government to underprivileged families). Under the guidance of Prof. Siri Hettige he was assigned as Co-ordinator of the project for Hambantota, Hanwella, Akurana and Kobeigane which gave him quite a vast exposure.

Soon after this John Keells conducted an exam for the newly passed out graduates for Management Training. Premakumara too sat the exam and was one of the five selected.

He was at a decisive point, whether to choose the academic career, or accept the Private sector which offered double the salary of an academician. "I've never regretted my choice - to become an academician," he said. Premakumara became a permanent member of the University academic staff in 1993.

Love for Sociology

'Globalisation and Transformation of Planetary Rituals of Southern Sri Lanka' was the research he opted for his thesis for his Master's which was guided and sponsored by two leading Anthropologists, Prof. Ganganath Obeyesekere of Princeton University, USA and Prof. Jonathan Spenser of Edinburgh University, Scotland, UK.

The research was done to find out whether the Sri Lankan traditional rituals such as *Thovil*, *Bali* and witchcraft for protection from evil and so on practised in the southern villages for generations, were dying and disappearing in modern day thinking. But the young researcher found and showed how wonderfully all such rituals were re-appearing, in the modern context of globalisation. He completed his research in 1999.

His work was highly rated by both Professors. Prof. Spenser invited Premakumara to do his PhD at the Edinburgh University. The five-year-study (2000-2005) guided and sponsored by Prof. Spenser consisted of research on the informational and historical details of the sacred Sri Pada, in Sri Lanka.

"It was a big project and a challenging task as I had to climb the Sri Pada mountain 15-16 times up and down during the six months of the Sri Pada season.

I roamed around all the villages in the Sabaragamuwa Province where the sacred mountain is located; meeting people who were living there for generations, visiting ancient Buddhist monasteries and Buddhist priests, at-

tending religious ceremonies, collecting archives info and so on.... It was tiring but very interesting. I acknowledge the support given to me by the late Ven. Handapangoda Wimala Thera, the then chief incumbent of Palmadulle Raja Maha Vihara, the Temple that Sri Pada belonged to," he said.

"Unlike religious places such as Jerusalem, where many fights have occurred from time to time for its sole possession, I've found a marvellous ethnic harmony at the sacred Sri Pada where all communities come to worship. The tolerance of the Buddhists condoning other believers who claim Sri Pada as 'their' religious place, sets a wonderful example to the world," said the Prof.

Research work

Prof. Premakumara de Silva has held the posts of Deputy Vice Chancellor and Head of the Department of Sociology before he was appointed to the present post as the Dean, Faculty of Arts, Colombo University.

The 460-page research work he did on Veddahs (Sri Lankan tribal group) in 2009-2010, was the only such complete work done on this ancient tribe after a British scholar's research done one hundred years ago.

He has written 5-6 books, but all are academic. His work has been published only at academic level such as by the International Centre for Ethnic Studies in Colombo, SAARC journals and in the form of presentations and articles abstracted by the media from time to time.

Apart from his academic tasks, Prof. Premakumara is in the five-member UGC Committee appointed by the President in January this year. The task is to make amendments to the 'University Act of 1978' by revising, and changing it, to introduce new policies and courses to fit modern day Sri Lanka.

Along with this, it will soon be a must for every university student to get IT and English knowledge as an extra qualification for the job market. These courses will be from general certificate to Diploma level in accordance with the students' preference.

In addition, the Sociology Department of the Colombo University offers post Diplomas for outside students who wish to enhance their knowledge and receive a higher educational certificate.

Prof. Premakumara said Sociology should introduced to the school level as well. "Sociology is a subject that should be taught as a compulsory subject in O/Ls, and the A/L Arts stream as it talks about social issues. I'm sure schoolchildren will ardently embrace it and it will definitely be among the most popular subjects," he said.

He said the research work and their detailed reports done by the Sociology Department are usually sent to the Government Ministerial bodies to implement it. "Once we send them out it's their responsibility to act on that," said the Professor.

Apart from being an excellent researcher committed academician, Prof. Premakumara is a successful family man. His wife Chaithrika de Silva is in the school education sector. His son holds a Managerial post in a reputed British educational institute in Sri Lanka while his daughter is a prospective university student.

"UNLIKE IN OUR TIME, TODAY'S STUDENTS ARE NOT THAT INQUISITIVE AND INTERESTED TO DIG INTO THE DEPTH OF ISSUES FOUND IN SOCIETY AND REVEAL THEM IN RESEARCH FORM. THIS NATURAL INQUISITIVENESS MOULDS A SKILLFUL SOCIOLOGIST, AND THAT IS WHAT OUR STUDENTS LACK AT THIS MOMENT



Features

BY ENG. TLR THILAK SILVA

The Engineering Council of Sri Lanka was set up in 2017 under Act No. 14 of 2017. The Council which is now the regulatory authority of engineering practice, has a vital role to play in the country's development. Although the Bill was passed in Parliament in a rush by the previous Government without giving it the total effect to yield the maximum benefits gained by other countries in the region by passing of similar Acts, there is room for improvements and amendments to make it an instrument to develop the engineering practice to a higher level.

In coinciding with World Youth Skills Day, of UN International Days of Observance, which fell on July 15, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has declared 2021-2030, the "Decade of Skills Development in Sri Lanka". The President's vision behind this declaration is to develop a generation of "Future Fits", who will become "Principled Sri Lankans" capable of becoming world leaders in any sector of choice and will drive the development of the nation and inspire a sense of pride for all Sri Lankans.

The Engineering Council, Sri Lanka (ECSL) has to align its objectives and functions in line with the President's vision and support the skills development in the field of engineering during the next decade.

ECSL Act No.4, 2017 had avoided giving it a broader purpose. It says that "ECSL shall be responsible for the maintenance of professional standards and conduct of engineering practitioners; registration of different categories of engineering practitioners; and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto".

This Act has no clear vision and mission and has been passed by a group of people with vested interests. One engineer has said during a recent event that the ECSL's only role is to register engineering practitioners. The new Government can make ECSL the "Mahagedara" of engineering practice in Sri Lanka.

ECSL's role

Since the ECSL Chairman's announcement that the ECSL has been in force since August 2018, they seem to have made no progress under functions and powers vested to them by the Act. They have started registering the engineering practitioners, while the Institution of Engineers (IESL) paid the first annual subscription for 2019 for their members out of their funds and likewise the Institution of Incorporated Engineers (IIESL).

The ECSL needs to understand the country specific details and nuances of engineering practice, the construction and other local engineering industries, trends in the engineering education and the ambition and dreams of the people who are involved in the related industries, professions and practices.

Engineering practitioners are the frontliners of the construction companies. The ECSL should understand its role in the construction companies.

The Engineering Practitioners in the construction projects work under many constraints. Unrealistic project timelines, disturbing weather conditions, safety and quality challenges are some of them. The lives of engineering practitioners in

ENGINEERING COUNCIL NEEDS TO PLAY A BIGGER ROLE



the construction industry are physically demanding and psychologically stressful. Under such circumstances, except for a few, many graduate engineers of IESL recognised degree programs do not like to work in the front-line jobs of the construction projects.

Although these graduate engineers prefer to work in support roles, such as Planning Engineer, QA/QC Engineer project sites, majority of them decline to work in Project/Site Engineer roles which involve wider responsibilities and extended work hours.

Under such situations, many Major Contractors use the Engineering Diploma holders and Engineering Graduates of IESL non recognised universities, as valuable resources to develop their front line engineering force.

A similar scenario applies in the manufacturing sector as well. There are many talented people who have risen to the position of the engineer in such organisations through on the job training, high level of commitment, creativity and following in house and external training courses.

The ECSL should study the industry

before they determine the terms and conditions of engineering practitioners, which they are supposed to do as per the powers vested with them by the ECSL Act. Engineering practice has wide diversity and way far different to the medical practice. It is mainly the university academics, design engineers and consultants who use some part of their university education in practice.

There are many engineering practitioners in construction, manufacturing and maintenance, who have mostly learned engineering through on-the-job training, irrespective of the degrees and diplomas they hold.

There are talented people who have been promoted to the position of engineer, but have not studied in universities or technical colleges. This fundamental phenomenon needs to be understood by the ECSL to bring regulations or amendments to the Act to accommodate such people who are

practising engineering with required competence, but cannot be accommodated in the present four engineer categories identified in the ECSL Act.

Requirements of ECSL Act

The ECSL Act had been passed without consulting all those who might be affected by the proposed Act to air their grievances and without getting adequate feedback from the stakeholders of the engineering profession.

The graduates of several engineering degree programs which were set up under the University Grants Commission Act No. 16 of 1978 will not be able to practise engineering after they complete their four year degree programs.

The ECSL has the powers to reconsider its role as the regulating authority of engineering practice in Sri Lanka, seek the views of those who are affected by the Act and prepare a road map to implement the Act in stages in consultation and under the guidance of the Government. The Government should closely monitor the activities of the ECSL and ensure that they would rectify the defects of the Act to protect the rights of all those who are affected by the Act.

Sri Lanka is the only country in South and East Asia where higher education in certain professional fields is only limited to state sponsored free education.

While Washington Accord Standards are set as a higher level standard for those who aspire to work abroad, realistic standards should be set as the national standards for those who will work and serve in the country. As the Engineering Council (ECSL) is now established, the task and the responsibilities of developing engineering education should be entrusted with them.

The Government should appoint expert committees with wider stakeholder participation to review the Act and introduce control mechanisms to promote equity and fairness in the activities, deliberations and decisions of the ECSL.

Amendments to the Act need to include: broadening its purpose, including statements of mission and vision; a road map for full implementation; broadening the ECSL's scope to develop engineering education and entrusting them with powers for the accreditation of engineering education institutions of all levels; and making other positive amendments. With the proposed amendments to the ECSL Act, the ECSL should play a leading role in developing skills of the engineering practitioners to support the declaration by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa that 2021-2030 will be the "Decade of Skills Development in Sri Lanka".

A skeletal outline of Sri-Lankan history

AN ANECDOTAL NARRATIVE

BY DANIEL MANO DEVASIRVATHAM

The author, from Sri Lanka has lived in the US for nearly 37 years and is ill equipped to write a definitive thesis. This is a compilation of anecdotal information this author grew up with.

Sri Lanka was well known in ancient times, with a written history going back to the Buddha's time (circa 500 BCE). The Traveller, FaHsien in the 5th century CE, has written about this country as has Marco Polo in the 13th century, who has stated that the sounds of the waters of Paradise could be heard here.

It was also known for spices, especially cinnamon. Hence, it and the Malabar Coast of India reached great fame, especially at a time when Europe did not have any spices to speak of. Even salt was an expensive commodity, as witnessed by the tall Gold "Salt" holders, which are kept as part of the Crown Jewels of England, in the Tower of London.

Even Roman soldiers were paid in salt, for risking their lives in Rome's service, because it was so valuable.

The land route for reaching the spice lands was by branching off from the silk route; a hazardous and expensive trip. Caravans were also slow and a round trip of a couple of years was not unknown. Spices were, therefore, costly.

The Arabs had studied the heavens. In fact, many of the stars and constellations, such as Aldebaran, were named by them, as were studies in mathematics, such as algebra. They

were the savants of their time, and had even translated many of the classics of antiquity, such as the works of Euclid, into Arabic and preserved them from destruction from other, less cultured or fanatical hordes. Their study of celestial navigation, including the use of the Astrolabe, enabled them to navigate to any place by the stars. They dominated the water routes, which were much faster, to the lands of spices.

Christopher Columbus 1492

The western world, assumed that the earth was flat and that anyone who ventured out of sight of land risked falling off the edge! The braver European captains tried to shadow the Arab ships. But it was a simple matter for the Arab sailors to give them the slip at night, leaving the European captains stranded in the middle of the ocean, with no land in sight, and the danger that they would fall off the edge if they went in the wrong direction. The bravery of Christopher Columbus in 1492 is all the more remarkable in this context.

It was, as the popular story goes, that a Portuguese ship with a Captain named Lourenço de Almeida in command was separated from the ships he was shadowing, and the storm drove his vessel to the Galle Harbour, a natural harbour filled with inviting palm trees. This is how the Portuguese are said to have arrived in Sri Lanka in 1505. The Portuguese came originally as traders. They colonised the flat coastlands and converted many of the Sri Lankans to Catholicism and built

many churches.

They intermarried local women and their offspring were named Burghers. These were primarily Sinhalese and Portuguese mixes and supposedly lighter in colour. The Portuguese also brought along many slaves from West and East Africa. They were known as Kaffirs (Kapiri). They too are believed to have intermarried. Slave Island was apparently involved in the trans-shipment of slaves from Africa.

A language that many people learned and spoke along the coastal regions was a Creole which used a mix of Portuguese, West African, Indian and local languages and was referred to as Kafirinha. This is apparently still preserved and spoken by a small minority.

A song and dance style of that time is called Baila, in a 6/8 time of lively music with a staccato dance, also connected with Caribbean and other rhythms. It is popular, especially in the coast-lands/maritime-provinces.

It has achieved resurgence and is often danced at weddings and office parties, though the language has been changed primarily to Sinhala.

Next, we see a link to a modernised *Baila* sung in Konkani, which is a language spoken in Goa, a former Portuguese colony.

Konkani was originally traced to 10th Century CE, and now apparently includes an altered form of the Portuguese language. It is possible that the creole spoken in Sri Lanka had elements of *Konkani* and Portuguese in it. We know that some of the immigrants who came to Sri Lanka from Goa spoke *Konkani* and Portuguese.

The Dutch East India Company personnel arrived in Sri Lanka in 1602 and took control of the coastal lands in 1658. Their name for the Island was *Zeylan*.

The Dutch also intermarried Sri Lankans and their descendants are known as Dutch Burghers. They brought the Protestant faith with them

and tried to ban the Catholic faith of the Portuguese. There are many churches that still stand, such as the Dutch church in Wolfendahl Street. They gave the country the Roman Dutch Law.

The Dutch also helped get rid of the Portuguese. Neither the Portuguese nor the Dutch could capture the Kandy Kingdom, which was protected by jungles, mountains and the largest river in the country, Mahaweli.

The Kandy Kingdom, often thought of as the last bastion of the Sinhala rule, was ruled by King Sri WickramaRajasinha who appears to have been connected to the Nayakka dynasty in what is now known as India.

It is said that some of his courtiers, whose family names are prominent even today, were unhappy with the king and his cruelty, and showed a secret pathway into the kingdom to the British who had arrived in then Ceylon in 1796. The British replaced the Dutch as overlords and protectors of the Island in 1802.

Crown Colony

They finally conquered Kandy in 1815 after which Ceylon became a Crown Colony. It aggressively introduced the Anglican Church. It had its governor general and referred major law cases to The Supreme Court of the United Kingdom.

A famous account of life in earlier times was written by Robert Knox, an Englishman who was detained in the Kandy Kingdom for 19 years, and published in 1681.

The British also tried to protect the monopolies of the English weaving mills of the time and established con-

trol of the spice trade. For example, they forbade the manufacture of salt in India, which allowed Gandhi in India, through the platform of civil disobedience, to encourage his followers to be arrested for making salt at the beach.

The unauthorised harvesting of cinnamon bark by locals was deemed a crime. The opium trade that initially helped trade with China was facilitated by growing the opium poppy in what is now Afghanistan.

The British established schools modelled after the public schools of Britain. Their contributions to the country are acknowledged.

The Rev. George Pope became a Tamil Scholar and produced the first book of Tamil Grammar in India. Dr. Annie Besant was a firebrand, who supported home rule of India and was a founder of the Buddhist themed Musesau College in Sri Lanka.

American missionaries arrived circa 1813. They were relegated to the north of the island by the British. The knowledge of English by these people was used later by the British to staff the civil service.

This resulted in significant tensions in the country. Subsequently, tensions between various language groups, and accusations of nepotism escalated as well and have influenced political life there in many aspects.

The country gave Universal Adult Franchise as part of the Donoughmore Constitution in 1931. It achieved independence as a self-governing dominion within the British Commonwealth on February 4, 1948. It also elected the world's first woman Prime-Minister, Sirimavo Bandaranaike in 1960. The country later became an independent democratic Republic.





Cultural wonders at Pitti Palace

SURPASSING EVEN VICTORIA ALBERT MUSEUM

By
Gwen Herat



It is amazing; it is history as well as humanity that spans centuries, the collection of artifacts assembled and arranged accordingly as the years dissolve from one to another the way summer does to the seasons. Worked out manually with hardly any medium for research or guidelines, Pitti Palace in Florence stands out as a giant storage of human talent springing from tears, hard work, conviction, spirituality, and above all, self-reliance. All these put together, this monument is a fantastic testimony to the glories of the world and the spectacular wonder put on canvas by the great Masters of by-gone eras.

Pitti Palace consists of the Gal-

leria Palatina, 'Ex-Real' Apartment, Galleria d' Arte Moderna - Museo degli Argenti-Giardino de Bobol that are carved and divided into different massive collections with details making it easy for all to study and understand each and every painting or artifact. A very prominent Florentine merchant, Luca Pitti, in the mid-1440s decided to invest his amassed wealth that had reached its apex, on something useful for his fellow Florentines.

He lived in a magnificent manor, a palace befitting a family such as the Pittis.

Pitti Palace

He decided to build something more than his manor and it resulted in the Pitti Palace with a huge and wide facade as entry to this sumptuous treasure trove. An appropriate site was picked, an extensive terrain taking up the whole eastern slope of the Bobo-

Hill, a short distance from the city centre and yet outside, for the setting to be secluded and peaceful.

The site was soon razed to make way for the exciting palace to rise with the best architect of the day, Filippo Brunelleschi designing and constructing it. Unfortunately, he died before the actual building got under way in 1446. Luca Pitti also died in 1472 due to personal problems and dreaded financial setbacks brought about by his rivals, the Medicis. They forced him to suspend work and the building stood still until 1549. However, Elenora of Toledo, the wife of Grandduke Cosmo de Medici, purchased the huge undone structure and set about transforming it into the grandducal palace as it stands today.

The building was purchased some years ago by the highly celebrated lady, Leonara di Toledo who was the Duchess of Florence, on the advice of her husband, the much venerated Duke of

Florence. The building underwent colossal change with a mass of wealth being invested to make it as it is today. It has great gardens extending to hill and dale, filled with all types of cultivated and wild plants.

I cannot express their splendour and magnitude in words. One has to keep on gazing to absorb their magnificence. Never have I seen such glorious landscaping that combine modernity with old world charm plucked from the centuries gone by.

The renovation project was begun by Bartolomeo Amman, a renowned architect of the time who closed two of the three facades and built enormous windows in their place. He also added impressive courtyards beyond the main entrance.

The building extended three to four more courtyards and a man-made grotto containing a grandiose stands tall. When he died, it was continued in 1550, first by Ammannati and then by

Buonotalenti (1853). Two projects were later drawn by Alfonso Parigi, Giulio's son.

Thus, this marvel of the world became the property of the Savoys when Florence was briefly the capital of Italy, (1865 - 1871) later to be bequeathed by King Vittorio Emanuel 111 to the Italian Government in 1919 and has since been the State Museum.

Galleria Palatina

The Galleria Palatina is also called 'Ex-Real Apartments' located on the second floor of Palazzo Pitti. The main entrance leads to the spacious and endearing courtyard.

Galleria Palatina is one of Italy's major museums where works are displayed in splendid halls, richly decorated with gilding stucco reliefs, frescos, and furnished with priceless antiques.

The major part of the collection is

devoted to 16th and 17th century Italian Masters, foremost among them being Raphael, Andrea del Sarto, the Florentine mannerists such as Pontoromo and Bronzino as well as Salvator Rosa, Titan, Tintoretto and Veronese, the great Venetian Master of the same era. The Galleria also includes many Flemish and Dutch such as the great Rubens, Sutermaans and van Poelenberg.

These collections surpass one another in the magnificence of creativity and imagination.

As we wade through these treasure troves of multifaceted brilliance, we are shaken by their skills and exuberance. They left lasting impressions to their countrymen who have passed down those legacies to all art lovers around the world and still continue.

All painters and sculptors ranging from classicism to Romanticism hold their own identities with fervour and never diminish with time. Like time and tide they go on and on.

Vision for a medicinally self-sufficient nation

BY DR. LOHITHA SAMARAWICKREMA

Three decades of the nation's drawback due to the brutal terrorism was eradicated in 2009 by our brave soldiers and the then Government of President Mahinda Rajapaksa.

Governments have changed, and many episodes such as the Easter Sunday attacks damaged the national economy. More challenges have emerged and now we are at a global crisis of Covid-19 which has been controlled by the Government with the efforts of responsible citizens guided by the Health authorities, Security Forces and Government sector officials who worked tirelessly to achieve this tremendous success.

Their brave approach facilitated and concluded a peaceful election in the country with a clear national mandate of the people to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa to implement the long awaited strategies to develop the economy.

The Prime Minister has given new hope and strength to the President to pave the way to implement his manifesto Saubagye Dekma with the newly elected parliamentarians, handpicked by the people as their representatives to support the common vision of national prosperity.

The Presidential Task Force for poverty elevation has set goals to implement the plans accordingly which are already under way.

However, the post Covid-19 era has changed lifestyles and economies all around the world prioritising health concerns and widening opportunities in the pharmaceutical manufacturing industry which has become

the economy booster the world over.

In 2011 through the visionary approach of Mahinda Chinthana an extent of 420 acres were allocated to set up a Parma Zone in Hambantota. In 2014 the Rajapaksa government initiated the first ever guaranteed buyback from the local pharma manufacturers. This head start has strengthened hope after a long lag with the practical approach of a separate State Min-

THE GOVERNMENT MUST MAINTAIN A SYSTEM OF PRICE AND IMPORT CONTROL ON ESSENTIAL IMPORTED MEDICINES AS IT HAS BECOME A FRAUD, DRAINING OUT FOREIGN EXCHANGE FROM THE COUNTRY



ister for the Pharma Manufacturing industry to focus on manufacturing, distribution and regulatory measures for the first time in Sri Lankan history.

With the right structural focus and lessons learned, the regional



models will set examples for a national program to develop the pharma manufacturing industry and to reach the global market.

Indian Pharmaceuticals

Analysing the unique characteristics of the Indian Pharmaceuticals market, it was dominated by branded generics making up for 70 to 80 percent of the retail market, despite the fact that India is the single largest provider of generic drugs globally.

India supplies over 50% of global demand for various vaccines, 40% of generic demand in the United States, 25% of all medicine in the United Kingdom and extremely low-cost medicine to African countries.

The local players in India have enjoyed a dominant position driven by development capabilities and early investments.

The intense competition has helped maintain low price levels and globally India ranks tenth in terms of value and third in volumes.

Under the Pharma vision 2020, the Indian government's commitment is to make India a global leader not only in the production of low-cost generic medicines but end-to-end drug discovery and development.

The rising global competition in generics has led several top Indian pharma companies to focus on specialty and complex generics, including complex injectables, oral solids and new drug delivery systems.

The Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA), which presented its Vision 2030 in July 2019 underlining plans to make India an innovative leader by building a strong innovation pipeline, has urged the government to set up a large fund to boost technological innovation in pharma, biotech and healthcare start-ups.

India's approach towards pharmaceutical self-sufficiency over the years should be examined closely in adopting a focused model to Sri Lanka.

Bangladesh

Bangladesh on the other hand, 98% self-sufficient in Pharmaceuticals with their own products plans to approach the export market opportunity of more than 450 million US\$ by 2025. Bangladesh also targets a 6 Billion US\$ market share, enhancing the current 75% generic market share by 2025.

Over 300 clinical studies are being carried out and new innovative products are promoted among local manufacturers in Bangladesh. The drug market insight through availability, dosage and price analysis targets a calculative progress to reach optimum pharmaceuticals manufacturing. Looking at regional experiences Sri

Lanka's approach can be structured similarly prioritising to fulfil the vast requirements of the government sector of which only 13% has been supplied by the local pharma manufacturers for many years.

True enough we record a considerable value growth which we proudly boast about, but the real growth has to be based on volumes and the number of new products we add to local production is yet to be achieved.

Research and Development

Hence, Research and Development must be enhanced and a national policy is needed to encourage more R & D to the local manufacturing industry.

Needs - driven innovation must be encouraged, with transparent costs to negotiate a fair price while guarding the interests of manufacturers as it's an industry that continuously needs costly upgrades and maintenance.

The Government must maintain a system of price and import control on essential imported medicines as it has become a fraud, draining out foreign exchange from the country. This is a known scam to which officials have turned a blind eye over the years.

This national crime has to be properly investigated to bring in the millions of foreign exchange laundered and parked outside the country.

The Medical Supplies Division must implement a systemised transparent management system to eliminate corruption and make the local manufacturers' payments on time, so that they can deliver their production promptly.

The pricing committee's consideration of comparing the last tender prices (which are mostly manipulated) has to be changed and a logical pricing mechanism adopted where the representation of officials are knowledgeable in terms of the industry and market norms and can think out of the box to develop the local manufacturing industry.

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Feature

By
Rear Admiral
Dr. Shemal
Fernando, PhD



In Sri Lanka, the Jaffna peninsula is famous for its rich varieties of mango, a popular tropical delight, often regarded as the king of fruits. 'Jaffna Mango' is one of the most luscious varieties of mangoes and the fruit's sweet tropical scent and its distinctive taste is something that many have savoured through generations.

When ripe, the skin of the mango turns a brilliant orange-yellow, while on the inside, the soft, golden pulp, surrounding the seed of the fruit, provides refreshing and luxurious tastes. Significantly, mango trees blossom and bear fruit all over Jaffna, the capital city of the Northern Province. Indeed, a heavenly gift that continues to relish its taste to all corners of the universe.

Joining the Church is a leap of faith. often in moving closer to the Lord, converts are stepping away from family, friends, work, and social situations they have been a part of for a long time. Old lives and old practices [D1] are voluntarily left behind to obey the Saviour's admonition to "Come, Follow me" (Luke 18:22). Jesus Himself said, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13). Such a sacrifice has not been asked of many, but will stimulate as they come unto Christ.

The fragrance of the 'Jaffna Mango' perhaps intuited the Church hierarchy in the Eternal City of Rome and Monsignor Anton Ranjith, born in Jaffna was chosen by the Holy Father, His Holiness Pope Francis as the third Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Colombo with the Titular See of Materiana on July 13, 2020. His Eminence Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith, the Archbishop of Colombo ordained him and lovingly embraced him as one of his Auxiliary Bishops, at a Episcopal Consecration at St. Lucia's Cathedral, Colombo on August 29, 2020.

The 10th Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Colombo, Most Rev. Dr. Anton Ranjith becomes the first student from the University of Jaffna to be elevated a Catholic Bishop in Sri Lanka.

He is also the first from St. Francis Xavier's Seminary, Jaffna since its establishment in 1981 to be picked to serve the Lord's Vineyard. He is also the sixth bishop from the village of Karampon, Kayts and the twelfth Bishop produced by St. Patrick's College, Jaffna. I wonder whether there is any other school in the world that has produced a dozen bishops.

It is said, "A good Christian family paves the basic foundation and serves as a nursery for vocations." The Most Rev. Dr. Anton Ranjith was born in Karampon, Kayts on the island of Velanaitivu in the Jaffna peninsula.

Personal Glimpses of a Gentle Priest

It is a fertile land that has nurtured priests, who adorned with Purple Robe to sit on the throne to preach the Word of God. The village is rightly known as the "Little Vatican." His parents were devoted Catholics and the new bishop grew up, mingling with the rich heritage of Jaffna, which would have helped him immensely in his mission.

The bishops who preceded him from the "Little Vatican" are the late Rev. Dr. Jerome Emilianuspillai, Bishop of Jaffna and the first Tamil Bishop of Sri Lanka; the late Rev. Dr. Leo Rajendram Antony, Bishop of Trincomalee-Batticaloa; the late Rev. Dr. Jacob Bastiampillai Deogupillai, Bishop of Jaffna, Rev. Dr. Kingsley Swampillai, Bishop of Trincomalee-Batticaloa; and the current Bishop of Jaffna, the Rev. Dr. Justin Gnanapragasam.

The Auxiliary Bishops who have served the Archdiocese of Colombo are the late Rev. Dr. Antony de Saram (1962-1965); the late Rev. Dr. Frank Marcus Fernando (1965-1968); the late Rev. Dr. Edmund Joseph Fernando (1968-1983); Rev. Dr. Oswald Thomas Colman Gomis (1968-1995); Rev. Dr. Don Albert Malcolm Ranjith (1990-1995); Rev. Dr. Vincent Marius Peiris (2001-2018); Rev. Dr. Fidelis Lionel Emmanuel Fernando (2012-2017); Rev. Dr. Maxwell Granville Silva (2012- To Date) and Rev. Dr. Jayakody Arachchige Don Anton Jayakody (2018- To Date)

Vision for a...

Contribution by means of generating employment, usage of local utilities, creating sub industries and their employment would add immense value to the national economy. Through the payment of taxes and levies to the government, local manufacturers contribute to pay the salaries and expenses of government officials.

An efficient, especially struc-

Rev. Dr. Anton Ranjith:

A COMMITTED PRIESTLY SCHOLAR

HE IS A 'PRIEST OF GOD' WITH ADMIRABLE AND NOBLE QUALITIES OF VIRTUE AND WISDOM AND A 'PRIEST OF PRINCIPLE' AND DISCIPLINE, MOVED WITH STUDENTS AS ONE AMONG THEM AND KNEW MANY OF THEM BY NAME BUT WAS A STRICT DISCIPLINARIAN



I first met Rev. Dr. Anton Ranjith some years ago.

As the Vice Rector at St. Joseph's College he desired to invite me and my wife Carmel as the Chief Guests for the College Sports Meet and recognise us as parents of the Head Prefect.

He touched us and inspired us as a priest and our healthy relationship started to grow. We peers reviewed our dissertations and our friendship steadily flourished.

When I met him on August 21 in the hallowed portals of the Archbishop's House, minutes before his departure for the Retreat prior to his Episcopal Consecration I found him much relaxed.

He fascinated me by entering into the usual friendly conversation on my son Shemal Jnr and three sons-in-law, Manoj, Shalendra and Sherveen, products of St. Joseph's and St. Peter's though the clock ticked past his scheduled departure.

Rev. Dr. Anton Ranjith joyfully shared, "When I look back, in my life, I have achieved so much through guidance and support from others. In Luke 5: 3-9, Jesus tells Simon to put out their nets into deep water and lower the nets for a catch but Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and have caught nothing! But at your command I will lower the nets."

Simon never expected Jesus to be there with them on that day. My life too is full of such incidents. I have felt the presence or intercession of God throughout my life. I never expected to achieve this much in life. I did only what I was asked to do and I chose, "Dominus Est" ("It is the Lord") as my Episcopal Motto for my Coat of Arms.

He said, "I have never even dreamed that I will become a Bishop in the Archdiocese of Colombo and it is the Lord who has chosen

me, and this is 'His Mercy'. The new bishop, who specialised in the sphere of education, shared the teaching mission in diverse schools of the Archdiocese of Colombo.

The teaching profession demands a broad knowledge of the subject and curriculum together with a caring attitude and tolerance towards the students. Having proved his competence in this field, he was chosen to shoulder an array of responsibilities in colleges.

He is a 'Priest of God' with admirable and noble qualities of virtue and wisdom and a 'Priest of Principle' and discipline, moved with students as one among them and knew many of them by name but was a strict disciplinarian. As the scripture says, "as gentle as a dove and wise as a serpent" (Matthew 10:16). While being patient, kind and calm he is firm in executing his decisions and dealings with authority. He is quite fluent in all three languages - Sinhala, Tamil and English and found it easy to reach out to his students.

I found him an independent and disciplined thinker who will express his views and bow down in obedience to the superior's intention. It is said that a bishop should have a special concern for priests, listen to them and use them as consultants and counsellors, ensuring that they are adequately provided for in every way, and defending their rights set forth in the Code of Canon Law. I am sure that he would be concerned

"I HAVE FELT THE PRESENCE OR INTERCESSION OF GOD THROUGHOUT MY LIFE. I NEVER EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE THIS MUCH IN LIFE. I DID ONLY WHAT I WAS ASKED TO DO AND I CHOSE, "DOMINUS EST" ("IT IS THE LORD") AS MY EPISCOPAL MOTTO FOR MY COAT OF ARMS. "I HAVE NEVER EVEN DREAMED THAT I WILL BECOME A BISHOP IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF COLOMBO AND IT IS THE LORD WHO HAS CHOSEN ME, AND THIS IS 'HIS MERCY'"

Continued from page 19

tured dedicated unit must be established for local manufacturers with set KPIs so that lapses can be monitored and make the individuals responsible for its activities.

Foreign direct investments should be encouraged and facilitate reputed multinationals who would bring the latest, innovative tech transfers for niche products.

The Government by promoting

the concept of the pharmaceutical cluster (proposed pharma zone) which provides exemption from import duties for products that are exported, and from local taxes would encourage the local manufacturers (depending on the contribution to the economy) to invest more in the sector.

Partnerships with government will increase private sector invest-

about the brother priests and stand by them.

Birth, Family and Priestly Ordination

Anton Ranjith Pillainayagam was born on September 23, 1966 in Jaffna and baptised in his Parish Church of Our Lady of Refuge on October 20, 1966 by Rev. Fr. N. Joseph. His Godparents were Mr. S. B. Albert and Mrs. Benigna Albert.

His parents, Michael Anthony Pillainayagam and Miriam Dharma Selvadurai, both hailing from good Catholic families in Karampon, Kayts have entered the Sacrament of Marriage on October 20, 1965 and were blessed with twin sons Ranjith and Ajith.

The couple moved to Kotahena, Colombo in 1973 as the father worked at the Central Bank in Colombo.

Sibling recalls University days as twins

Ranjith was admitted to St. Benedict's College, Colombo in 1973 and he lost his father soon.

After his death, their mother moved to Jaffna with the twins in 1974. Ranjith found admission at St. Patrick's College, Jaffna, a school founded in 1850 by Roman Catholic missionaries.

He had received both Sacraments of the First Holy Communion on July 13, 1974 and the Confirmation on October 13, 1979 at the hands of the late Bishop of Jaffna, Rev. Dr. Jacob Bastiampillai Deogupillai.

His Vocation Director was Rev. Fr. E. J. Arumainayagam, his Parish Priest. He was at St. Patrick's College until 1985, the year he sat for the GCE A/L examination.

He was a diligent, persevering and a brilliant student whilst at college.

His only sibling, Ajith Pillain-

ayagam now domiciled in Canada with his family shared, "As not only his brother, but his twin, I have a very close relationship with Ranjith, which has only deepened over the years.

We spent most of our childhood in Jaffna; primarily as students in the same class for twelve years at St. Patrick's College, and later as undergraduates at the University of Jaffna, until we moved to Colombo in the early nineties.

I could say that not only did we look identical, but also we were even following similar educational paths, as we both had a passion to follow mathematics for our higher studies. It was only after his Advanced Level in 1985 that our paths diverged."

He said, "Ironically, when Ranjith joined the university, I was a third year student and that worked very well in his favour because he was able to escape some early ragging since students became confused between him and I as we looked so similar.

One of the most unforgettable memories was during a time when electricity was not available for many months because of the ongoing disturbances in our country.

University students were given the opportunity either to go the university for the night or to find their own way to study. We chose the latter and studied under designated streetlights posted by the Red Cross.

It reminds us of our perseverance and adaptability in situations of conflict.

I truly believe that his passion, zeal and determination in the pursuit of education was clearly reflected later in his career, when he successfully adopted his various positions at different academic institutions.

I can proudly say that our mother was a driving force in our lives and much of our success could be attributed to her untiring efforts."

Approaching the Holy Altar

As a candidate for the Priesthood, Ranjith studied Philosophy at St. Francis Xavier's Seminary, Colombogam, Jaffna from 1985 to 1988. He was posted as an Assistant Lecturer in Mathematical Statistics in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Jaffna from 1988 to 1993.

He achieved a BSc (Hons) (Sp.) (Statistics) in 1993 and was elevated as an Assistant Lecturer in Mathematical Statistics and continued until 1994.

He was a much-sought private teacher in Pure Mathematics for Advanced Level students from 1990 to 1995. Once out of the university, he kept in mind his desire to realise his vocation to the priesthood.

His uncle, Rev. Dr. Kingsly Swampillai, then Bishop of Trincomalee-Batticaloa, who is his guardian since his father's death, advised him to join the Archdiocese of Colombo where the late Rev. Dr. Nicholas

Marcus Fernando accepted him as a student at St. Aloysius Minor Seminary, Borella on April 1, 1995. Later, he entered the National Seminary, Ampitiya, Kandy in 1995 and completed his Bachelors in Theology. He served in the Parishes of Avissawella, Kotahena and Nittambuwa during his Pastoral Year of Formation in 1997/1998.

He was ordained a Deacon at the National Seminary of Our Lady of Lanka, Ampitiya, Kandy by the late Rev. Dr. Raymond Peiris, Bishop of Kurunegala on January 8, 2000 and was attached to St. Mary's Church, Tudella for his Diaconate Ministry.

He was ordained a Priest in the Jubilee Year on September 16, 2000 by the then Archbishop of Colombo, Rev. Dr. Nicholas Marcus Fernando at St. Lucia's Cathedral, Kotahena, Colombo.

He celebrated his First Holy Mass at his parish, St. Lawrence's Church, Wellawatte on September 17, 2000.

Priestly Ministry from 2000 to 2020

Rev. Fr. Ranjith began his priestly ministry at St. Peter's College, Bambalapitiya, Colombo as a staff member. From October 2000 to August 2004, he held enormous responsibilities and rose to be the Vice Rector.

He obtained his Post Graduate Diploma in Education from the Open University in April 2003. He attended the Middlesex University, United Kingdom and pursued a MA in Education, which he completed in December 2005.

He was appointed to the staff of St. Sebastian's College, Moratuwa and served throughout 2006.

He was appointed to St. Joseph's College, Colombo 10 in 2007 as the Primary Principal. In 2008, he came back to St. Peter's College, Colombo 4 and had a 6-year stint until 2014 serving mainly as the Vice Rector.

During this period, he held other key Ministries of Leadership. He was the Assistant Director of the Archdiocesan Education Office from January 2009 to December 2010. Besides, he served as the Archdiocesan Coordinator of the Tamil Branch of St. Joseph Vaz Theologate from May 2006 to January 2011.

He was made Principal of St. Peter's College Branch School, Udugampola where he served from December 2010 to May 2012. Then, he was elevated the Vice Rector at St. Joseph's College, Colombo 10 for another 5-year tenure from February 2014 to April 2019.

He pursued his Master of Philosophy in Christian Civilisation at the University of Jaffna from 2012 to 2017.

His dissertation was styled, "The Missionary and the Educational Contributions of Cardinal Thomas Cooray in the Archdiocese of Colombo." His first degree was Mathematics, yet his Philosophy and Theology background paved the way for him to do his advanced postgraduate degree in the Arts Stream.

In recognition, he was made the Vice Postulator for the cause of the Beatification of Cardinal Thomas Cooray in October 2015.

He served as the Rector of St. Joseph's College, Colombo 10 from April 4 to July 24, 2019 and St. Sebastian's College, Moratuwa from July 25, 2019 until July 13, 2020.

It is of vital importance for the bishops and priests to be conscious of the changing realities and plan the missionary activities in a more relevant and realistic manner abandoning the age-old practices. I am sure the new Auxiliary Bishop would

I HAVE FELT THE PRESENCE OR INTERCESSION OF GOD THROUGHOUT MY LIFE. I NEVER EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE THIS MUCH IN LIFE. I DID ONLY WHAT I WAS ASKED TO DO

have the vision and the courage to have a futuristic apostolic approach that would meet the needs of the day.

Thus, I am confident that he would be an asset to the Cardinal Archbishop of Colombo by contributing his youthful and visionary ideas for an active and fruitful missionary church.

It is the ardent hope of all Catholics that the new Bishop with his enthusiasm and education, with his faith and humility, with his vision and vigor and the fact that he was born and bred in the North but chose to become a priest in the Archdiocese of Colombo would help the Church to open a new chapter in the missionary endeavor in Sri Lanka as a shepherd in the footsteps of the Chief Shepherd, Lord Jesus Christ. Ad Multos Annos!

The author holds a PhD, MPhil and double MSc; he is a recipient of National accolades for academic pursuits; his research interests encompass a variety of subjects; and regularly pens exclusive stories

ments. As we foresee this bright future through the new political developments with firm policy decisions in the country, the local manufacturers would certainly take a firm step forward to make Sri Lanka a Medicinal Self-sufficient Nation.

The writer is the President, National Chamber of Pharmaceuticals Manufacturers of Sri Lanka

MARSO: A MONUMENT OF SPORTING MORALITY

BY INDIKA WELAGEDARA

On October 29, 1956 one of the finest of Sri Lankan sportsmen, Hafeez Marso, was born in Colombo to become the unsung hero and captain of the Police rugby team in 1989 and above all a role model of sportsmanship the likes of which are seldom seen today. It happened all by accident as Marso was never interested in rugby and his passion was basketball.

"I never had any serious thoughts of taking to rugby. It so happened that one day when I was at basketball practices at Police Park I was dragged to the rugby pitch not knowing that it is going to be a complete transformation and learning experience in my sporting career," recalled Marso in an interview with the Sunday Observer.

With his spot-on goal kicking Marso was a match winner many a time when Police were the dominant force in inter club rugby during the 1980s and early 1990s until the entry of the Fijians to the civilian clubs like CH and FC.

A hardy prop forward, Marso was in the Police team that won the League title nine times and were runners-up twice during a period when rugby was of the highest quality and spectators got what they paid to see. In addition Police also bagged the Clifford Cup twice and the Premadasa Trophy on two occasions and in all Marso played in a record 18 Cup finals.

Marso is now a very well relaxed retired Deputy Inspector General of

Police who led his team to become Triple champions in the League, Clifford Cup and Sevens in 1989.

He was a natural sportsman who also excelled in basketball and football for Police. Many of the rugby followers did not know that Marso represented Delmege Forsyth in the big league Mercantile basketball championships in 1977 and beat the most fancied team in the final Maharaja by 109 points to 100. In the words of Marso, the final was like an NBA match.

"When you look at the final scores, it was more or less like an NBA match that you rarely see in local club matches. Malsiri Perera, Remigius Perera, Granville de Silva, late KH Jayasiri and myself all national caps stood for Delmege," said Marso.

He also had the privilege of playing cricket at the Mercantile tournaments with the likes of Gerry Woutersz, Praboda Kariyawasam, Malsiri Perera, Granville de Silva, Ranjith Fernando, Rohan De S.Wijeratne and the late Malcom Mack.

But playing in the Police basketball team was a different scenario for Marso as the final against the Western Province at the Nationals in 1982 was a memorable one. Police, after beating Western Province

HIS SRI LANKA RUGBY JERSEY AND POLICE UNIFORM HAVE NEVER BEEN COMPROMISED AND REMAIN HIS MOST CHERISHED AND PRICELESS MEMORABILIA WHILE OTHERS RODE ON HIS TEAM'S BLOOD AND SWEAT



Hafeez Marso

in the group match 65-57 with seven national caps against three in Rohan Gunaratne, Palitha Siriwardena and Marso, lost the final 79-74.

The exit of Palitha and Rohan after committing five fouls with six minutes remaining cost them the match. According to Marso, though he was adjudged the best player of the tournament scoring 30 points in the final, Palitha had stood above him in the whole tournament with his skillful and intelligent play.

"I personally felt it was my team mate and good friend Palitha (Siri-

wardena) who should have got that best player trophy and the only thing I could do is to offer him the trophy after it was presented to me which I did," recalled Marso.

It was an unbelievable gesture shown by a down to earth man of unique character.

Marso's contribution saw Police win the most prestigious basketball Nationals in 1988, 1989, 1990 and 1991.

In 1983, when Police pulled out of the Clifford Cup knock-out tournament due to the July riots, Marso turned up for CR and FC who beat Havelocks in the quarter finals, Kandy SC in the semi finals and landed four long range match winning penalties to beat Army 12-9 in the final. "It was victory from the jaws of defeat," said Marso.

As a place kicker for Police replacing Charles Wijewardena in the early 1980s, Marso was able to pass the century mark from 1983 to 1986 in all four seasons before he groomed Nizam Jamaldeen.

Marso's best moment in international rugby was when he guided Sri Lanka to a memorable win coming from behind scoring 21 points (3 conversions and 5 penalties) against Malaysia at the 10th Rugby Asiad held in Bangkok, Thailand in 1986.

But Marso also experienced the bitter side of off-field rugby politics when he was deprived of the captaincy despite wearing the Sri Lanka jersey for ten years.

"I was deprived of leading the country by some of the people who were in control of Sri Lanka rugby and also sadly by the then management of Police rugby who towed the line with them for petty benefits," said Marso who led the Police pack from 1987 to 1991 after Rohan Gunaratne left Police.

"Even being the captain of the Triple champion winning team in 1989 and as the most senior national player, a junior player was preferred over me who had not even led a school side to lead the national side for the Far East tour in 1989.

"What is most appalling is that the authorities changed the criteria for captaincy to suit the player whom they wanted to appoint. Had I stayed with a club, then surely I would have captained Sri Lanka even if I was a junior mediocre player" lamented Marso.

Marso's loyalty to Police rugby was unquestionable as he even turned his back on a lucrative job offer from the private sector to play for a club. He still regrets that the downfall of Police rugby was due to

the exodus of players joining a rival club for money.

"Some of them came back to the fold but those who did not may have regretted to see their former team mates rise up in the ranks and now walk with their heads held high," said Marso who retired from rugby after the 1991 season but gave his heart and soul to law enforcement duties.

"I did my part more than what was expected of me as a sportsman and career policeman but a few top people who managed the affairs and some of the fortunate players were the ultimate benefactors of our blood and sweat.

"I must say that my mates Ajantha (Samarakoon) and Palitha (Siriwardena) had to face the same plight, but then no regrets," said Marso.

During his police playing days Marso and his team-mates also had to follow orders and report for duty in the war zones of the north and east virtually forced into leaving aside their rugby boots to carry a rifle while some of the higher ranking officers savoured life in the comforts of Colombo.

But how does Marso compare the current rugby set-up with that of his playing days.

"Sri Lanka rugby needs some drastic structural changes with more emphasis drawn to school and junior national level. Provincial Unions need to focus on development of the sport. Without transparency and fair play there is no way forward," declared Marso.

Qatar submits bid to host 2027 Asian Cup

KUALA LUMPUR AFP: Asian Cup defending champions Qatar Wednesday submitted their official bid to host the 2027 edition of the tournament, officials said, hoping to stage the competition for the third time.

Four other countries have also expressed interest in host-

ing the tournament -- India, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Uzbekistan, the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) said.

The successful bidder will be announced in 2021.

Qatar, also hosts of the next World Cup in 2022, previously staged the Asian Cup, the con-

tinents top national team competition, in 1988 and 2011, the AFC said.

The Gulf state won the 2019 Asian Cup where the tournament was expanded from 16 to 24 teams.

China will host the next edition in 2023.

Tiger and Thomas to face McIlroy and Rose in charity duel

MIAMI AFP: Tiger Woods and Justin Thomas will play Rory McIlroy and Justin Rose in a Ryder Cup-style 18-hole charity match next month between former world number ones, Woods announced Wednesday.


The made-for-television Payne's Valley Cup -- an 18-hole event at the Big Cedar Lodge course named for the late Payne Stew-

art in Ridgedale, Missouri -- will be staged on September 22.

The date is three days before the Ryder Cup was to have been played between Europe and United States teams at Whistling Straits in Wisconsin and just like the Cup the charity match will feature, four-ball, foursomes and singles formats. "Payne's Valley is the first public golf course that I have

designed. I couldn't be prouder of how it turned out," Woods said.

"I'm thrilled that it will be featured during the Payne's Valley Cup." Stewart, who is from the Ozarks region where the event will be played, died in 1999 after winning the US Open. Proceeds will benefit his family's foundation. The Payne's Valley Cup will mark the grand opening of the course.



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SPORTS



Blue Eagles SC



Colombo FC

EAGLES HOVER OVER COLOMBO IN FOOTBALL FINAL

BY BERNARD PERERA

How lucky will Blue Eagles Sports Club be when they take on Colombo Football Club in the final of the Vantage FFSL President's Cup on Wednesday (September 2) at the Sugathadasa Stadium with kick-off at 6.30 pm.

Blues Eagles are considered lucky because they lost the quarter-final game against New Star SC, but after lodging a protest regarding a player fielded by New Star SC the tournament committee reversed the decision after they found the player had impersonated during an inquiry.

Even at the end of the semi-final clash against Java Lane SC the result had to be decided on the penalty tie breaker after the game ended 2-2 at the final whistle.

Blue Eagles were made to fight all the way in the second half as Java Lane were on top up to that stage. The Airmen played attacking soccer specially the strikers excelling to bring them the goals to equalize.

BLUE EAGLES WERE MADE TO FIGHT ALL THE WAY IN THE SECOND HALF AS JAVA LANE WERE ON TOP UP TO THAT STAGE. THE AIRMEN PLAYED ATTACKING SOCCER SPECIALLY THE STRIKERS EXCELLING TO BRING THEM THE GOALS TO EQUALIZE

Referee Lakmal Weerakkody introduced the tie breaker here and Java Lane scored two out of the three kicks at goal. Eagles' strikers were on target to overcome Java Lane SC and reach the final.

The second semi-final between Colombo FC and Red Star SC also saw the game end in a 2-2 draw at the final whistle. The penalty tie



breaker was enforced to decide the winner. Colombo FC kicked more accurately and finished winners to enter the final.

Judging by the pattern of play from both finalists the final is certain to produce an exciting brand of football for the fans to enjoy after a long lapse of time.

TEAMS:

Colombo FC: Raumi Mohideen, BMB Ratnayake, Niran Kanishka, Zarwan Johar, MNM Rilwan, Nazeer Imran, MNM Fazal, Afeel Mohamed, NAM Adil, Buddhka Perera, Ahamed Shazny, Siraj Jain, Safran Sattar, Mohamed, Aakib, MSM Shakeer, Shabeer Razooniya, Haleem Ramlan, MIM Musharaf, Abdul Basith, Dinesh Suren, Payak Asim, Bodric Dimihri, Furic Momas.

Blue Eagles SC: Ruwan Arunasiri, MSM Zinal, Lakmal Gunasinghe, Kavindu Ishan, Chathuranga Fernando, Jeewantha Fernando, Chamith Dissanayake, Nethma Malshan, Madushan Fernando, Harsha Fernando, Chalana Pramantha, DDMM Premachandra, Nuwan Welgamage, Krishan Dhanushka, DK Duminda, Shanak Wijesena, Damith Dissanayake, Chamal Mendis, Gimhana Attanayake, Amalakashan Fernando.

The strikers of both teams displayed great skills at the semi-finals and either side will look to clinch the first ever Vantage President's Cup.

The addition of foreign players in either side will add to the spectacle.

Colombo FC's strikers Mohamed Aakib and Shakeer Razooniya will be the main threat

for Eagles SC's defence as they are capable of penetrating any strong defence. If the mid fielders play their part well the two teams will have to find the right target to score.

The main players who are capable of bringing glory to Blue Eagles SC will be skipper LH Kavindu and Nithma Malshan who are expected to deliver the goods.

THE KING OF SWING

JAMES ANDERSON
ENGLAND

600

SIX HUNDRED
TEST WICKETS

England's James Anderson has made history by becoming the first fast bowler to take 600 wickets in Test match cricket. Anderson reached the milestone in his 156th Test match, over 17 years

Test debut: v Zimbabwe @ Lord's, May 22-24, 2003

MILESTONES ON WAY TO THE TOP

- No.1:** Mark Vermeulen (ZIM) @ Lord's, 2003
- No.100:** Jacques Kallis (SA) @ The Oval, 2008
- No.200:** Peter Siddell (AUS) @ Perth, 2010-11
- No.300:** Peter Fulton (NZL) @ Lord's, 2013
- No.384:** Denesh Ramdin (WI) @ Antigua, 2014-15
- Passing Sir Ian Botham, the fast bowler to take most Test wickets in England**
- No.400:** Martin Gupthill (NZL) @ Headingley, 2015
- No.500:** Kraigg Brathwaite (WI) @ Lord's, 2017
- No.564:** Mohammed Shami (IND) @ The Oval, 2018
- Passing Glenn McGrath, the fast bowler to take most Test wickets in the world**
- No.600:** Azhar Ali (PAK) @ Southampton, 2020

DELIVERIES TO 600 TEST WICKETS

Muttiah Muralidaran (SL)	33,711
James Anderson (ENG)	33,717
Shane Warne (AUS)	34,919

Anderson is the first specialist fast bowler to play 150 Tests, and has sent down 33,717 deliveries in Test cricket

600 CLUB

Anderson becomes the fourth player ever to reach the 600 wickets

Three spinners have breached the 600-wicket barrier in Test cricket before Anderson. They are:

- Muttiah Muralidaran 800
- Shane Warne 708
- Anil Kumble 619

600 CLUB

SA	Mat 26	Wkts 93
IND	Mat 27	Wkts 110
PAK	Mat 18	Wkts 74
SL	Mat 13	Wkts 52
NZ	Mat 14	Wkts 60
ZIM	Mat 2	Wkts 11

MASTER PACER OF HOME CONDITIONS

Anderson is the second-highest wicket-taker in home conditions after Muralidaran (493 wickets) and highest among pacers

Anderson in England: 384 wickets in 89 Tests (23.83)

Overseas Record: 194 wickets in 61 Tests (33.36)

22 Neutral venues wickets in 6 Tests

HUNTING GROUND
Lord's (Home of Cricket)
103 wickets

The most by any pacer at a single venue

OPENER'S TERROR
His most notable victim: **Shan Masood (PAK)**
Off his career total of 600 wickets, 163 have been openers, the most by any bowler.

GETTING BETTER WITH AGE
Even at the age of 38, has ensured that he remains fit and match ready always and has remained ahead of the younger generation

	Wickets	Average	Strike Rate	5WI	10WM
First 50 Tests	181	32.08	57.5	10	1
Next 50 Tests	203	27.71	59	6	1
Last 56 Tests	216	21.5	52.5	13	1

BOWLING AVERAGES IN 156 MATCHES:

Inns	Balls	Runs	Wkts	BBI	BBM	Ave	SR	4w	5w	10
291	33,745	16,078	600	7/42	11/71	26.79	56.2	27	29	3

INFO-GRAPHIC: Manoj Nishantha | Aug 2020 | Source: Cricinfo

Billiards and snooker have more historic value than any other Sri Lankan sport

By **Hafiz Marikar**



When one mentions cue sports in Sri Lanka, the first and perhaps the only name that comes to mind is MJM Lafir, the man who brought the first World title to the country.

That was Sri Lanka's first sports title in Billiards in 1973. At the World Amateur Billiards Championship held in Bombay Lafir crowned himself as the champion beating India's Sathis Mohan in the final. He also added to his crown a world record break of 859 points in one set against Erick Simons of New Zealand.

Billiards has been played in Sri Lanka almost from the beginning of the last century. People recognized this game with great enthusiasm and some caution. This was due to several hotels with billiard room facilities with signboards indicating "Bar & Billiards" inviting fans to take up this sport when relaxing in a hotel atmosphere.

The close association with the bar and billiards was a disservice to the game in the good old days with this sport being the first to bring a world title to our mother land. However the formation of the Ceylon Amateur Billiards Association, which was the original name of the present Billiards and Snooker Association of Sri Lanka, did much to establish the game as a

success that made Lafir to try out his skill.

While studying at Hameedia Boys English School, at New Moor Street Colombo 12, Lafir started his Billiards and Snooker first on a quarter size table then on a half size table.

Later he graduated to a full size table at Hulftsdrop in a billiards parlor which was popularly known as the Handi Kaday owned by ILM Shaul Hameed and Crystal Place Naeeem Nana. So, this sport was able to produce Sri Lanka's only world champion in an individual game.

Today it is only MICH which organizes a tournament in memory of this great cueist every two years. No other sportsman dominated the game so much as Lafir did. He reigned supreme for 24 years between 1949 to 1973 and annexed the National Billiards title of Sri Lanka 16 times as well as the National Snooker title on 15 separate occasions.

After his death and before his 53rd birth anniversary the Colombo Municipal Council re-named Messenger Street as MJM Lafir Mawatha that was a tribute to him.

During the sport's presidency of Jagath Sumathipala, in 1988 when the fifth MJM Lafir Asian tournament was played in Colombo and with the backing coming from then Minister MH Mohamed, a stamp was issued.

The Maestro is no more but people in Sri Lanka will ever remember him for his contribution to the sport.

Team spirit and a committed coach put CCC on a roll

BY DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA



Tharanga Dhammika

Colombo Cricket Club (CCC) emerged Premier league Inter-Club Tier 'A' champions for the second consecutive year and they attribute it to their fine team effort throughout the tournament.

"Winning the championship for the second consecutive year is not an easy task but my players did it in great style with confidence," said head coach Tharanga Dhammika.

"All worked hard to achieve this success and credit should to all the players, my support staff and officials for their commitment towards working this goal," added the jubilant coach Dhammika who is a former Nalanda College skipper and pace bowler.

The history of CCC is that they have won the league championship on six occasions. They first won in 1978/80 under the leadership of Michael Tissera the former captain of the national team. Then in 1984/85

practices and always worked hard at it," said Dhammika.

CCC were fortunate to have four talented under-19 players who were exposed to the top league. This was to fill the void left when their senior players were on national duty. Pawan Ratnayake, Sonal Dinusha, Kavidu Nadeeshan and Bhawantha Weerasinghe are the young cricketers from Mahanama College who made useful contributions to CCC and now they will be able to play in the under-23 tournament.

Skipper Kusal Mendis, Wanidu Hasaranga, Lakshan Sandakan and Vishwa Fernando were involved with the National team and missed some of the matches while Ashan Priyanjana, Minod

Bhanuka, Lahiru Madushanka and Malinda Pushpakumara also had to skip a few matches to be with the Sri Lanka 'A' team and yet CCC were able to bag the top prize in domestic cricket in the country under the guidance of coach Tharanga Dhammika.

"We can guide the players but it is up to them to perform in the middle with responsibility. We had regular

ANOTHER WINNER SHOWS HIS CLASS

By
Dinesh Weerawansa



Yet another former Observer-Mobitel Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year created history in Sri Lanka's domestic Premier league as the 42nd Observer-Mobitel School Cricketers of the Year is set to unveil next month.

Former Sri Lanka captain Dinesh Chandimal, who emerged the Observer-Mobitel Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year 2009, was at his best last Wednesday, cracking an unbeaten 354 for Army Sports Club in their Premier League Tier 'A' match against Saracens SC at Katunayake. Chandimal's marathon innings included nine hits over the rope and another 33 power-packed boundaries in a 391-ball innings.

The 30-year old Chandimal's mammoth knock accounted for more than half of Army SC's first innings total of 642 for 9 wickets declared. The aggressive wicket-keeper-batsman proved that he has not lost his old magical touch as he played this match-winning knock. He once again proved his tremendous potential and drew the attention of the cricketing world.

Chandimal made the highest individual score in an innings this season. He became the second Sri Lankan batsman to score the most runs in an inning in first class cricket.

What was unique in Chandimal's gallant innings was that there were no other centuries to support his triple century, other than for two fifties by Pethum Dilshan (67) and Ashan Randika (63).

Chandimal has now scored 1,027 runs in eight matches with three centuries and four fifties. Thus, he became the second batsman to pass 1,000 runs in this domestic Premier league season. Chandimal's historic tri-

ple ton enabled him to go past 8,500-runs with a first class aggregate in 120 matches in 204 innings with 24 centuries and 41 half tons.

Chandimal's elegant innings is the second highest in the all-time list of first class triple hundreds behind Mahela Jayawardena's best Test innings of 374.

Besides Jayawardena (374) and Chandimal (354 no), the other who scored triple centuries were Kithruwan Withanage (351), Minod Bhanuka (342), Thilina Kandamby (340 no), Sanath Jayasuriya (340 in a Test), Kusal Perera (336), Kumar Sangakkara (319 in a Test), Udara Jayasundera (318) and Ramesh Mendis (300).

Born on November 18, 1989 in Balapitiya, Lokuge Dinesh Chandimal made his Sri Lanka debut in less than one year after his Observer-Mobitel Schoolboy Cricketer glory in 2009. He first made his ODI debut on June 1, 2010. In the following year, he made his Test debut in the Boxing Day Test against South Africa in 2011.

Playing in 57 Test matches, he has scored 3,877 runs in 103 innings at an average of 40.81 with 11 centuries and 18 half tons and a career-best 164. In 164 ODI innings, Chandimal has scored a 3,599 aggregate with an average of 32.42 inclusive of four tons and 22 fifties. In 54 T20 Internationals for Sri Lanka, he has aggregated 800 runs with four fifties.

Meanwhile, the final selections of the 2020 Observer Schoolboy and Schoolgirl Cricketers of the Year are expected to be held sometime next month.

The Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association (SLSCA), the Umpires Association, along with the organisers, the Sunday Observer and the sponsors Sri Lanka Mobitel will meet next month to decide the grand prize winners and the Observer-Mobitel Schoolboy and Schoolgirl Cricketers of the Year.

The statistical data provider of the event is the popular cricket website batsman.lk which is playing a big role in this contest under its CEO Kumara Gamhewage.

This year, the overall champion team will not be named as the official final leg matches were not played, although the provincial champion teams would be named. The worldwide Covid-19 epidemic interrupted the last few matches of the 2019/2020 Under-19 inter-school league including a couple of outstation big matches.

Nevertheless, the glamour events will comprise the mega awards show including the Observer-Mobitel Schoolboy and Schoolgirl Cricketers of the Year 2020.

The Observer-Mobitel Most Popular Schoolboy and Schoolgirl Cricketers of the Year 2020 is likely to be found at the end of next month after the final stages of the ongoing voting.

The battles for the Observer-Mobitel Most Popular Schoolboy and Schoolgirl Cricketers of the Year 2020 have become exciting battles for supremacy.

Sri Lanka's flagship national newspaper - the Sunday Observer, provided the initiative for the Mega Show which has now gone from strength to strength for over four decades producing many world beaters. Although there have been a couple of similar events that emerged subsequently, the Observer-Mobitel Schoolboy Cricketer has remained the



Dinesh Chandimal hits career-best unbeaten 354

Mega Show.

The concept of rewarding schoolboy cricketers at the end of each season was introduced to Sri Lanka by Lake House and it started the prestigious event in 1978/79. Organized by the Associated Newspapers of

Ceylon Limited (ANCL), the event is sponsored by the country's national mobile service provider Sri Lanka Telecom Mobitel for the 13th successive year.

The Sunday Observer's great sporting partnership with SLT Mobitel has grown

from strength to strength due to the untiring efforts of its CEO Nalin Perera. Great sports promoter Mobitel who are sponsoring it for the 13th year, provided the ideal financial support for the oldest Cricket Awards Show in Sri Lanka.

The Sunday Observer realized the need to reward the raw talent of the country's schoolboy cricketers way back in 1978-79 at a time when there had been no organized inter-school cricket tournaments, apart from the traditional first XI matches between the so-called leading schools.

With the introduction of the Show and its expansion to have a separate segment for outstation schoolboy cricketers it went a long way in inspiring the talented players from remote areas.

The ANCL Chairman and board of management have always given their best possible support to keep the Mega Show alive and kicking. Chairman/President's Counsel W. Dayaratne, together with Director Editorial Dharma Sri Kariyawasam, Director Legal and Administration Rakhitha Abeygunawardhana, Director Finance Janaka Ranatunga and Director Operations Canishka Witharana have helped this show to go from strength to strength.

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Cricketers from schools competing in Division one, two and three of the Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association Under 19 Inter-School Tournament 2019/20 are eligible to be voted.

Most Popular Schoolgirl Cricketer 2020

Schoolgirl Cricketers from schools competing in all Island school's of the Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association Under 19 Inter-School Tournament 2019/20 are eligible to be voted.

Nominee	
Boy
Divisions for Boy	Division I <input type="checkbox"/> Division II <input type="checkbox"/> Division III <input type="checkbox"/>
All Island Girl :	
(Each coupon must contain only one vote)	
School
Sender's Name
Address
Mobile No.

Vote online now: vote.schoolcricketer.lk

One Sunday Observer coupon valid as three votes: Other papers one vote.

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The 42nd Most Popular Schoolboy/girl Cricketer Contest is now on. Mail the completed coupon to the **SPORTS EDITOR, SUNDAY OBSERVER, LAKE HOUSE, COLOMBO 10.**

CONDITIONS:

Children of Lake House & Mobitel staff are not eligible to participate in the competition.

Each coupon must contain only one vote for one player and for one contest.

In all matters connected with the contest, the decision of the Sports Editor, SUNDAY OBSERVER is final.

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BORN ON NOVEMBER 18, 1989 IN BALAPITIYA, LOKUGE DINESH CHANDIMAL MADE HIS SRI LANKA DEBUT IN LESS THAN ONE YEAR AFTER HIS OBSERVER-MOBTEL SCHOOLBOY CRICKETER GLORY IN 2009. HE FIRST MADE HIS ODI DEBUT ON JUNE 1, 2010. IN THE FOLLOWING YEAR, HE MADE HIS TEST DEBUT IN THE BOXING DAY TEST AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA IN 2011

Most Popular Schoolboy Cricketer

1. Anuda Jayaweera (Ananda College)	68,398
2. Shehan Fernando (St. Benedict's)	66,103
3. Lohan de Soya (Dharmasoka College)	65,891
4. Sukitha Manoj (St. Sebastian's College)	61,277
5. Thevindu Seneviratne (Royal College)	56,645
6. Ahan Wickramasinghe (Royal College)	52,077
7. Dunith Wellalage (St. Joseph's College)	47,578
8. Kanishka Rantillekege (Ananda College)	43,106
9. Ranudha Somaratne (Trinity College)	38,804
10. Dimuth Sandaruwan (Richmond College)	34,377
11. Nipun Dananjaya (St. Joseph Vaz College)	28,003
12. Navod Paranavithana (Mahinda College)	24,101
13. Bhanuka Manohara (Richmond College)	20,558
14. Ruchira Adikari (Anuradhapura Central)	20,449
15. Ruwin Peiris (Trinity College)	17,203
16. Pawantha Weerasinghe (Ananda Sastralaya)	17,009
17. Vanuja Kumara (St. Peter's College)	14,902
18. Ashen Daniel (St. Joseph's College)	14,413
19. Savindu Perera (Maris Stella College)	12,414
20. Dilmin Ratnayake (S. Thomas' College)	10,909
21. Matheesha Pathirana (Trinity College)	9,891
22. Nikil Sashmitha (Tissa Central Kalutara)	9,117
23. Abishek Anandakumar (Trinity College)	8,241

Most Popular Schoolgirl Cricketer

1. Renuka Damayanthi (Bandaranayake MV)	47,278
2. Suranja Lakmali (Gonapola BMV)	46,711
3. Nimesha Wijesundera (Marapola MV)	45,369
4. Sachini Nethmini (Wadduwa Central)	37,506
5. Janadi Anali (Anula Vidyalaya)	35,919
6. Umsha Himeshani (Devapathiraja)	30,317
7. Kavisha Dilhari (Devapathiraja Vidyalaya)	21,981



High-powered Sports Council

The new Sports Council, high powered as it is, needs the trust of all sports administrators in the country to do what is right. Their guidance and decisions may not be altogether popular but one can bet that they will be in the best interests of national sports.

The first move that Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Namal Rajapaksa made has the makings of good decisions coming out from a respected group of persons with a track record of accomplishments and integrity.

Rajapaksa has earned loud applause from all quarters for appointing this committee purely on merit and no other consideration.

At the outset we would like to remind Rajapaksa that previous Sports Ministers too made a big song and dance and appointed Sports Councils. But other than for being there in name, little or no use was made of them. But Minister Namal means business and we look forward to action. What else can one expect with this team of illustrious persons called to national duty.

The National Sports Council is made up of Mahela Jayawardena (chairman), Lieutenant General Shavendra Silva, Dilantha Malagamuwa, Kumar Sangakkara, Uaswathi Muttetuwegama, Major General Rajitha Ampermahotti, Kasthuri Chellaraj Wilson, Rowan Keragala, Julian Bolling, Thumi Abeysinghe, Amal Edirisooriya, Supun Weerasinghe, Sanjeewa Wickremarajayake, Rohan Fernando and Rowena Samarasinghe.

A close study of their credentials shows that the Council consists of members who are experts in their chosen fields and are not square pegs in round holes and leave no room for nit picking.

They are all respectable and honest ladies and gentlemen. To use sporting parlance the Minister acting the role Chairman of Selectors has picked a brilliant match-winning team for sport.

After the appointing of the National Sports Council the Minister who means business made a creditable speech. "I intend to build the structure through this Council. Unlike the past this Council will be an unique one, which will be actively involved to build professional sportsmen.

"As an initiative, I suggested to them that the appointment of national selectors should be recommended to them, by the respective bodies after which I will place my signature to approve it.

"I will make sure that in future all teams and squads representing all sports bodies should be sent to this Council unlike in the past. Moreover, I will place my signature on their recommendation only," said the Minister.

Chairman of the Council the irrepressible Mahela Jayawardena addressing the media said that he was happy to be appointed to this Council, which was the vision of the Minister to raise the standard of sports in the country, from the grass root level to national level.

"Our intention is to start up from the grass root level if we are to raise the standard to top level. We will prioritize the sport depending on the competition. We will discuss merging sports with the Education Ministry, which has to work collectively.

"Apart from these there is need for the changing of the Sports Law which is too old. We will look into the legal side of it and develop it to be conducive to us. It is going to be a long process, which I believe can be achieved with the support of the Minister," the Chairman emphasized.

Mahela Jayawardena, one of the best cricket captains produced by the country and the second to score a century in the 2011 World Cup against India, richly deserves this honour. He along with Kumar Sangakkara are icons and legends in the game of cricket.

Recently at a meeting called by Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa to discuss the feasibility of constructing an International Cricket Stadium in Homagama, in voicing their disagreement Jayawardena and Sangakkara emphasized the more importance of improving school cricket and the game in general that has nose-dived than building another stadium.

So the working of the Council will be closely watched by the crazy sport loving public and there is no doubt that the Council will bat with success and deliver and take sport to hitherto attained heights.

Soccer ace passes away

Although belated I wish to record mine and the sadness of all soccerites and soccer fans of a bygone era on the recent passing away of a football defender in MA Ameer, an illustrious Old Zahirian who had no peer during that time.

Ameer put on boots during the time when the game of soccer was at its best in the 1960s and 1970s. He stood like a stone wall and guarded the goal as though his life depended on it. No opposing striker, be it at school, club or national level, found him easy to go past.

In addition to his defending prowess he also had booming kicks which landed well beyond the opposing centre line.

Ameer captained the Ceylon Youth Team to the third Asia Youth Championship in Thailand in 1962. His vice captain was that will 'o' the wisp Tuan Nizam Hajireen and some of the players who made that team were Edward Wickremasriya, BHH Sally, PHS Albert, Basil Fonseka, goal keeper Ananda Wickremasekera, (brother of Sarath who is the State Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Govt. Affairs), E. Premadasa, T. Samidon, Tillekeratne and Dhinapala.

When a Brazilian soccer team Athletico Madureira visited Ceylon in 1961, youth players Ameer, Hajireen, Sally Weerasekera, Albert and Wickremasriya were included in the Ceylon team in the three games played. The team was led by Peter Ranasinghe with Hassimdeen who later became Asia's best between the posts as goalkeeper and vice captain.

Ameer after quitting the game entered politics representing the Muslim Congress as a Western Provincial Councillor.

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SPORT

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AUGUST 30, 2020

SRI LANKAN SWIMMERS AND AMERICAN GEAR BAND TOGETHER TO SAVE LIVES

BY KASUN IRUGALBANDARA

Safety equipment donated by the United States of America and over 200 swimmers came together to foster a life-saving project last Sunday at the Kinross Swimming Club Wellawatte that was graced by former Olympian Julian Bolling under the patronage of State Minister for Urban Development, Coast Conservation and Waste Disposal Dr. Nalaka Godahewa who pledged the government's fullest support for life-saving endeavours.

The project was initiated by the My Friend Foundation and Fouzul Hameed the Managing Director of Hameedia and the Life Saving Association of Sri Lanka with the support of the Kinross and Rainbow swimming clubs.

It was intended to create an awareness on the need for saving hundreds of lives which are lost annually due to negligence and the lack of education.

"We know that several lives are lost by drowning and we are trying to do something to stop it.

"I called up Julian Bolling to do something and we teamed up with Asanga Nanayakkara the president of the Life Saving Association of Sri Lanka and we made this a reality," said Hameed.

Minister Godahewa said he was shocked to learn that what he called "thousands of lives lost annually



Life-savers to the fore! From left Nethmi Jayawardena, Navidula Nethmini, Amandi Jayawardena, Piyasrani Samaraweera, Thulani Perera and Nisini Wijekoon from the Life Saving Association who became the cynosure of all eyes (Pic by Ranjith Asanka)

due to drowning" and promised to further sustain the project by way of government involvement.

"As the Minister of this subject I am happy to see this awareness pro-

gram take place. After I came here I realized that thousands of people die of drowning in the country annually. "As a government we have to do much to stop this tragedy of

death. It is our responsibility to create safe beaches as well as inland waterways for everyone locals and foreign tourists," said Minister Godahewa.

Gunawardena launches book on sports training

Veteran author, Lalith Gunawardena launched his latest Sinhala book on track and field titled 'sports training through the vision of a scientist' at a ceremony held in Colombo recently.

Gunawardena, winner of the 'Kreedha Prabha' award at the 2019 Presidential Sports Awards Ceremony, has provided a great amount of insight on how athletes could train without the services of a coach.



Pictured here is Gunawardena (left), presenting the first copy of the book to former National shot put champion and senior athletics coach of the Sports Ministry, AJ Rodrigo (Sr)

Naomi Osaka withdraws from WTA

NEW YORK AFP: Japan's Naomi Osaka withdrew from her WTA Western & Southern Open semi-final match Thursday in New York to protest the police shooting of an unarmed black man in Wisconsin.

Osaka, a two-time Grand Slam champion, was to have faced Belgian Elise Mertens in the same quarantine bubble where the US Open will be played starting Monday.

"Before I am an athlete, I am a black woman. And as a black woman I feel as though there are much more important matters at hand that need immediate attention, rather than watching me play tennis," Osaka posted in a statement on Twitter.

"I don't expect anything drastic to happen with me not playing, but if I can get a conversation started in a majority white sport I consider that a step in the right direction."

Her move comes in the wake of African-American Jacob Blake being shot on Sunday in Kenosha, Wisconsin, and the NBA's Milwaukee Bucks boycotting their scheduled playoff game Wednes-

day. All NBA playoff games Wednesday were eventually postponed and Major League Baseball and Women's NBA clubs followed suit before Osaka became the trailblazer in tennis.

"Watching the continued genocide of Black people at the hand of the police is honestly making me sick to my stomach," Osaka said.

"I'm exhausted of having a new hashtag pop up every few days and I'm extremely tired of having this same conversation over and over again.

"When will it ever be enough?" Blake was shot seven times in the back by police as he attempted to get into a car containing his three children.

Protests have erupted in Kenosha since the shooting, with two people killed after a man opened fire on demonstrators with an assault rifle on Tuesday. Issues of police violence and systemic racism were raised in May by the death of George Floyd, an unarmed black man, who died after a Minneapolis police officer held his knee upon Floyd's neck for more than eight minutes.

National Sports Council into three categories

BY KASUN IRUGALBANDARA

The newly appointed National Sports Council has been divided into three categories with different functions to study and implement ways of improving sports.

Amal Edirisuriya, the Director General of the Sports Ministry told the Sunday Observer that it was the head of the Council Mahela Jayawardena who initiated the functions and that it will be easier for each group to handle their respective areas. The 14 members of the Council

will be divided into three with one group to discuss the amendments to the Sports Law, the second group to look into ways of restructuring the Sports Department and the third to make the data base for sports persons who will be participating in international events.

The National Sports Council will present our reports to the Sports Minister within two months and the three sub-committees will meet frequently to discuss matters intensively and have also created a WhatsApp group to communicate and share documents.

Dharmapala Athletics Association meeting today

The annual general meeting of the Athletics Association of Dharmapala College Pannipitiya will be held today (August 30) at the College Hall commencing at 3.30 pm.

All Old Boys and Old Girls of the school have been requested to attend the meeting in which new members will also be enrolled according to an organising committee spokesperson.

ODI and T20 series

Australia will miss England crowd 'banter'

SOUTHAMPTON AFP: Australia limited-overs captain Aaron Finch says he will miss the "banter" of English crowds during the upcoming white-ball campaign but is adamant the absence of spectators will not mean a lack of intensity.

Finch's men have already arrived in England for three Twenty20 matches and three one-day internationals against their arch-rivals from September 4-16.

"It's always good to have a crowd to entertain and the banter that comes from particularly English crowds is pretty special," Finch told reporters in a conference call on Wednesday.

"Do they go over the top sometimes? Maybe, yeah. It's all a great thing to be a part of, especially if you beat England over here."

England have just played six behind-closed-doors Tests against the West Indies and Pakistan, winning both series, with the white-ball squad defeating Ireland 2-1 in a three-match one-day international campaign this month that also took place without spectators.

"I have seen all of it from back at home (on television)," said Finch. "It is obviously a little bit different with no crowds, but at the end of the day as cricketers we probably play



Aaron Finch

95 percent of our games in front of not many people so I think that we would be used to it."

Finch, speaking from Australia's base in Derby, central England, said: "We played the game against New Zealand at the SCG (Sydney Cricket Ground), which was our last game, behind closed doors so I don't think that we need any extra motivation or we don't need any crowd to pump you up -- not that we get it here in the UK anyway."

"At the end of the day we are still playing international cricket," the 33-year-old batsman added. "What it'll come down to is pride in your performance and representing your country really proudly.

"It will be different but I don't think it will take away from the intensity of the games whatsoever."

Disease like coronavirus suffocating football in Sri Lanka

BY ALTHAF NAWAZ

With football quite appropriately being the first sport to come out of the crippling coronavirus in Sri Lanka amid many concerns, ideas, criticisms popping up from time to time, questions are also being raised on the future of the world's most favourite sport in the island.

Presently there appears to be no concrete solutions provided by anyone running football that has made the task of transforming an organization like the Football Federation of Sri Lanka (FFSL) from nowhere to somewhere.

The composition of the FFSL's governing body comprise people with mixed agendas and varied mindsets and changing the mindset of the people in the governing body to agree on one point is the most challenging task for anyone for the game and towards its betterment.

The Sunday Observer confronted many experienced sports administrators and former National players to address the burning issue.

Traditional football is the formal activity of the FFSL for decades under many administrators. Competitions, Youth Football, Women's Football (from time to time) and recently education of coaches. The National team was re-activated three years ago, but it was not adequately structured to where it should belong.

According to one expert, football is far beyond just a game. It is an industry.

MANY STAKEHOLDERS POINT FINGERS AT THE ADMINISTRATION FOR KEEPING OLD GUARDS AND FRIENDS IN THE GOVERNING SYSTEM WHICH CREATES AN UNPROFESSIONAL ENVIRONMENT

"If we don't think out of the box and build this as a business model, we cannot move forward on par with the world. Strategies need to be initiated based on our strengths, and there should be a pathway to acquire new skills and talents in keeping with global standards. Keeping on repeating the same old-fashioned activities will not take us anywhere beyond this level," he warned.

Current coaches are mostly former players, who know the ups and downs of football. Coaches play a major role in reshaping football from grassroots level. This includes developing player skills and teaching them with interpersonal skills for their lifestyle through football. More often, young kids imitate their coaches and their behaviour. In this aspect, coaches have high influence among the players and teams.

Sri Lanka has not produced many qualified coaches for the past several decades and currently, the top club teams are ready to play in the professional league. The Super League is struggling to enlist good coaches for their teams. If the past administrator had performed their

task in a planned manner, this could have been prevented. The demand for good coaches is growing and the supply is inadequate.

Many coaches showed their displeasure of how the affairs were planned and managed in relation to producing coaches. The FFSL has not produced any Pro-Licensed Coaches up to date and there are few 'A' licensed coaches - less than 30 - with many of them retired or with outdated methods.

Former National players charge that the FFSL had failed to show them a pathway after their retirement and question what action have they taken to continuously update the licensed coaches each year. Once a coach obtains a certificate, he never has a chance to update his skills under FFSL.

It is up to the individual to learn on his own through the internet or other source. What he learns on his own may be correct or incorrect as there is no one to supervise or mentor them.

In many instances, retired players take up coaching without even a coaching certificate.



Young girls come together at a football camp

Sri Lanka holds the unique record of having more unqualified coaches than licensed coaches.

It is estimated that around 3000 unqualified coaches are teaching clubs, schools and academies while the FFSL has only about 450 AFC licensed coaches.

There is no mechanism in football administration for these coaches to get a coaching license after receiving proper training. One senior former national

player blamed past administrators for not looking ahead and planning for this demand for the last 15 years.

Former National players, clubs, referees and other administrators agree that Sri Lanka needs a complete overhaul.

Many stakeholders point fingers at the administration for keeping old guards and friends in the governing system which creates an unprofessional environment for the administration.

The next election is due in eight months and there are a couple of names popping up in football circles as to who is the most suitable candidate to take over the leadership in football.

Voters and stakeholders are now faced with the challenge of picking a leader who has a visionary plan for football and who knows the pulse of footballers. Not someone based on wealth, political influence or other benefits.

BUSINESS

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MBAS: RELEVANCE AND RESULTS PAGE 27



PEERLESS VALUE OF SALES FORECASTING PAGE 29



QUARTZ, A MONEY SPINNER PAGE 30

NBFIs: Mergers on the cards



The Central Bank (CB) has identified several ailing Non-Banking Financial Institutions (NBFIs) facing severe liquidity issues, affecting its stability, to merge with financially stable and strong institutions under its long term financial sector consolidation program that is being worked out, a top official of the Central Bank said last week.

"We have found the institutions that urgently need to come under the consolidation program to ensure stability in the financial sector of the country," said Central Bank Governor Prof. W.D. Lakshman.

The Central Bank has been harping on the need to work out a plan to strengthen the non-banking sector for a considerable time recognising that nearly half of the sector face severe liquidity issues.

However, financial sector experts have been saying umpteen times that there is no point in shutting the stable door after the horse had bolted, which was the case with closure of... TO PAGE 28

COSMI to launch livelihood programs

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa have extended their fullest backing to support the initiatives of the Confederation of Micro, Small and Medium Industries (COSMI) to develop the small, medium and micro industries which make a salient contribution to the economy, said COSMI President Nawaz Rajabdeen.

He said the Confederation has made key proposals to the Government to boost the growth of small industries particularly those affected by the global pandemic.

According to statistics of the 1.3 million registered small and medium sector industries around 95 percent are micro and small industries.

"There are around 600,000 micro, small and medium industries in the country that are not registered. Our aim is to help these industries to register and enable them to avail themselves of low cost funding to support their industries," Rajabdeen said.

TO PAGE 28

Opposition claims will not come true

NEW INSTRUMENTS TO SPUR ECONOMY

- State Minister Cabraal

The government has taken steps to accelerate economic recovery with new instruments to attract money into the Treasury Bond and Treasury Bill markets that will boost confidence among local entrepreneurs, State Minister of Finance, Capital Markets and State Enterprise Reforms, Ajith Nivard Cabraal told *Sunday Observer Business* on Friday.

"We will create the environment to bring in the much needed foreign exchange to the country that will help boost economic activities in the country," he said, adding that the government is optimistic about a speedy recovery of the economy.

The State Minister said in Parliament on Thursday that the Government is confident of a rapid or V-shaped economic recovery in the country from the global pandemic. "We plan to enable a V-shaped economic revival which is becoming a reality."

"The Government stabilised the economy before 2015 despite the battle against terrorism in the country. We will succeed in achieving that feat again," Cabraal said.



"The Opposition does not want the government to revive the economy. They prefer to have a sluggish performance of the economy," he said, adding that some claim the

country would not recover soon from the current crisis.

He said the country maintained an average of 6.4 percent economic growth from 2006 to 2015 while the growth rate declined to 3.7% from 2015 to 2019.

He said growth rate slipped further to 2.3% in 2018.

The per capita income increased by an average of \$ 200 between 2006 and 2015 but it has dropped since 2015. "We maintained a healthy economy in the past and we will manage it this time as well," Cabraal said.

Reviving tourism will boost economic growth - Industry expert



The revival of tourism, a top agenda of the Government, is a commendable move to revive a highly lucrative industry which should aim at recording 10 million in the number of tourist arrivals per year to boost State coffers for accelerated development, said Asian German Sports Exchange Program Founder and a tourism industry expert Dr. Dietmar Doering.

He said reviving the tourism industry that brought in the much needed foreign exchange to the country by making Sri Lanka a destination that attracts... TO PAGE 28



Sri Lanka has been known for its handicrafts for centuries, being home to some of the most sought after handicraft artisans. However, the once lucrative industry has been facing a natural death due to the absence of continuity and policy support to develop it. Here a cane craftsman with some of his products that could fetch a good price in local and international markets. Pic: Sarath Peiris

SLPMA invests Rs. 15 b to boost manufacturing industry

Hails new State Ministry for pharmaceuticals

BY RAJITHA JAGODA ARACHCHI

The Sri Lanka Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association (SLPMA) hailed the government's decision to create a new State Ministry for the manufacture of pharmaceuticals as a timely move to strengthen the local pharmaceuticals industry, stressing its contribution to the nation.

"This highlights the importance the State places on a self-sufficient local pharmaceutical manufacturing industry," SLPMA President Sanjaya Jayaratne stated in a media release.

While Health Minister Pavithra Wanniarachchi is responsible for the entire health sector, Prof. Channa Jayasumana holds the portfolio of State Ministry for Pharmaceutical Production, Supply and Regulation.

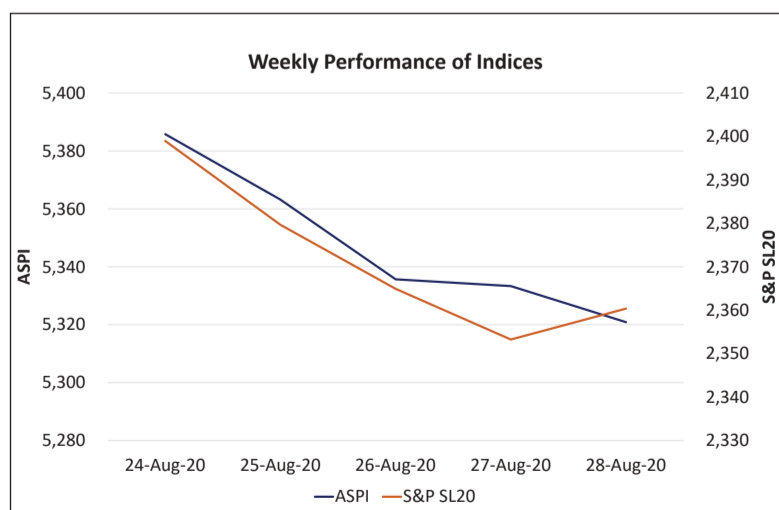
Expressing SLPMA's confidence in the government's vision, Jayaratne said, "This is an encouragement to the industry. The association will work to strengthen ties with the government and expand our contribution to the national healthcare sector by expanding the guaranteed buy-

back agreement for local pharmaceuticals currently in effect. The SLPMA has always stood for quality, affordable pharmaceuticals and will support the government to secure the highest quality medicines at affordable prices."

Members of the SLPMA have reinvested over Rs. 15 billion over the past five years on capacity building and market expansion, setting up new plants and upgrading current facilities to enhance the manufacture of a wider range of medicines and infrastructure for the Sri Lankan market and for export.

Currently holding 15% of the local pharmaceuticals market, the SLPMA aims to help the country by increasing the production of world-class pharmaceuticals locally to provide quality cost-effective medicines to all Sri Lankans.

The vision of the Association is to promote the efficiency of the pharmaceutical manufacturing industry to ensure medicinal products of the highest quality are readily available for the prevention and treatment of diseases at affordable prices.



Courtesy: The Colombo Stock Exchange

Insurance penetration expected to increase

The insurance industry which is yet at its early stages in its life-cycle is expected to record an increase in penetration from the current level of around 1.3 percent to around 2 percent in the next five years, a top official of the industry said during a discussion on this year's National Insurance Day which is marked each year on September 1.

"We are confident the current penetration level in Life and General insurance will grow to a satisfactory level in the coming years as people have realised the importance of insurance with the outbreak of the global

pandemic that has wreaked havoc on economies across the globe increasing risk to life," said Amana Takaful Life CEO Gehan Rajapakse. The global insurance landscape is expected to change due to the current global health crisis resulting in an upside effect on the industry which is yet to bloom fully in the world. The expansion in technology is said to have a positive impact on insurance penetration as in most industries which will stand to benefit from technological advancements. Despite the gloom and doom in the global economy with a trickle-down effect on all industries,

the insurance industry in Sri Lanka reported a recovery faster than expected in June and July this year.

"We did not expect a turnaround so quickly which could be attributed to the need for protection and risk mitigation from health hazards," Rajapakse said.

The industry offered moratoriums for premiums during the global pandemic to support policy holders.

Industry experts said the national insurance day since its inaugural year in 2017 has helped raise awareness on the importance of insurance as a means of protection and risk mitiga-



Gehan Rajapakse

tion. However, the question of how could the industry increase insurance penetration has been a recurrent issue. The lingering problem has been... TO PAGE 28

Fed relaxes inflation target in policy shift

The Federal Reserve has signalled a major shift in its approach to managing inflation, as it tries to do more to aid the US economy's recovery. The Central Bank will now target an 'average' of 2% inflation, rather than making 2% a fixed goal, giving it more flexibility, boss Jerome Powell said.

It will allow the bank to keep

interest rates lower for longer, stimulating growth to help tackle unemployment.

It comes as millions are out of work due to the economic hit of coronavirus.

"It is hard to overstate the benefits of sustaining a strong labour market, a key national goal that will require a range of policies in addition

to supportive monetary policy," Powell said. The Federal Reserve has for years set 2% as an optimal level of inflation to maintain a healthy economy.

If it feels inflation could go above that level, it can raise interest rates - however, this makes borrowing money more expensive for consumers and businesses.

With the US in a sharp recession due to the pandemic, the Fed has cut rates to almost zero and launched a \$700bn stimulus program to help revive growth.

But speaking at Jackson Hole, the Fed's annual economic symposium, Powell said the bank needed to go further to tackle unemployment, which is currently above 10%.

EXCHANGE RATES

Aug 24 - Aug 28	US Dollar \$	Euro €	Japanese yen ¥	Pound sterling £	Chinese Yuan ¥
Monday	186.72	221.54	1.7826	245.64	27.473
Tuesday	187.25	222.18	1.785	246.39	27.536
Wednesday	188.53	224.09	1.7894	248.90	27.766
Thursday	188.48	224.25	1.795	250.07	27.858
Friday	188.18	224.00	1.779	250.08	27.822

Business

Be a better version of yourself not a copycat

We see many weak leaders trying to compare his or her performance with the predecessors. This happens in politics, sports and business more often than before. Unfortunately, this has become a dirty game in Sri Lanka.

Without trying to do their best in the given environment, some leaders simply waste time doing this which does not help the stakeholders. We see some people going public with such statements to earn false credibility rather than doing what it takes to perform in the current environment to satisfy the interest of their beneficiaries.

This is more relevant to the highest levels of leadership in the public sector. When a leader feels that he or she is required to live up to another person's standards, they may begin to doubt themselves and struggle with self-esteem issues.

It is natural to compare people to one another and it happens in every field and at every level. While that being the fact, competition in the workplace is a brain game that will only make your life more challenging.

It's human nature to look around and see what others are doing. If you have ever made an example of someone, you have used comparison to try and achieve something.

But while the motives might be positive, the consequences are often negative. If you're constantly making comparisons, you'll run into issues that could've easily been prevented. You can't compare an orange to an apple, like you can't compare two completely different employees. Doing so will only discourage your workers and force them to wear hats that simply don't fit.

Humans are motivated differently, have different strengths, and are led differently. Comparing them implies that what works for one should work for another.

It simply is not true in many cases. For instance, if you compare an introverted worker to an extroverted worker, two totally different types of employees, you will only take away from the good that each provides, and motivate them to be someone they are not.

You can't be someone else

No matter how hard you try, you simply cannot be someone else. Simply because someone else is successful by approaching situations in a certain way, doesn't mean

you will be too, especially if it's a new approach that you are not comfortable with. Their way is not inherently better simply because it's different from yours. Comparing yourself to others for any reason is energy that would be better served by improving yourself or focusing on your own work.

However, it's useful to keep an eye on how others perform. It helps you to learn from them.

This is especially valuable when you are new to a company, team, or project; in fact, you'll need to understand how things work and the typical processes before you consider a different approach or develop your own way of doing things. There's also an important difference between comparison and seeking information.

Performance

If you are a leader, it's your responsibility to foster a healthy environment that encourages growth among many workers and personality types.

Your employees should feel confident embracing their strengths and acknowledging their faults without worrying about being overshadowed by a team member.

Healthy competition is good in the workplace. It increases productivity and motivates workers to do their best. But if competitiveness interferes with your team's dynamic, it can do more harm than good. When people compete against each other, they often fail to work with each other



BIZ TALK with Kishu Gomes

Healthy competition is good in the workplace. It increases productivity and motivates workers to do their best. But if competitiveness interferes with your team's dynamic, it can do more harm than good. When people are competing against each other, they often fail to work with each other. Because of this, innovation often halts or slows.

Collaboration goes away, teamwork drops, and everyone tries to score points all by themselves. In this type of environment, productivity might increase in the beginning, but after some time, the culture becomes toxic and unsustainable. Instead, employers and employees alike should celebrate

strengths and pair up teammates who complement each other.

Instead, leaders should encourage high self-efficacy, which deals with a person's confidence to meet goals, respond to demands and become a better version of themselves.

To achieve this attitude from your team, you must be a leader who celebrates the individual strengths of each employee. This will motivate them to be the best version of themselves. It's a natural temptation to blame the past regime when entering organisations in disarray. Nobody knows better about the mess they are in than the people in it, much less about how it came to be. You are better off simply by making no references to the decisions or actions taken before your arrival.

Your best response when being baited to blame those who came before you, is to say, "We can't change what happened then, but we can change what we do going forward." People appreciate when you take the high road.

Unique gifts

Don't compare your talent to someone else's. We all have unique gifts. You can't do what someone else was put on this earth to do — and they can't do what you were put on this earth to do, either. No one has ever gotten a boost of confidence after comparing themselves to someone else. Even if you're using comparison as a way to feel superior, that type of comparison is rooted in insecurity, so the superior feeling isn't going to last long anyway. At the end of the day, comparison will simply make you feel empty.

And when you're running on E, you won't have the strength, boldness or courage you need to keep working towards your target — or believe that you can actually accomplish them.

The only person you should compare yourself to, is the you of yesterday. Any time you start to feel yourself spiraling into comparison, take the focus off the other person and put it on yourself.

Are you more focused at work than you were last week? Are you a better performer than you were last year? Did you deliver better numbers this year than you did last year? If the answer is yes, you're making progress — no matter what anyone around you is doing.

Elephant House partners Voice Teens Sri Lanka



Elephant House partnered the Voice Teens Sri Lanka, the newest reality show, which is also part of the 'The Voice Teens' global franchise.

Head of Frozen Confectionery at Elephant House, Vice President JKH, Sathish Rathnayake said, "We have a strong and genuine relationship with our consumers."

Partnering the Voice Teens global franchise drives brand recognition on a worldwide scale and helps to create joyous and memorable moments for our consumers.

It is also in line with our efforts to introduce innovative opportuni-

ties for fans to engage and connect with the brand."

Taking entertainment to the next level *Fun Eke Next Level Eka*, fans were provided a once in a lifetime experience to meet and greet contestants of the Voice Teens Sri Lanka.

The event titled 'Wonder Voice Teens Meet-up' enabled the show's admirers to not only meet the Voice Teens Sri Lanka stars but offered a enjoyable time including the audience participating in a sing-along with Voice Teens winner Hashen and stars Madhuvi, Adithya and Siyum.

Pelwatte Dairy launches garlic butter

Pelwatte butter is considered natural due to many reasons; one of them being that the butter is made from the fat in fresh milk without preservatives. Fresh milk contains about 4-5% fat and the butter production increases the fat percentage to 82% to 84%.

To control the fat percentage a standardisation process is used which is also another reason as to why Pelwatte Butter is considered all-natural, a spokesman for Pelwatte Dairy said.

Another interesting product in the Pelwatte range is garlic butter, which is widely used to make garlic fried rice and bread. The company expects to launch peanut butter in the future.

"As Pelwatte is a home-grown dairy brand, we have always tried to take a natural approach in the production process. As a brand we proudly stand for our contribution to help the island nation to reach self-sufficiency in milk, we are now working in full swing to reach this target in the post Covid-19 landscape, where local producers are gaining momentum. Our brand is



known for its unique and first of its kind products and flavours in the market.

As such they have been creating value for home and industrial use," said Managing Director, Pelwatte Dairy, Akmal Wickramanayake.

"Pelwatte Dairy is committed to uplift the standards of not only the dairy industry but also industries that we can directly or indirectly support as well. The culinary industry is a huge market for Pelwatte.

As such, Pelwatte produces both salted and unsalted butter varieties, and is sold in home-size and bulk packs," he said.

Ceylon Tobacco unveils new logo

Ceylon Tobacco Company PLC (CTC) unveiled its new corporate logo last week. CTC is one of Sri Lanka's oldest corporates with a significant presence in the island for over 114 years. It contributed Rs. 110 billion in excise duties and sales taxes to the Government last year.

The change in CTC's logo comes following British American Tobacco Group (BAT), the parent company of CTC, unveiling its new logo in March this year. BAT's new logo, along with the new brand identity, reflects the business today — with an evolved purpose that aims to reduce the health

impact of the business. A CTC spokesperson said, "CTC's new logo reflects our business and is aligned to the new logo launched by British American Tobacco earlier this year. For decades, our previous leaf logo served us well as a strong symbol of an entity that is a member of a world-leading tobacco

company. However, our purpose has evolved, and our dynamic new logo reflects the company as it is today, and is also a reflection of our journey ahead.

The new logo and brand identity will be rolled out across our business in the coming months."

Airtel Lanka appoints new CEO

Airtel Lanka appointed Ashish Chandra as its Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director recently. In his new role, Ashish has the mandate to accelerate Airtel's growth in the Sri Lankan market. Ashish has a degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Malviya National Institute of Technology and did his MBA from the Podar Institute of Management. He has also attended Leadership programs at IMD Business School, Lausanne; IIM, Ahmedabad; and the Indian School of Business, Hyderabad. Ashish brings with him over two decades of experience in the Indian telecommunications industry. Before joining



Ashish Chandra

Airtel Lanka, he was the Business Head and CEO, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, for Vodafone Idea Limited.

CILT Sri Lanka welcomes new Govt

Hopeful of a vibrant logistics sector

The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport Sri Lanka (CILT SL) conveyed its best wishes to the newly appointed Prime Minister and the Cabinet of Ministers.

Guided by the vision and leadership of President Gotabaya Rajapakse, it is the expectation of the Sri Lankan logistics and transport fraternity that the industry will play a key role in the progress of the country and the region. The Governing Council of CILT SL notes that the clear mandate given by the people would enable the new Government to drive the development agenda. CILT SL has been continuously focusing on promoting and advancing the logistics and transport industry while actively taking part in dialogues, deliberations and representations on matters of national importance. The membership of CILT SL comprises professionals from the industry, academia and the State sector, and collaboratively stimulates the development and growth of the national and regional



Channaka De Alwis

industry. Chairman of CILT SL, Channaka De Alwis said, "CILT SL is committed to enabling and empowering the workforce required to meet the demands of the logistics and transport industry through continuous professional training and dissemination of key knowledge areas. CILT SL looks forward to offering its expertise in best practices and sector expertise to all relevant sector ministries to create a stable and business friendly environment that would facilitate the progress of the national economy."

New appointments at ICTA board



Kushan Kodituwakku Oshada Senanayake Madu Ratnayake

Three new appointments have been made to the board of the Information Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka (ICTA). The new appointees are leading Sri Lankan tech personalities and include Virtusa Executive Vice President, CIO and General Manager Madu Ratnayake, Orange Electric Managing Director Kushan Kodituwakku and Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka Director General Oshada Senanayake.

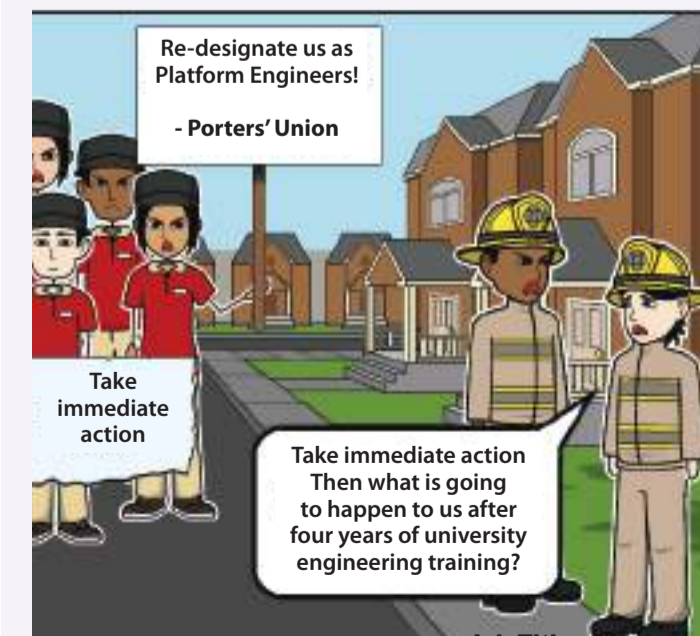
As the Group CIO and the Centre Head for Virtusa Sri Lanka, Madu Ratnayake is responsible for Virtusa's global digital strategy and Virtusa's Sri Lankan opera-

tions. Virtusa is a US publicly-traded global information technology (IT) services company. He is a Director of Sri Lanka CERT, the National Agency for Cyber Security. Kushan Kodituwakku is the Managing Director of Orange Electric (Orel Corporation), a manufacturer of electrical wiring accessories, exporting to over 25 countries with regional offices in Australia, Singapore, India, Dubai, UK and the USA.

Oshada Senanayake is the Director General of the Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka and is a board member of SLCERT, Sri Lanka's apex body for Cyber Security.

Everybody knows HR

'Better job titles can increase the dignity of labour.'



Re-designate us as Platform Engineers!
- Porters' Union

Take immediate action

Take immediate action
Then what is going to happen to us after four years of university engineering training?

By Janaka Kumarsinghe

Whither MBAs: Rigour, relevance and results

The MBA has always been a sought-after qualification among managers. It has been hailed as a competency builder on the one hand and hacked as a money spinner for mushrooming institutions on the other.

I read with interest the constructively critical insights by Dr. Rakesh Khurana on the elite Harvard MBA. It reminded me of Henry Mintzberg, the veteran management thinker who was also critical about the typical MBAs on offer.

On the local front, we launched the newest overseas MBA study group in Bahrain amidst the Covid-19 pandemic. During a pandemic, the role of managers becomes increasingly critical. All these prompted me to discuss the rigour, relevance and results in relation to a sound MBA program. Today's column attempts to shed light on these.

Overview

'From Higher Aims to Higher Hands' is the title of the treatise of Dr. Rakesh Khurana. He shows that university-based business schools were founded to train a professional class of managers in the mould of doctors and lawyers but have effectively retreated from that goal, leaving a gaping moral hole at the centre of business education and perhaps in management itself. He clearly calls for reforms in management education. His criticism of the Harvard MBA as a uni-polar MBA as opposed to being a multi-polar MBA is worth reflecting on.

According to Khurana, a uni-polar MBA trains managers to have lucrative careers in multinationals and large conglomerates. Instead a multi-polar MBA should prepare the candidates in becoming entrepreneurs, setting up SMEs in fostering innovation and partnerships in offering best-cost solutions. It gave me a sense of satisfaction, as the MBA we offer has the scenario of making one out of five of its recipient's entrepreneurs. In fact, we want to double this ratio through the initiatives of the Business Incubation Centre.

Criticism

"Management is a practice. And you learn management by practising management. Experience is critically important. You don't become a manager in a classroom and you certainly don't become a leader in a classroom. Leadership is earned on the basis of people who choose to follow you. It's not granted or anointed by some holy water granted in a school." These are the very words of Henry Mintzberg, Professor of Management, at the Desautels Faculty of Management of McGill University in Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

As observed by Harry Costin,



juggled two missions: Educating practitioners and creating knowledge through research. Fifty years ago, as explained in the 2005 HBR article 'How Business Schools Lost Their Way', business schools shifted their focus from the former to the latter.

Management became a science rather than a profession. This shift had profound implications. Business schools rewarded professors for publishing their research in academic journals, and their curriculum began to reflect the narrow focus of the faculty. Business school professors became increasingly disconnected from practising managers and leaders. By the mid-2000s, it became clear that business schools had swung too far in one direction.

"Mintzberg provides a useful distinction between business and management. He argues that MBAs teach the fundamentals of business functions, not the practice of management. What is lost in the discussion is that MBA literally means master of business administration, and therefore, even following Mintzberg's argument, the degree does not disguise what it is really about. In essence, the term MBA itself is viewed as a misnomer.

There is a wave of criticism of MBAs around the world. Especially after the global credit crunch and the collapse of giants led by MBAs, this negativity has gathered momentum. I myself have heard from CEOs lamenting that some of their MBAs know a lot of theory but sadly lack the practical approach in applying them into real issues.

Taking this issue into a broader perspective, an ongoing debate in the USA has even reached a point to say that MBA awarding business schools have an identity crisis. I am confident that we will not allow that to happen to us. Yet, it is better to be proactive than being reactive.

According to the Forbes magazine, Business schools have always

With rapid technological advancements, the need to have blended learning with the use of ICT tools is on the rise. Greater flexibility among students and high standards in institutions need to be maintained with proper balance. We have realised the need to ensure quality and relevance at all times.

It was Senior Consultant, PIM, Dr. Travis Perera who shared his thoughts many times on the dual aspects of MBAs. They are, in a way, consumers of PIM, receiving the education from us. At the same time they are co-producers of knowledge and skills. Hence the term borrowed from the marketing echelons, 'Consumer aptly demonstrates their nature.'

Whenever an MBA inauguration of PIM is held, it prompts me to go down memory lane. I indeed went through that transformational experience. As I started off as an Engineer and then switched over to management, I realised that the MBA would train the learner with a holistic view of a situation. In brief, the learner will enhance the functional knowledge through a cylindrical view to broad business knowledge through a conical view. This interconnectedness transforms the learner to appreciate other functions with a broader perspective or holistic view of the business.

A good MBA curriculum should consist of business realities, challenges, new ways of looking at issues and produce out of the box solutions. From my own experience at PIM by talking to the alumni of MBA holders the single biggest factor in what makes them stand out among fellow peers is the self-confidence they have gained in experimenting, creating, innovating new pathways and questioning the traditional way of doing things. As a result, the MBA inculcates a mindset to tackle issues in an innovative and integrated manner.

Simultaneously, having an MBA will enhance the market value of a

Oil palm ban:

Industry calls for talks with Govt

Appeals for permission to plant saplings already in nurseries

The Palm Oil Industry Association (POIA) has said in a statement that while it respects the decisions relating to the industry contained in the policy statement of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, it trusts that a pragmatic solution would be provided in respect of the oil palm saplings imported into the country following a Cabinet decision taken in 2014 by the government of President Mahinda Rajapaksa.

"We appeal to the President and the new government to take into consideration the substantial investments made by the plantation companies in response to the government decision at that time to expand the extent under oil palm cultivation to 20,000 Ha, and seek the President's intervention to permit planting of these saplings under the specified guidelines," the Association said.

It expressed dismay at the announcement on August 20 that "the plantation of palm oil trees will be stopped immediately," without an opportunity being provided to the industry to respond to the concerns purportedly behind the government decision.

"The campaign against oil palm cultivation in Sri Lanka is based on untruths we are surprised that the government has announced a ban on cultivation without an in-depth study of the Sri Lankan case, thereby overturning a well-considered decision taken by the government headed by then President Mahinda Rajapaksa, to proceed with a highly-regulated limited cultivation of oil palm," the Association said.

"Sri Lanka's oil palm cultivation is a case study for guilt-free palm oil, because all the lessons learnt from the mistakes of other countries have been implemented in the slow and measured expansion of oil palm cultivation over the past 50 years. There has been no deforestation, no habitat loss and no adverse environmental or climate impacts scientifically attributable to the crop," the statement said. "On the contrary, in areas of the Southern Province where oil palm have been grown for decades, the experience has been that rainfall has increased, and the oil palm absorbs more carbon from polluted air."

It pointed out that in India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently took a policy decision to cultivate one million hectares of oil palm after a study of the crop's benefits.

"We are also puzzled by the rationale implicit in the government's statements that the ban on cultivation of oil palm is to promote cultivation of coconut. It has always been the plantation sector's position that diversification of crops does not have to be at the expense one crop, as that would defeat the very purpose of diversification," the POIA statement said, pointing out that the original government decision to permit the cultivation of up to 20,000 ha of oil palm would never threaten the expansion of coconut or any other cultivation, considering that the extent already under coconut is approximately 450,000 ha.

"We do not see any conflict between the cultivation of up to 20,000 Ha of oil palm and the expansion of the extents under coconut," the Association said.

Chamber Academy hosts webinar on digital payments

The Chamber Academy of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce in partnership with Facebook conducted an informative webinar on Digital Payments last week.

The Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL) declared 2020 as the Year of Digital Transactions. However, with the impact of Covid-19, this theme is even more relevant as businesses are now adopting more digital models for survival and growth.

The panel discussion focussed on how digital pay-

ments can be further facilitated, how it can be integrated into systems, enhancing the role of digital wallets and how SMEs can grow in this payment ecosystem.

The panel included Director Payments and Settlements of CBSL, D. Kumaratunge, CEO, Lanka Clear, Channa de Silva, Legal Director of ICTA, Jayantha Fernando, Public Policy Manager, Sri Lanka, Senura Abeywardena. The session was moderated by MD and CEO, Cargills Bank, Rajendra Theagarajah.

HNB Piliyandala customer centre moves to new facility

HNB PLC reopened its newly relocated Piliyandala Customer Centre at Moratuwa Road, Piliyandala.

Open for business every weekday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., the bank's spacious new premises will feature a complete spectrum of banking products and services and will be home to a new Priority Circle Unit, HNB's premier banking advisory service. The state-of-the-art customer centre is designed to offer customers in and around Piliyandala a new paradigm in banking services.

The customer centre was opened by HNB Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, Dilshan Rodrigo. Kesbewa Divisional Secretary, K. P. Pemadasa and senior representatives of the

bank including HNB Assistant General Manager, Network Management, Vinodh Fernando, HNB Regional Business Head, South Western Region, Mahinda Seneviratne and HNB Regional Credit Head, South Western Region, Sothiratnam Mathanan were also present.

HNB Executive Director Dilshan Rodrigo said, "I have witnessed first hand the remarkable development which speaks volumes of the enterprising nature of the people of Piliyandala who have made the area one of the most sought after locations in Colombo to work and live in. We are delighted to say our customer base across retail, corporate and SME business in the area, has increased significantly."



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The PIM pioneered the Master of Business Administration (MBA) programme in Sri Lanka, and in the past thirty plus years has produced 300 plus CEOs, 3000 plus Senior Managers and 30000 plus trained professionals.

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PROGRAMME OPTIONS

- **Weekday:** Three evening sessions per week (5.45 pm - 8.45 pm)
- **Weekend:** Three, three hour sessions on Saturday (8.00 am - 5.00 pm).

APPLICATIONS

Applications for admission to the two-year MBA degree programme (Colombo) will be accepted up to October 28, 2020.



HOW TO APPLY

A copy of the Programme Handbook could be obtained from the PIM office free of charge or could be downloaded from the PIM website. Application must be submitted online through the PIM website: www.pim.sjp.ac.lk/apply



Participants can win three Ph.D. scholarships per year from the University of New South Wales, Australia.



Nation's Management Mentor

Business

BOC records satisfactory results in 1H

The Bank of Ceylon (BOC) concluded the first half of the year again earning industry leadership in terms of assets, deposits, advances and revenue.

Despite the challenging economic conditions, the Bank has reported the highest industry growth rates in revenue, deposits and advances for the first half of the year. The revenue of the Bank for the period was Rs. 118.3 billion, an YoY increase of 2.4%. The Bank reported a Profit Before Tax of Rs. 6.9 billion and Profit After Tax of Rs. 5.8 billion for 1H-2020 notwithstanding the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic.

However, the Bank's net interest income showed 18% decrease YoY mainly due to accounting for the day one loss on Covid-19 moratorium and increase in interest expense in line with growth of the deposit base. Due to the stability and trust earned from the public, the Bank experienced more deposits coming to the Bank given the instability created in the

market due to pandemic related economic disruptions, causing interest expense to rise.

The impact of the moratorium was accounted against the interest income based on the modification method given in the Sri Lanka Financial Reporting Standard (SLFRS) and the resultant day one loss of Rs. 6.0 billion has been adjusted to interest income.

Operating expenses contracted by 7% YoY. Many cost controlling and rational approaches in expense items were adopted in this extraordinary situation. However, the Bank had to make an impairment charge of Rs. 14.7 billion for the loans and advances by accounting for a significant increase in credit risk.

Despite all these challenges the Bank's asset base grew by 11% to Rs. 2.7 trillion, backed by a 14% surge in the loan book. The Bank's loan book stood at Rs. 1.8 trillion and Government and private sector lending have contributed to this growth.



Acting General Manager
D. P. K. Gunasekera

The Bank's deposit base which represents 23% of the industry increased during 1H, 2020, despite the low interest rates prevailing in the market.

The Bank's deposit base of Rs. 2.2 trillion represents 32% of Current and Savings deposit (CASA) base which generates funds at low costs. This reflects the trustworthiness built

in the customer mind regarding BOC as the market leader.

The Bank has reported an NPA ratio of 5.35% for 1H, 2020 demonstrating its robustness in monitoring and recovery measures of loans and advances even in a traumatic situation.

The Bank's role in passing the benefits of the moratorium and the special low interest working capital loan announced by the CBSL to facilitate the revival of the Covid-19 hit businesses and individuals is also unparalleled and commendable considering that it is the bank with the largest customer base with over 13.7 million accounts.

Although the period under review is the most challenging period in the recent decade faced by all economies around the world and that Sri Lanka is no exception, the Bank through its half year performance has showcased its resilience and the stability to withstand any extraordinary and challenging circumstances.

Hemas FMCG Shield soap helps protect children

Shield, the anti-bacterial and germ killing health soap launched by Hemas FMCG recently has again joined the nation's journey in combating Covid-19.

Hemas FMCG successfully completed a range of initiatives during the past few months; a large quantity of Hemas FMCG personal care items including Shield products were donated to the Army for use in the Quarantine Centres, Shield hand sanitiser packs were distributed to officers-in-charge of the National Hospital of Sri Lanka, Colombo North Teaching Hospital in Ragama and District General Hospital, Negombo, while a large quantity of Shield soap packs were also presented to the Navy General Hospital, Welisara for use by frontline staff.

Hemas FMCG acknowledges the importance of supporting children return to education and normalcy by reopening schools in a phased manner. Authorities have also

emphasised the habit of regular hand washing with clean water and soap in playing a crucial part in ensuring school communities have a safe and Covid-19 free environment.

Director Marketing at Hemas Manufacturing, Fiona Juriansz Munasinghe said, "Many parents are concerned about sending their children back to school. Our donation of Shield soap will provide schools the support to instill confidence in the parents and children that every possible effort is being made to ensure they can learn in a safe environment while keeping themselves protected."

Sales Director at Hemas Manufacturing, Subir Chowdry said, "As a local company we are dedicated to supporting the nation and are fully geared to provide assistance to the Education Ministry in their endeavours to help children return to school."

Frostaire launches Cool Clinic

Frostaire Industries (Pvt) Ltd., is celebrating 40 years of providing air conditioning and refrigeration solutions to homes and industries across the country.

In commemoration of this milestone, the company will launch Frostaire Cool Clinic, an additional service, offering free inspection and technical advice to customers on any of their appliances and systems.

"From its inception, Frostaire has been pioneering advanced comfort solutions to keep people relaxed in their homes, productive at work, and keep food cool and safe," said Managing Director of Frostaire, Mukthar Marikkar. "We have always prioritised our clients in our ongoing commitment to pursuing innovative solutions, and we hope to continue on this upward trajectory always with our core values and tenets on board."

From humble beginnings in 1980 as a refrigerator and airconditioning manufacturing and repair company, Frostaire picked up on global trends often being the first to introduce services, solutions, and brands to the local market.

Remembered for introducing retail ice to the country under the name 'Frosty Ice', Frostaire was also the first to locally manufacture cold rooms and freezer trucks.

From small-scale, single unit air-conditioners and refrigerators for the home, to commercial refrigerated warehousing, storage, and transport - for perishable food, beverages, and medicines - to facilitate for efficient cold chain management, Frostaire has earned for itself a reputation as an efficient and reliable distributor of quality comprehensive cooling solutions, a company spokesman said.

TEA MARKET REPORT

SALE NO.33 AUGUST 25-26, 2020

■ This week's auction (Sale No.33) was conducted on the 25-26, August with an offer quantity of 6.2 m/kgs. The Low Grown Leafy/ Semi Leafy/ Tippy and Small Leaf/ Premium Flowery catalogues totalled 2.8 m/kgs, while Main Sale High and Medium category amounted to 0.7 m/kgs. The Ex-Estate catalogue had 0.8 m/kgs; a drop of almost 0.1 m/kgs from the previous auction.

■ Ex-Estate teas: There was an improved demand as the sale met with improved demand as the sale progressed. A range of the brighter western BOP's were firm to Rs. 20 dearer, while at the lower end prices were barely steady. The better western BOPF appreciated up to Rs. 20 whilst others were firm to a little dearer. Seasonal Uva BOP/BOPF gained substantially following special interest. CTC PF1's from the High and Medium elevations were firm and selectively dearer. There was more widespread demand from Hong Kong, China and other Far Eastern markets, while Japan was mainly focused on the top-quality teas, and in particular the improved teas from the Uva/Uda Pussellawa. Buyers for Europe displayed only limited interest while the 'Tea Bag' buyers for Russia were active.

■ There was pair demand for low grown. Stylish OP1's were firm to dearer while cleaner OP/OPA's were fully firm to dearer, though secondary teas were barely firm. Good demand continued in the semi leafy category, with BOP1's ruling firm and Pek/Pek1's fully firm to dearer. In the Tippy Catalogue, well made FBOP's were again a little easier as were their corresponding FBOPF1's, while secondary teas were about firm. There was sustained demand from Saudi Arabia, Libya, Jordan, Kuwait and the UAE while Iran was more selective. Russia, the CIS and Turkey were also active for their favorite buying standards.

■ This week's auction comprised 10,861 lots totalling of 6,217,852 kgs.

■ The catalogue-wise breakdown was as follows:-

	Lot	Qty. (Kgs)
Low Grown Leafy	2,003	884,167
Low Grown Semi Leafy	1,637	837,251
Low Grown Tippy	1,931	1,036,775
High and Medium	1,468	728,141
Off Grade/BOP1A	2,212	1,333,468
Dust	464	455,758
Premium Flowery	415	8,216
Ex-Estate	731	864,076
Total	10,861	6,217,852

Crop and weather from August 17-23, 2020

■ **Western/Nuwara Eliya Regions:** The Western and Nuwara Eliya regions reported bright weather with showers experienced during the latter part of week. According to the Department of Meteorology, light showers are expected in the Western Region in the week ahead. **Uva/Udapussellawa Regions:** Bright weather was reported in the Uva and Udapussellawa regions in the beginning of the week, while rains were reported towards the end of the week. The Department of Meteorology forecasts showers/thundershowers during the week ahead. **Low Growns:** Clear weather was reported throughout the week. Light showers are forecast in the Ruhuna and Sabaragamuwa regions in the week ahead.

■ **Crop Intake:** All regions experienced a decrease in the crop intake.

Source: Lanka Commodity Brokers Ltd

Insurance... Continued from page 25

do people have enough insurance policies and do they have a proper comprehensive cover which will provide the breadwinner and his or her dependents the compensation they expect? The lack of an adequate cover due to the income level and affordability of people has created an insurance gap which the industry will need to bridge with more convenient and innovative products that will suit the earning capacity of insurance policy seekers.

"The industry will come up with new strategies to increase penetration among the low income segment with new distribution models," Rajapakse said.

This year's Insurance Day which is to be held for the fourth consecutive year will be a virtual event to raise insurance awareness. "In the past we have been conducting on ground activations to propagate the concept of insurance on life and general, organised by the Marketing and Sales Forum

(MSF) with the industry players," Rajapakse said, adding that this year the industry will not be conducting on ground promotions organised by the MSF due to restriction on the gathering of crowds. However, he said each company will have their own activities that will be carried out throughout September. Public Relations and digital tools will be used to create awareness.

The government declared September 1 as the National Insurance Day in 2017. Since then the day has been marked each year with a series of events across the country organised by the MSF. Activations in the past years took place in Colombo, Kandy, Kurunegala, Jaffna, Ratnapura, Anuradhapura and Matara hosted by the insurance industry players. The day's events are marked by the presence of insurance advisors of companies who help in raising awareness.

The declaration of September 1 as National Insurance Day, which took

place last year was a significant milestone for the industry.

National Insurance Day has helped reduce dependency on the Government to provide relief and compensation to victims of natural catastrophes.

The declaration is expected to help increase the sector's contribution to the GDP. Insurance sector representatives have been emphasising the need to provide comprehensive protection for all lives and assets. Industry experts note the current increase in life expectancy shows us that people are becoming more health conscious.

However, insurance penetration which is reflected by the insurance premium as a percentage of GDP amounted to 1.26 percent in 2018.

The level of disposable income and negative perceptions on insurance and social security benefits have negatively impacted the growth of the insurance sector over the years.

Reviving tourism... Continued from page 25

10 million visitors per annum will boost economic growth. "With dwindling foreign reserves and ever increasing State burdens, the need to revive the tourism industry is vital for the economy.

On one side, the State is confronted with meeting huge costs to keep the public sector alive. State employees' salaries, cost of health-care and education, public transport and numerous social subsidies to meet the needs of the underprivileged sections of society are some of the major challenges which could be addressed through a stable and solid inflow of foreign exchange," Dr. Doering said.

Earnings from the tourism industry and foreign remittances were severely affected since March this year due to the global pandemic that resulted in the number of tourist arrivals dropping by around 70 percent in March and since then recording no arrivals due to the closure of airports.

"Servicing debts owed to international lenders as such from the World Bank, the IMF and others are set to be another herculean task to be tackled.

The decision of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa not to seek funds from international bodies is the right decision, since one of the tendencies of these lenders is to include terms embedded in collateral conditions which for example affect social or food subsidies. This can be detrimental to social peace and harmony.

He said creating investment opportunities can be a way out but cannot be realised in a short period. We must take a cue from Vietnam, which started tourism almost at the same time as Sri Lanka aiming to reach 11 million in annual tourist arrivals, after already enjoying over 10 million in the number of tourist arrivals in recent times.

"The infrastructural set up in Sri Lanka is a challenge, but neighbouring countries have shown that developing it is possible if there is will to drive development.

China built complete turnkey airports in eight months. If Sri Lanka needs to cater to 10 million annual tourist arrivals it needs new airports as an essential infrastructure element. Roads and transportation have to be improved. The network of high-

ways in the country which enables reaching all corners of the island in a short time is commendable.

He said incentives should be provided to the SME sector tourist businesses to increase accommodation in one, two and three-star hotels.

"Steps should be taken to promote home stays. Social bonding is a vital promotional aspect to ensure repeats of visitors and home staying plays a major role in this sector.

Enabling the SME to participate in the creation of new accommodation facilities should be encouraged by the government," he said, adding that promoting sports tourism will help attract large numbers to the country.

Promoting sport tourism usually centers on individual sports such as golfing, wind and kite surfing, diving, marathons or Iron Man events and hiking. The events are organised by National Sports Associations or other interested groups with the aim of listing individual sports persons to participate in these events. The number of participants differs from sport to sport.

Team sports is a segment which should not be underestimated. Ger-

many, for example has a large number of sports clubs listed under the National Sports Association (NSA) with over 30 million active members in over 40 kinds of sports.

Addressing the lower and middle standard clubs to engage in sports programs with Sri Lanka's national teams, club and mercantile teams had been the subject for the Asian-German Sports Exchange Program for the past 30 years. With rather limited marketing, over 5,000 Germans visited Sri Lanka to take part in reciprocal sports exchange programs with their Sri Lankan counterparts.

Since most of the German participants had been first time to Sri Lanka travellers' a significant number of repeaters were registered in the years after the sporting events.

The newly appointed Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa witnessed this program which could be extended not only to Germany but to many other nations.

Cricket and rugby teams being invited to take part in sports exchange programs would be beneficial to Sri Lanka's sports scene and to the hospitality sector.

COSMI to... Continued from page 25

"We will be signing a MoU to affiliate a newly formed institution of women entrepreneurs. Around 107,000 women entrepreneurs will be linked to COSMI through the initiative," Rajabdeen said, adding that COSMI will initiate livelihood programs to generate employment opportunities while reviving sick industries.

Rajabdeen said that an advisory committee of COSMI will help link industries with financial institutions to obtain low cost capital for industrial development.

"Unregistered micro and small industries need to be registered at regional level to be eligible to obtain low cost funding," he said, adding that the Confederation is keen to help agri-based industries, animal husbandry, light metal, plastic recycling and other small industries.

MSMEs have welcomed the decision of the Government to extend the bidding deadline for

loan infusion. "Due to the lockdowns, MSMEs faced collapse. We welcome the government's life support to MSMEs by giving working capital loans at 4% interest. However, due to logistical disruptions, many MSMEs were unable to join this scheme. We thank the Government for realising their plight and extending the *Saubhagya* deadline which is a critical relief by itself," said Rajabdeen.

"The supply chains and cash-flows of MSMEs have been severely disrupted by lockdowns. Following lockdowns, MSMEs in sectors such as apparel, processed foods, and handlooms are making a slow comeback while MSMEs in other sectors such as tourism and footwear and leather may take more time. We praise the Central Bank for extending the application deadlines," Rajabdeen said.

The loans to be granted under the *Saubhagya* (Prosperity) Loan

Scheme as a 'Covid-19 Renaissance Facility' will be made available to MSMEs in manufacturing, services, agriculture, construction, self-employment businesses and individuals and the businesses in the sectors of tourism, exports and related logistics suppliers. Financial institutions are to grant a working capital loan facility to eligible performing and non-performing borrowers not exceeding two months' working capital needs and to be repaid over two years at an interest rate equal to 4% p.a.

"The Monetary Board decided to extend the deadline of the 4% Working Capital Loan Scheme on August 19.

Covid-19 affected businesses and others can submit their loan applications under the *Saubhagya* Covid-19 renaissance facility to licensed banks until September 30, 2020," the Central Bank stated on August 21.

NBFIs: Mergers... Continued from page 25

The Finance Company, a long standing and reputed financial entity in the country.

"The Non Bank Supervision Department of the Central Bank is working on the consolidation program which will be finalised shortly to merge ailing entities," the Governor said.

Central Bank Deputy Governor H. A. Karunaratne at the monetary policy review meeting last week said the bank has a comprehensive program to help ailing financial institutions which are a burden on the economy.

"Our plan is to consolidate and have mergers between strong and weak entities," he said.

The master plan to restructure ailing establishments is being finalised and will be presented to the Monetary Board for approval soon," a senior official of the Central Bank said.

The plan will then be discussed with the stakeholders for approval.

The regulator has been saying that it wants to limit the number of non-bank financial institutions to

around twenty from the current 46 finance companies and leasing companies.

The Central Bank also stated that the Micro Credit Act will be replaced with a new Act for better regulation of the microcredit sector.

According to reports, around 175 people, especially women, had committed suicide being unable to repay loans taken from unregulated micro lenders.

The recent death in the North was that of a 51-year old woman who took her life due to threats from a micro lender to repay the loan.

The economy contracted by 1.6 percent in the first quarter this year contrary to the expectations of the Central Bank.

As per the indicators, the adverse impact of the pandemic on economic activity during the second quarter is likely to be substantial. However, it was questioned that the first quarter performance could have been better since the covid-19 pandemic affected the economy in the first quarter for barely 10 days.

Peerless value of sales forecasting

by
Hemantha Kulatunga



Sales forecasting is easy to calculate, simple math that is immensely useful to any marketing organisation irrespective of size. It is not guessing the future correctly but making assumptions on management of the future revenue of the organisation.

This important act not only sets goals for the marketing and sales teams but also provides useful information for manufacturing and or importing products. An organisation can effectively do budgeting and management of the finances along with many other tasks by reviewing and revising forecasts regularly.

The sales forecast of the organisation can be considered the backbone of the business. Whether the organisation is small, medium, and large or a conglomerate, the success and the growth are measured by its revenue, predominantly based on sales.

The trend in Sri Lanka is that almost all large scale organisations are engaged in sales forecasting while most of the smaller organisations virtually neglect this important practice.

This happens mainly due to the unawareness of the significance of the information generated through sales forecasting. If entrepreneurs can be made to understand that the set of numbers created by the forecast is the key to the short term planning and preparations, every single person willingly does sales forecasting.

Key benefits

Before discussing the methods, let us look at some of the key benefits if a sales forecast is created for a marketing company. Main among them is that a sales forecast is the foundation of the planning process in any revenue-generating organisation. The rationale of sales forecasting is to plan to achieve the anticipated sales volumes, which is the lifeline of the company. The sales forecast is the first guideline for an organisation. The rest of the activities can be planned based on the forecast.

Companies that practise forecasting allocate resources in functional areas usually by using data derived from sales forecasts. For example, a production unit can use these forecasts to make production schedules and quantity requirements. Similarly, finance can use it to set budgets and make cash flow projections that are immensely useful. HR uses them to determine future recruitment on the information provided and marketing can make use of the data provided to allocate resources to various marketing functions.

Another key benefit from sales forecasting is the assistance provided to the all-important sales management function and the sales success of the organisation. Good sales forecasts provide information where the customers are located and predict their buying levels and patterns. It also helps setting up territories, determining sales

goals, and comparing the performance of the individual sales people.

More benefits

There are many more benefits with a proper sales forecast. Important among them is the facilitation it provides for purchasing, logistics, and inventory control, all that is connected to the general functioning of the organisation. In the matter of sales, the forecast assists in the expansion of business activities and diversification. A good sales forecast can set standards for sales and monitor actual results effectively. The forecast can also be helpful to coordinate various external factors.

Forecasting can be done with either complex mathematical formula which is practised by large companies with production facilities. However, as for the Sri Lankan market, simple, easy-to-understand and pragmatic forecasting methods are adequate. Let us look at a few simple forecasting methods available for small and medium-size business enterprises.

Using 'Executive opinion' is probably the oldest, but an effective way to do a good forecast. Usually, a team of seniors in the organisation engage in this exercise. The selected executives should possess a good knowledge about market factors.

They get together and create a set of figures for future sales in a specified period, based on their experience. The collective experience is pooled together to develop figures for the forecast. Although the figures may not be accurate in the absence of actual data, this is probably the simplest and the quickest method to start with.

'Salesforce opinion' is a straightforward and easy method of forecasting sales. Under this, salesmen are used to make estimates in their territories.



The sales forecast of the organisation can be considered the backbone of the business. Whether the organisation is small, medium, and large or a conglomerate, success and the growth are measured by its revenue, predominantly based on sales

They get in touch with customers and prospects and obtain their opinion to make estimates on demand trends.

The information can be processed and integrated to fathom the sales volumes of the whole market for the target period. Even though a broad outlook is absent, this method provides more information in terms of products, territories, customers, and selling situations.

A combination of the 'executive opinion' and 'sales force opinion' methods can provide a more effective and more accurate sales forecast when

the information, experience, and ground-level facts are shared. It also can give better control over the sales force opinion which can be subjective.

'Past sales' analysis or historical data method is another valuable uncomplicated system for a sales forecast unless the products are newly introduced to the market. This method is based on personal judgments of the team or individual. Past sales figures are mathematically accurate, and statistical and quantitative formulas can be deployed to calculate future sales.

Usually, the previous year's sales are extended to the following year and

the forecasting can be done monthly adding reasonable percentages to the past year's performance.

Companies can use 'Expert opinion' by way of research by a consultancy agency if such an organisation is willing to spare a substantial amount of funds. This is typically somewhat more expensive than in-house efforts. Although this exercise can be expensive, these agencies possess specialised expertise in the respective fields.

They conduct market research and compile statistical data. They collect market and other important data from the actual market, obtain first-hand field information of various sources, and prepare sales forecasts. The demerit is that the success of the forecast depends on the competency of the deployed experts.

Several other forecasting methods are used by companies around the world, such as 'Test Marketing', 'Consumer Buying Plan', 'Market Factor Analysis', and statistical methods.

Having discussed the benefits and the methods of the forecast, one must realise that there are limitations in sales forecasting as well.

The economic conditions of the country and the territory can change without warning. The best example is the recent Covid-19 pandemic where all forecasts and predictions were forced to be readjusted. Forecasts can also be spoiled by sudden changes in government policies.

The recent government decision to restrict or ban a series of selected products is a good example. Besides, the entry of formidable competitors can lead to adjustments in sales forecasts. Advancement of technology also can make forecasts obsolete as the products can be chased out from markets.

Record performance by LOLC

LOLC's first quarter results for 2020/21, recorded the highest ever PAT of Rs. 37.2 bn compared to Rs. 5.6 bn recorded in June 2019. The sale of its Cambodian investment in PRASAC to South Korea's largest Commercial Bank - Kookmin Bank, was concluded in April for US\$603 mn.

The Group received the first tranche of US\$ 422 mn, with the balance of US\$181 being due in 2022. The Group recorded a gain of Rs. 43 bn from the sale. LOLC made its maiden investment outside Sri Lanka, acquiring an 18% stake in PRASAC in 2007 and gradually increased its stake to 70% in 2017. With the concluded transaction,

LOLC will continue to hold a 21% stake in PRASAC.

The top line of the Group grew to Rs. 32 bn, a 12% growth over last year. The interest income from its financial services businesses recorded an increase of 16% to reach Rs. 22 bn. However, the economic and business challenges arising from the Covid-19 pandemic, increased pressure on the financial services sector, with increasing NPLs. The Group made conservative provisioning for bad and doubtful debts, a Rs.10 bn being set aside for this purpose. The trading sector revenue increased marginally. Both insurance businesses recorded strong growth in

the three months compared with the corresponding period last year. The higher level of provisioning along with fixed costs and marginal increases in operating expenses which continued throughout the period of lockdown, caused the operating businesses to record a negative result of Rs. 4.7 bn compared with a positive Rs. 1Bn, last year.

The Group's lending portfolio of the financial businesses outside Sri Lanka showed strong growth over the last year while the local companies recorded marginal growth, following a period of subdued economic activity, political instability and the impact

from moratoriums granted to distressed clients due to the pandemic.

The Group will continue to follow a conservative provisioning policy despite seeing a positive trend in client engagement for collections, with businesses gradually resuming their operations after a period of lockdown.

"Despite the negative shocks arising from the lockdown and pandemic situation, we are hopeful that businesses will return to normalcy in the coming months with heightened economic activity arising from the strong recovery strategies adopted by the government," a spokesman for the company said.

Commercial Leasing and Finance records Rs. 1.5 b PAT

Commercial Leasing and Finance PLC (CLC) concluded FY2019/20 on an impressive note, consistently performing well year on year despite the extremely challenging events that marked the financial year.

CLC was reaffirmed as SL (A) stable by ICRA Lanka Limited, which guarantees trust, security and stability for its customers. During the year, CLC also became the first finance company in Sri Lanka to be granted a licence by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka for accepting micro savings through digital platforms.

CLC recorded Profit After Tax of Rs. 1,547 mn, an increase of 29% from Rs. 1,198 Mn in the previous year even as revenue declined marginally by %. Cost of funds reduced by 8% and overheads by 12%.

Non-Performing Loans (NPLs) for the year stood at 7.05%, whereas industry NPLs exceeded 11%. One of the key reasons for the faster recovery of CLC after the Easter Sunday attacks in April 2019 was its portfolio, which consists of over 95% asset-backed

products that served to absorb any possible shocks. Executive Director/CEO of CLC Krishan Thilakarathne said, "Despite the tough operating conditions in the industry, CLC succeeded in sustaining its financial performance on par with the previous year whilst enhancing Profit after Tax figures. This was no mean feat considering the rise in NPLs across the industry."

"It will be a survival of the fittest - how companies manage internal and external stakeholder relationships, systems and processes, and leverage communication and branding, will determine how they come through this challenging period. Companies will not only have to build strong balance sheets, but might also have to challenge and question their business models, cost and overhead structures, and conventional revenue streams and capital adequacy to face this unprecedented disruption," he said.

The Chairman of CLC, Priyantha Fernando said, "What gives me pride is how CLC has sustained the previous



Priyantha Fernando

year's performance amidst a challenging 2019/20 by curtailing NPLs within reasonable levels and acquiring an 'A' Stable rating reaffirmed by ICRA Lanka.

"Many sectors in which our clients are engaged were affected due to the violence that ensued after the Easter Sunday bombings in April 2019. In most cases, the disruption of supply chains made it difficult for customers to recover their livelihoods. Neverthe-



Krishan Thilakarathne

less, our experience of handling tough situations came to the fore. Since the Company had the digital and physical infrastructure and trained staff to handle the crisis, we continued to provide uninterrupted services to clients, while ensuring the safety and health of staff and customers when the lockdown was lifted and 66 CLC branches opened their doors," he said.

CLC is a member of the LOLC Group.

NBFI sector: Reforms come under the spotlight

BY SANJEEWA BANDARANAYAKE

The Non-Banking Financial Institutions (NBFI) sector has evolved over the past years to become a strong force in the finance industry in Sri Lanka.

Unfortunately, the public only remembers NBFI's in the light of unethical practices of non-regulated finance companies. But NBFI's account for many heart-touching, unsung narratives while working with less privileged people and this sector has empowered many with financial assistance and has assisted in eradicating poverty.

The NBFI sector has laid the foundation for many people to become entrepreneurs. There are two segments within NBFI's - regulated and non-regulated, and recent years saw several issues and disputes related to non-regulated finance companies which is one of the main reasons for reforms to consolidate the sector.

Consumer Credit Act

An amendment is needed in the Consumer Credit Act which allows non-regulated finance companies and regulated finance companies to carry out hire purchase services. This situation has led to several issues over the past years, so enacting the proposed Money Lending and Microfinance Act and making it unlawful for any person or institution to engage in lending activities without being registered, is the ultimate solution for these long-standing issues.

Viability of regulations

As NBFI's specifically cater to the people at the bottom of the pyramid, SMEs and micro businesses, there is huge risk involved. The accounting rules, legal framework and Central Bank regulations need to tally and be interconnected with each other without relying primarily on strict regulations. This means the regulations need to be impartial to customers and finance companies and focus on mitigating the risk to both parties.

Favourable environment

The NBFI sector, large, medium and small, contribute to the economy. The present scenario offers an edge to large finance companies over medium and small companies which need to be addressed. Therefore, a favourable environment needs to be created where all finance companies irrespective of size and location are able to thrive. These reforms will also contribute to the economic revival of the country in the long run.

Grievance handling

Every finance company has a grievance handling process where customers can resolve issues by discussing with the officer mandated with the process. This is a formal process and finance companies are bound to investigate the issues put forward by customers. Customers can even complain to the CBSL if the finance company does not properly carry out investigations. This process will help many and avoid disappointment for customers if it is well maintained.

Financial Ombudsman

Another suggestion is to regionalise the Financial Ombudsman service to handle customer complaints and disputes. This service is currently available in Colombo. Therefore appointing Financial Ombudsmen to all other regions is of utmost importance. The Financial Ombudsman is a person of high repute with experience in banking and financial services. He is selected and appointed by a panel of representatives of the Central Bank, the Securities Exchange Commission, the Institute of Chartered Accountants, the Bar Association, the Organisation of Professional Associations and a representative of the participating financial institutions.

Regulated environment

In case of an issue faced by a customer who obtains a service from a non-regulated finance company, the customer has no power over the finance company, so the importance of a regulated environment again comes to the fore and it is important that people embrace the services of RFCs. If the environment is regulated the CBSL can intervene and make sure that the customer's issues are resolved. The reforms will further strengthen the NBFI sector and allow customers to obtain financial services, in the comfort of a regulated and safer environment.



The writer is the Senior DGM, Operations at People's Leasing & Finance PLC and has 28 years of experience in the finance industry.

Ceylon Cold Stores clinches leadership excellence awards

Ceylon Cold Stores PLC was awarded the 'A Company with Great Managers' and the 'Great Managers Awards 2020' by the Colombo Leadership Academy for Leadership Excellence recently.

Showcasing that Ceylon Cold Stores PLC has a successful ecosystem in nurturing great managers, Daminda Gamlath, President, Consumer Foods Sector, Non-Independent Executive Director of John Keells Holdings PLC received the 'A Company with Great Managers' award at the presentation ceremony.

The awards are in recognition of best practices undertaken by the organisation in nurturing great managers.

Daminda Gamlath said, "This is a momentous achievement to be recognised as an organisation that is synony-

mous in building managerial capability aligned with organisational goals."

Several senior managers of Ceylon Cold Stores secured prestigious individual awards resonating with high standards of performance and leadership within the organisation.

Duminda Gunawardena, Head of Manufacturing, Ceylon Cold Stores PLC, Assistant Vice President, John Keells Holdings PLC was the winner for the 'Team' category, Tharanga Dilhan, Manager Human Resources, Ceylon Cold Stores PLC was presented an award for the 'Alignment' category and Archchana Vekneswaran, Manager Marketing Planning and Strategy, Frozen Confectionery, Ceylon Cold Stores PLC was the winner for the 'Drive' category.



Head of Manufacturing, Ceylon Cold Stores, Assistant Vice President JKH, Duminda Gunawardena, Manager Marketing Planning and Strategy, Frozen Confectionery, Ceylon Cold Stores, Archchana Vekneswaran and Manager, Human Resources, Ceylon Cold Stores, Tharanga Dilhan were presented 'Great Managers Awards' at the Colombo Leadership Academy Great Manager Awards 2020.

Business



Some of the products



Manufacture of quality slabs using the latest technology



Pure Sri Lankan crystal stones become decorative slabs

Crystal Stone demonstrates recipe for international success

Pioneer quartz manufacturer enters a new era

BY PADMASIRI RAJAPAKSA

Most developed countries have reached their present level of progress by increasing the value of their mineral resources. Although Sri Lanka has no oil she is blessed with a variety of minerals including sand, graphite, lime, crystal stone, and clay used for producing ceramic.

Above all, this island has been famous since ancient times for its precious stones. The country was known as the Island of Gems. If we maximise the use of all these resources the country would have already been developed.

From Middle Eastern oil to iron in Great Britain, rich natural resources have been an essential precursor to wealth and economic growth worldwide. Considering this, it is unfortunate to see Sri Lanka's massive wasted potential. This island is truly blessed with a wealth of precious minerals that we have failed to effectively monetise on the global market, greatly hampering our capacity for economic development.

Looking from this perspective, quartz is undoubtedly one of Sri Lanka's most important minerals. With diverse uses ranging from flooring to kitchen and bathroom countertops, its popularity on the global market by interior designers is unmatched.

The global market for quartz countertops is currently valued at over \$89 billion, with growth expected to be \$110 billion by 2027. With Sri Lanka's enormous natural supply of quartz, one would imagine that we are placed to strategically exploit this huge market. Instead, Sri Lanka continues to import a majority of its quartz. This is largely due to the fact that the majority of Sri Lanka's quartz is exported in the form of quartz powder which is then

converted into proper slabs in countries such as India and China, then sold to the global market including Sri Lanka at an inflated price. The export of quartz powder reduces the amount of value addition in Sri Lanka and creates much fewer jobs. It also affects Sri Lanka's external balance by sending a high proportion of profits to overseas giants.

Seeing the calamitous wasted potential, Ruhunu Lanka Minerals became the first Sri Lankan company to launch the manufacture of quartz slabs locally, under the brand 'Crystal Stone'.

Ruhunu Lanka Minerals is affiliated to the Hansagiri Group of Companies and is known for other nationally renowned businesses such as Ruhunu Lanka Cement and Thilakma City.

Crystal Stone was founded with the dream of sparking a globally competitive quartz manufacturing industry in Sri Lanka to tackle exploitation by global giants. Crystal Stone currently has customers ranging from the United States of America to Australia, with massive growth in only two years of activity.

Managing Director of Ruhunu Lanka Minerals, Buddhika Kariyawasam, said, "Sri Lankan quartz powder is currently exported for a measly Rs.30 while our finished Crystal Stone slabs easily command over Rs.150 on the world market".

This is a value addition of over 400%. Crystal Stone directly employs over a hundred workers and has created hundreds of jobs in indirect employment locally. This directly improves living standards in the community and doesn't waste the potential of Sri Lanka's skilled labour.

Kariyawasam also stressed the importance of solidifying Sri Lanka's position in the global market by exploiting the rampant trade wars and diplo-

matic flares between the West and China.

He said, "Trump's trade war with China has left many US importers of quartz products without their usual suppliers, and they are looking for alternatives. Sri Lanka's stable diplomatic relations mean that we have a massive advantage when trading with the West as they can be assured of stable prices".

With this huge opportunity, Kariyawasam reminds that it is crucial for Sri Lankan manufacturing industries to weather the storm of Covid-19 so that it can reap huge economic rewards once global markets fully reopen.

Among the aims of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's vision of a prosperous Sri Lanka is to boost local industries and make us a stronger global competitor. For this vision to be realised, local industries must be supported.

Currently, Crystal Stone's primary issue is significant foreign competition in the local market. While Crystal

Stone slabs are of equal or better quality than foreign competition, the infrastructure advantage that Chinese and Indian manufacturers enjoy is significant.

Kariyawasam said, "While we have invested in the best quality European machinery and highly trained workers, we are currently unable to enjoy the economies of scale that Chinese manufacturers enjoy after decades of protection and subsidisation from the Chinese government."

"Importers also exploit Sri Lankan value-based duties by significantly undervaluing their stock and also importing extremely low-quality products into the Sri Lankan market with unacceptable durability," he said.

It is sad to see anti-competitive behaviour of this nature taking place in the Sri Lankan market.

Kariyawasam said that a per-kilogram would be much more effective to reduce the effects of undervaluing goods. Crystal Stone also calls for a

temporary ban on the import of quartz slabs to help establish the industry firmly in Sri Lanka.

The Sri Lankan countertop market is currently heavily dependent on granite, a far inferior product to quartz in terms of quality. Crystal Stone slabs are waterproof, heat resistant, scratch and stain-resistant, and far more durable and easy to clean than granite. This is due to the engineered nature of the surface and the quality Sri Lankan 99.9 per cent pure crystal quartz.

Kariyawasam said many Chinese manufacturers use very low-quality quartz powder to reduce costs, creating a far inferior product. Ultimately, the global shift towards products such as Crystal Stone is clear, with 87% of interior designers in a US survey opting for quartz countertops over granite. Crystal Stone products have a sleek, modern aesthetic and come in a range of colours and styles to suit everyone's tastes.

Crystal Stone is at heart a community-focused company. Its primary factory is on a 22-acre plot of land in Ranthotuva, Elpitiya, in the Southern Province.

Painstaking efforts have been tak-

en to build the factory in the midst of a large rubber plantation to ensure it causes no sound pollution and dust pollution to nearby communities.

A complex rainwater recycling system also ensures that over 100,000 litres of water daily is recycled and reused in the production process. In sourcing pure quartz, Crystal Stone employs small scale methods where the crystal is mined by hand, significantly minimising damage to the environment. "Chinese and Indian quartz miners use large machinery that destroys the landscape and does irreversible damage to the environment," said Kariyawasam. "Our method ensures that we run an environmentally sustainable operation".

The crystal powder that is a by-product of the Crystal Stone slabs is also used to make pebbles, known for their popularity as a home decoration. Crystal Stone employees are also exclusively hired by from local rural community and are given world-class training to ensure efficiency. Kariyawasam said that a motivated workforce is the keystone to a successful firm and strives to consistently improve staff welfare.

Crystal Stone has demonstrated that it holds the recipe for international success, a high-quality product, sustainable manufacturing processes and access to a vast network of skilled labour and precious raw materials. It's a call to action is that the government impose a six-month ban on quartz slab imports to help it weather the Covid-19 storm, allowing it to emerge a more serious global competitor with local market support in the near future.

If Sri Lanka is to enjoy true economic prosperity, supporting local industries is essential and Crystal Stone embodies the spirited Sri Lankan innovation that must be embraced.

The export of quartz powder reduces the amount of value addition in Sri Lanka and creates much fewer jobs. It also affects Sri Lanka's external balance by sending a high proportion of profits to overseas giants



Employees of the company

FITIS Education and Training Chapter to focus on digital education

Vajira Karunaratne appointed President

The Federation of Information Technology Industry Sri Lanka (FITIS), the apex body of the ICT industry, appointed Vajira Karunaratne, an industry expert to head the Education and Training Chapter at the virtual AGM recently.

The newly appointed Exco members of the FITIS Education and Training Chapter Executive committee 2020/21 comprise President Vajira Karunaratne (IIT), Vice President Amila Bandara (ESOFT), Secretary Kanishka Manchanayake (Aim College), Treasurer Siyamala Sumanthiram (AAT), Assistant Secretary Sunimal Wickramasinghe (ACBT), Assistant Treasurer Sajeeva Ranasinghe (Gateway), Immediate Past President S. P. Romesh (Asian Business School) and Advisors Past Chairman FITIS and Past President E and T Chapter (Aims College) Dr. Kithsiri Manchanayake, Past President E & T Chapter (Metric Institute) Dr. Viraj Pinto, Past President, E & T Chapter, Upul Dasanayake and Exco Committee: ICBT, VTA, Amazon College and Infinity.

Karunaratne who plays a vital role to improve the standards and the quality of IT education in Sri Lanka said he aims at improving communication between the IT industry and IT educators to create quality IT professionals for the industry which will help minimise

the shortage of skilled workers in the industry.

Karunaratne stressed the need to boost the IT export income to over US \$ 5 billion within the next few years, a key target of the Government and the IT industry.

However, he said that the IT industry today is faced with a daunting task to expand business due to the shortage of skilled IT professionals.

"The irony is that in the present job market there are plenty of IT certificate holders without proper skill levels to match global needs. It is important to include a six to one-year internship to the diplomas and degrees offered by institutes to fine tune and enhance the skills of job seekers," Karunaratne said.

The Education and Training Chapter with over 30 educational institutes in Sri Lanka as FITIS certified members.

Karunaratne said that digital technology is developing fast and there is a high demand for IT professionals locally and internationally with high salary scales. All industries in the world are using IT digital technology to carry out their businesses. For any career path IT knowledge is necessary to carry out an individual's job role.

"We have noticed that many students, teachers and parents do not have a clear understanding of the



importance, opportunities and career paths in the IT industry. We conduct IT career guidance seminars, workshops and webinars with the Ministry of Education, ICTA and other professional IT bodies to educate youth of the importance of ICT and to encourage them to choose the ICT field as their career path.

The FITIS Youth Club is a brainchild of Karunaratne to build a platform for youth to obtain exposure to the ICT industry.

"Students and youth who are interested in IT can join the FITIS Youth Club and avail many benefits offered to them," he said, adding

that the Club conducts workshops, webinars to educate students. Members could join the volunteer club to work in FITIS initiated projects. The FITIS Youth Club is in the process of introducing a job portal.

The FITIS Education and Training chapter works closely with the Ministry of Education, National Institute of Education, Ministry of Higher Education, Ministry of Telecommunication, Digital Infrastructure, VTA, NAITA to improve the quality of IT Education and to ensure that the students who leave the Schools and other Educational Institutes are employable and will be able to contribute towards the economy of the country.

"I invite all IT educational institutes to team up with FITIS Education and Training Chapter to improve the quality of IT education and also to gain recognition and benefits through the participation in events organised by FITIS such as INFOTEL National IT Exhibition, Career Guidance seminars/ workshops for School students / Teachers, Networking sessions with Schools, Educational Institutes and Professionals in the IT industry to expand business opportunities.

FITIS acts as a mediator between members and the government on matters pertaining to members. It also provides members an opportunity to exchange views on matters affecting computer education and training," Karunaratne said.

Huawei co-sponsors e-Swabhimani awards



From left: Vice President, Huawei, Indika de Zoysa, Program Manager, ICTA, Indumini Kodikara, CEO, Huawei Sri Lanka, Liang Yi, Chairman, ICTA, Jayantha de Silva, CEO, ICT Mahinda B. Herath, CTO, ICTA, Hiranya Samarasekera and Deputy CEO, Huawei, Xiao Hua Ricardo.

Huawei are the co-sponsors of the e-Swabhimani 2020 - Digital Social Impact Awards program that recognises the excellence of the use of Information and Communication Technology tools and applications for social well-being.

e-Swabhimani is an initiative of ICTA, the apex ICT institution of the Government.

As a platform that hails 'catalytic innovation' for social change, e-Swabhimani appreciates digital solutions for the benefit of society.

"We expect that this national award program would stimulate a greater interest in the development of a wide range of digital applications that would serve the needs of the society," Chairman of the Information and Communication Technology Agency (ICTA), Jayantha de Silva said.

Aiming to felicitate fluid and intrigued social change e-Swabhimani 2020 calls for applications under several categories. The youth category has been introduced for those who are below 26. Along with the contribution to the society the applications will be evaluated for technical aspects and strategic aspects under each category.

Chief Executive of Huawei Sri Lanka Liang Yi said, "Sri Lanka's information and communications technology (ICT) sector continues to grow despite the pandemic, and the demand for skilled ICT talent is ever growing. We at Huawei hope to respond to this call to train and upskill ICT talent in collaboration with ICT industry partners such as ICTA with competitive advantage, and will continue to be a core driver of digital transformation in Sri Lanka."

Business

How Covid-19 changed the way we shop

BY AN E-COMMERCE CONVERT

The world had various types of shoppers. The shopaholics, the last minute shoppers, the weekly ones and the monthly hoarders, the thrifty ones who look to save every penny and the tech-savvy online shopper. However, when Covid-19 struck, we were all compelled to become the last one.

Although Sri Lanka has had e-commerce platforms around for a few years now it was a select few who patronised and really knew how to avail of the best benefits out of being able to shop with your fingertips. Not being able to step out of your house though made all the difference and most of us had to learn and rely heavily on essentials being delivered to us through these online websites.

To be quite honest, I was a sceptic pre-Covid, specifically with having to provide my debit card and other personal details. I am also one of those old fashioned people who need not only to see but touch and feel to make my purchases. Couldn't do any of that though earlier this year.

So getting down to my humble consumer analysis, I was like many others compelled to look for some method to ensure that my family was fed during the lockdown. When immediate curfew was declared my first option was to go with the big names and the need of the hour of course was groceries. So the large supermarket chains, it was.

But that was a horrific experience to say the least. With such a high demand most supermarket chains just couldn't keep up. On any other day it would have actually been funny to have people set their alarms for 5 a.m., make their coffee and sit by a PC to try and win the 'lottery' of being one of the lucky ones to be within the 'quota' for the closest outlet. Even if you managed to get in, chances were that the choices of items were limited and you had to make do with the bare minimum. Unfortunately for me, my closest outlet was constantly over quota and 6:01am was just too late!

Most supermarket chains also provided customers with a list of phone numbers to call and place orders. One chain had a process of calling and obtaining a WhatsApp



I found some start-up vendors who really delivered quality, quantity and efficiency where the bigger names in e-commerce failed. While some were overcharging and others were not even delivering orders, these small players stuck to basics and won the hearts of many

number and order ID to which you then sent in a hand-written grocery list with relevant details. After trying 159 times (I have the call log to prove it!), I got through and sent my order in. This was my first lockdown grocery shopping success story. My order was promptly delivered within 24 hours by two young women driving a mini truck and unloading goods by themselves (All hail girl power!). A few of the items were replaced with different brands but overall this was a win for me.

Soon though other smaller establishments and even the local *kadey* uncles were issued curfew passes and delivery of goods became essential services overnight.

Simultaneously, a genius of a person created a Facebook group for all sorts of requirements from groceries to meat and fish, medicines, gas, toiletries, baby items and a host of other stuff. This was such a lifesaver and the minute you posted your requirement, information was shared faster than lightning and people did what they did best in times of crisis, they responded to each other's needs.

Fruits and vegetables

Here I found some start-up vendors who really delivered quality, quantity and efficiency where the bigger names in e-commerce failed. While some were overcharging and others were not even delivering

orders, these small players stuck to basics and won the hearts of many.

Of all the fruit and vegetable vendors that found through the Facebook group, a woman in our neighbourhood, Tammy Vithana did a brilliant and affordable job with vegetable packs that were fresh, hygienically packed and delivered on time. For our fruit needs again it was an individual vendor under the name, Colombo Fruits and Vegetable Centre that came through. Both women operated via WhatsApp, sending in a list of available goods and accepted bank transfers as payment.

From among the little more advanced vendors and for added choice and convenience we found Celeste Daily to have the best range of fruits, vegetables and herbs via the PickMe and Uber apps. We also liked them for their sustainable packaging and the availability of goods that was not so easily accessible elsewhere.

Meats

With fresh and processed meat we needed to be extra careful with whom we ordered from so after a thorough search we found the most reliable. Again operating via WhatsApp flyers, these guys also added eggs and fresh milk to their repertoire and made prompt deliveries accepting bank transfers as well, making life so much easier.

Bread became such a luxury with

no 'ChoonPaan' uncles visiting and Finagle was our go to place during lockdown. Although you needed to buy in bulk we worked out requirements with our neighbours and ordered together so we saved time and money.

Other groceries

Shoppers.lk and Luxecolombo.com came up with an app and website respectively that moved away from their regular items and added essentials so as to cater to a wider customer base.

This worked great for us and the only qualm was that delivery areas and days were limited. But we could live with a few days.

Confectionaries

Although the order did get a few days late the children needed their snacks and one brand in particular had great affordable chocolate and nibbles packed together and sent over.

Baby items

Having a six-month-old at home meant the essentials list included lots of stuff that regular groceries would not stock.

Nesh.lk came through for us on this front with baby food, diapers and other essentials well stocked and delivered to our doorstep.

There were others delivering all sorts of things during the lockdown and from the looks of it the process of online buying is something people have not become a lot more familiar with. The vendors themselves are making our lives easier with new additions such as Celeste which have launched their own website which delivers to Colombo and the suburbs within a couple of hours and others who have expanded their delivery areas and made payments online more streamlined.

Overall buying habits have certainly changed. Although I still prefer to go back to my local supermarket and see, touch and feel before purchasing, I also feel more comfortable ordering online and feeling reassured that local start-ups in the e-commerce arena are really in it to make a difference in the way we shop.

Covid-19: IFC provides \$.5 b for Asia-Pacific region



As the pandemic continues to send shockwaves through the global economy, the IFC supported 13 companies in the region — over 190,000 employees in the manufacturing, agriculture, services and energy sectors

Colombo, Sri Lanka —Thousands of micro, small, and medium enterprises, and millions of farmers across Asia and the Pacific stand to benefit from the first phase of Covid-19 crisis response funding from IFC, a member of the World Bank Group.

As the pandemic continues to send shockwaves through the global economy, IFC supported 13 companies in the region — over 190,000 employees in the manufacturing, agriculture, services and energy sectors — with \$554 million in funding in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020. IFC also deployed \$492 million in Covid-19 related trade finance lines in the region. This has helped financial institutions provide liquidity to businesses dependent on trade, especially small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

About 17,500 MSMEs and corporates in the region are also expected to be among the beneficiaries of IFC's \$2 billion Working Capital Solutions (WCS) program in FY 2020. The aim of the program is to help emerging-market banks extend credit so that businesses can continue to operate, stemming job losses. IFC's first Covid-19 WCS program in Asia-Pacific was signed in Sri Lanka with the Commercial Bank of Ceylon to help over 1,200 SMEs — nearly 790 of them women led — deal with the crisis.

"The economic and social impact of Covid-19 will continue to exact a toll on people and businesses, leaving an indelible mark on the region's economies and private sector," said IFC's newly appointed Regional Vice President for Asia and the Pacific, Alfonso Garcia Mora. "To address this, we are stepping up efforts to support companies strengthening also our support to the financial sector so that businesses and firms can build resilience on the road to recovery."

The WCS program is part of IFC's \$8 billion global Covid-19 fast-track financing facility developed to help businesses cope with the ongoing global slowdown, marked by a collapse in tourism, plunging trade, disruptions to supply chains, and diminished foreign direct investment.

As an early rapid response when Covid-19 first began impacting Asia, IFC expanded trade financing limits for four banks in Vietnam by \$294 million to address, in advance, potential trade finance challenges. The move resulted in over 330 export

Sri Lanka and Maldives: \$175 million investment in John Keells Holdings (JKH) to expand its supermarket chain in Sri Lanka and help fund expansion or refurbishment of hotels in Sri Lanka and the Maldives, where tourism is vital.

and import transactions by local SMEs valued at over \$200 million.

Since the outbreak, IFC has made efforts to help both small and large businesses in Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, India, and Vietnam. The support to companies focused on agriculture — between 15,000 and five million farmers and SMEs in their supply chain networks — will help boost farmers' incomes, strengthening agribusiness and contributing to food security.

IFC is now working on the second phase of its Covid-19 response to help financial institutions and companies in the region on their path to recovery, said Garcia Mora. A Spanish national, Garcia Mora has moved to IFC after eight years with the World Bank. Before that, he worked in the private sector for over 12 years, including as Partner-Managing Director at Analistas Financieros Internacionales Consulting Group.

"As part of our bid to advance workable development solutions to the challenges posed by Covid-19, IFC will also step up its engagement with the World Bank in the Asia-Pacific region."

We will focus on our strategy to create markets by working upstream, tackling barriers to spurring the private sector and creating jobs. This approach is critical to attract investors in the most vulnerable markets," Garcia Mora said. In FY 2020 IFC worked upstream and with the World Bank on complex projects with potentially transformative impact to deliver power to millions of people in Afghanistan, Nepal, and Pakistan.

Overall, IFC committed \$6.7 billion in private sector investments in Asia and the Pacific in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020. This includes the \$554 million in IFC financing in response to Covid-19 under the new Covid-19 fast-track facility. A little under half of this was for countries classified as poor and fragile and conflict affected. IFC also supported around \$1.1 billion of cross-border trade in the region through its Global Trade Finance Program (GTFF).

Some other examples of IFC's support in FY 2020:

Vietnam: IFC's financing package to help Phu My Hung Development Corporation extend financial relief to clients, suppliers, and contractors along its property value chain, helping preserve jobs; \$70 million to Indo Trans Logistics Corporation of Vietnam to support the logistics sector, helping trade and competitiveness of the country's economy.

Sri Lanka and Maldives: \$175 million investment in John Keells Holdings (JKH) to expand its supermarket chain in Sri Lanka and help fund expansion or refurbishment of hotels in Sri Lanka and the Maldives, where tourism is vital.

Maldives: IFC's first investment in a decade, supporting the Bank of Maldives to provide liquidity to the hard-hit tourism sector and SMEs, backing the sector.

Bangladesh: A loan to City Bank Limited to provide financing for SMEs and companies affected by Covid-19.

India: Over 200,000 farmers are expected to benefit from \$40 million to DCM Shriram Ltd to mitigate supply chain disruptions and boost resilience in markets affected by Covid-19.

Pakistan: IFC's first investment in health care in Shifa International Hospitals to help set up more hospitals and clinics for better access to quality affordable care; IFC's equity investment in Pakistan Mortgage Refinance Company Limited, to

help develop affordable housing market.

Thailand: IFC's investment in Principal Capital Public Company (PRINC) to expand access to affordable and quality health care for people in rural and frontier regions.

Indonesia: Investment in privately placed gender and green bonds issued by Bank OCB NISP with proceeds from bonds to boost lending to women entrepreneurs and spur green projects.

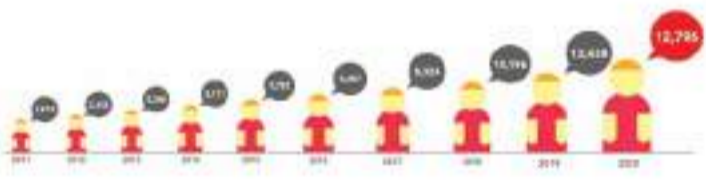
Thailand: IFC's subscription to the region's first women entrepreneurs' bond to be issued by Bank of Ayudhya to boost lending to women-owned SMEs.

Nepal: The Upper Trishuli-1 (UT-1) project, a 216 MW run-of-river hydropower project, one of the largest foreign direct investments in Nepal's history, set to deliver power to millions of people.

Afghanistan: IFC joining partners in signing the debt financing package for the country's first long-term public private partnership, the Mazar-e-Sharif gas-to-power plant, which will boost domestic electricity generation by up to 30 percent.

Solomon Islands: IFC advising the Government of Solomon Islands on the Tina River hydropower project, which has reached financial closure, and will see the Pacific Islands nation go from almost total reliance on imported diesel to majority renewable energy for its power needs.

AIA Group leading MDRT entity for sixth time



AIA Group Limited (AIA) has achieved the largest number of Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) members for six consecutive years.

A record of 12,796 AIA agents and agency leaders were registered as MDRT members as of July 1, 2020.

MDRT is a global and independent association that is internationally recognised as the standard of excellence in life insurance and financial services. Its members are required to generate a certain level of premium, commission, and income, and demonstrate professional knowledge, strict ethical conduct and outstanding client service.

Group Chief Executive and President of AIA Group, Lee Yuan Siang said, "AIA's Number One position in the world for MDRT qualifiers reflects the enormous quality and

depth of our agency force, representing a key competitive advantage for our Company. We shall continue to ensure that our agents are equipped to help our millions of customers live Healthier, Longer, Better, Lives."

Regional Chief Executive and Group Chief Distribution Officer of AIA Group, Bill Lisle said, "Being Number One in the world in MDRT for the sixth consecutive year reflects AIA's longstanding investment in our agency force and we remain deeply committed to continuing to provide our agents with the best career development opportunities in the industry."

AIA Sri Lanka's Deputy CEO and Chief Agency Officer Upul Wijesinghe said, "As part of AIA Group, AIA Sri Lanka too upholds the highest standards for Wealth Planners."

Harsha Amarasekera to head Sampath Bank

Harsha Amarasekera PC has been appointed Chairman (Non-Executive, Non-Independent) of Sampath Bank PLC.

The resolution was passed by the Board of Directors of the Bank at the meeting held on August 27. Amarasekera is an eminent legal practitioner in the legal fraternity of Sri Lanka with a wide practice in both the Commercial Courts and the Appellate Courts.

His areas of expertise include Commercial Law, Business Law, Securities Law, Banking Law and Intellectual Property Law. He also has significant experience in arbitration and cross-national disputes.

He was admitted to the Bar in November 1987 and took oaths as a President's Counsel in November 2012.

Harsha also has extensive experience in the corporate sector and currently serves as an Independent Director of several leading companies listed in the Colombo Stock Exchange including CIC Holdings PLC (Chairman), Swisstek (Ceylon



Harsha Amarasekera

PLC (Chairman), Vallibel Power Erathna PLC (Deputy Chairman), Vallibel One PLC, Expolanka Holdings PLC, Chevron Lubricants Lanka PLC, Royal Ceramics Lanka PLC, Ambeon Capital PLC and Amaya Leisure PLC.

He is also the Chairman of CIC Agri Business (Pvt) Limited and Swisstek Aluminium Limited. He was a Director at Amana Bank PLC since its inception until his retirement in February of this year.

HNB Finance Puttalam branch relocates to new premises

HNB Finance relocated its Puttalam branch to a more spacious three-storey premises of its own at Service Road, Puttalam. Complete with ample parking space, its offices are open for business transactions from 8.30 am to 5.00 pm during weekdays.

HNB Finance's new premises was constructed with the integration of state-of-the-art technology that is eco-friendly and sustainable — a cause the company passionately advocates for.

The construction has also placed strong emphasis on efficient energy-saving additions that use renewable energy sources.

HNB Finance Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Chaminda Prabhath, "By offering a



The new HNB Finance premises in Puttalam

plethora of financial services under one roof, our hope is to fur-

ther strengthen our customer relationships as we rise to meet their

evolving needs and enhance the convenience of our services through digital platforms."

The branch is serviced by a team of experienced staff members fully geared to offer customers with an efficient, full-fledged portfolio of exceptional and comprehensive financial services, including gold loans, business loans, personal loans, leasing facilities, hire purchase facilities, fixed deposits as well as savings.

It was opened by HNB Finance Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer Chaminda Prabhath. HNB Finance Chief Operating Officer Priyalal Arangala and Deputy General Manager, Branch Network Annesley Fernando were present.

Advertorial

AIA introduces digital interviews

As AIA Insurance consolidates its position in Sri Lanka's digital landscape, the company has rolled out the Sixer Video platform to enable online interviews for agent recruitment, remotely.

Candidates interested in joining AIA as agents can now take part in digital career opportunity presentations and submit video resumes online. This is a fast and easy way of onboarding new agents without having physical meetings. The new process enables AIA's team to save candidates their time and effort spent travelling long distances to interview for a position as a Wealth Planner.

AIA's Chief Technology Officer Umeshi de Fonseka said, "In these post-covid times, most people are uneasy to have physical meetings. We wanted to find a way to ensure our agent recruitment process continues uninterrupted, so we can continue to hire the highest calibre of professionals. This is also a



cost effective and convenient option for candidates as they don't have to waste time and money travelling for their first interview anymore and can focus on

their presentations from the comfort of their homes."

AIA's Director Agency Distribution Chanaka Liyanage added, "It also

means AIA can recruit new candidates much faster using these video resumes which give us great insights to the candidates. At the same time, we're now able to process multiple candidates within minutes using these video resumes instead of conducting individual one-on-one interviews.

We are always looking for the highest calibre of professionals to recruit as Wealth Planners and this platform has certainly made the process more efficient."

If you are looking for a career with unlimited earning potential, flexibility to work at your own time, overseas travel, international recognition and access to the latest technology, then the world's largest life insurer AIA might be just the place for you. Visit the AIA Sri Lanka Sixer video recruitment page on <https://web.sixervideo.com/record/candidate_details/aia-247> to find out more.

Allianz Lanka powers youth employability with SOS Children's Villages SL

Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited (Allianz Lanka) joined hands with SOS Children's Villages Sri Lanka to empower youth with essential IT skills under the 'Shape the World of Tomorrow' program.

The program is part of Youth Can! - SOS Children's Villages' global partnership for youth employability - that strives to equip young care leavers with the tools they need to transition to independence and find decent work.

Under this partnership, the insurer will be providing 100 youth between 14 - 19 years from six SOS Family Care and SOS Family Strengthening programs across the island, with access to globally recognized International Computer Driving License (ICDL) programme by February 2023. Allianz Lanka had recently won the Allianz Social Innovation Fund worth €10,000 offered by Allianz SE and will be utilizing it for this.

The two parties signed the formal agreement for this programme at the SOS Children's Villages Sri Lanka national office in Piliyandala recently. Several representatives from Allianz

Lanka and SOS Children's Villages Sri Lanka including Gany Subramaniam, Chief Executive Officer, Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited; Mangala Banadara, Chief Marketing Officer, Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited and Divakar Ratnadurai, National Director, SOS Children's Villages Sri Lanka were present at this event.

"Youth empowerment remains one of the key focus areas of Allianz's community outreach efforts around the world. In line with that, we are excited to partner with SOS Children's Villages Sri Lanka yet again and help them take the ICDL program to more young adults across the island," said Gany Subramaniam, Chief Executive Officer, Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited.

"Helping them get trained and gain a globally recognized certification that is supported by governments, computer societies, international organizations and commercial corporations alike, we believe that this will go a long way in supporting them in successfully managing the transition from school to independent adulthood."

"We would like to thank Allianz



From left: Nipunika Ruhunage - Manager-Corporate Partnerships, Kapila Gunwardhana - Director-National Youth Care, Gayantha Dalpadado - Assistant Director-Head of Fund Development and Communication, Divakar Ratnadurai - National Director- SOS Children's Villages Sri Lanka, Gany Subramaniam - Chief Executive Officer, Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited, Mangala Banadara, Chief Marketing Officer, Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited, Rienzie De Silva - Assistant Manager, Market Management, Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited and Annesista Jeyakanthan - Executive - Corporate Communications, Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited.

Lanka for partnering with us and supporting our youth empowerment initiatives," said Divakar Ratnadurai-National Director of SOS Children's Villages Sri Lanka.

"The 'Shape the World of Tomorrow'

program uses Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) to foster education and self-development among children and youth of SOS Children's Villages Sri Lanka," he said.

Nature's Beauty Creations secures export orders



Owing to the superior quality of Misumi and Champion soaps, its manufacturer, Nature's Beauty Creations Ltd, has successfully secured export orders within three years since the launch of their soaps.

Last week, a large shipment of Misumi & Champion soaps set sail to Vietnam, a strongly competitive market of over 95 million people. The company is strongly determined to increase its soap exports to enter and capture the large USD 24 billion global toilet soap market.

For over 20 years, Sri Lankans were sold bathing bars instead of real soap. A bathing bar requires only a minimum TFM of 40%, whereas to qualify as a real toilet soap, a minimum TFM of 76.5% is required; the higher the TFM, the greater the quality of soap with safer cleansing properties and higher skin mildness.

In 2017, award-winning cosmetics manufacturer Nature's Beauty Creations Ltd launched the country's first real toilet soap in over two decades.

The beauty soap launched under the 'Misumi' brand had a TFM of 78%, the highest TFM in the toilet soap market, providing consumers a premium quality that was not available till then. Spurred by the high demand and acceptance of its Misumi beauty soap, the company decided to launch 'Champion' in 2019, filling a market gap for a superior quality, germ-fighting real soap with 76.5% TFM.

"Our company strongly believes in providing consumers with products of the highest quality without resorting to cheap, harsh ingredients. Unwavering commitment to quality has seen our Nature's Secrets and Panda Baby products

exported to many countries, bringing in valuable foreign exchange to the country.

"The addition of our soaps to our export portfolio will further help contribute to this," remarked Mr. Samantha Kumarasinghe, Chairman of Nature's Beauty Creations Ltd.

"Initiatives taken under the new economic policies of His Excellency the President have ensured the removal of unfair advantages enjoyed by multinational companies for decades, finally allowing local soap manufacturers to compete with multinationals on an equal playing field. This strength has enabled our company to successfully enter export markets, and it will also encourage and enable other Sri Lankan soap manufacturers to do the same," Kumarasinghe said.

"The measures initiated by the President to support the local industrialists amidst the severe economic crisis created due to Covid-19 have also been greatly encouraging," he further stated.

Nature's Beauty Creations Ltd is one of the country's most certified and awarded cosmetics manufacturers, and the only cosmetics manufacturer to be awarded Sri Lanka's highest environmental award, the National Green Award-Gold, and the Sri Lanka Corporate Health & Productivity Award - Gold, the highest award for employee health and well-being.

The company's vision is to be the 'Most environment-friendly cosmetics manufacturer in the World', and they have implemented many initiatives to work towards this inspiring goal to bring further pride to Sri Lanka.

OPPO launches Quick Repair service

OPPO has launched the OPPO Quick Repair service in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The service will offer customers the convenience of having their OPPO mobile phones repaired within a short period of time - one hour or less - at the OPPO Service Centre eliminating the hassle of having to go hours, sometimes days, without a phone.

OPPO Sri Lanka deems this new, enhanced customer care experience in line with its global counterparts a step in the direction of effective customer care building on OPPO's customer service philosophies of delivering a Fast, Reliable & Comfortable service.

The service typically takes an hour or less, allows for customers to sit back and relax in a comfortable, pleasant ambiance while the phone is being fixed and in terms of reliability, OPPO Service Centre only uses official spare parts for repairs. Also your handset is in 'good hands' as all



repairs are handled by a qualified group of professional technicians ensuring privacy and confidentiality of customers' at all costs.

"I was coming out of quarantine with a broken phone and wanted to get it fixed as soon as possible. I did not want to leave the phone in a phone shop for repairs due to the prevailing situation and it was only

OPPO Quick Repair that understood my plight and gave me a quick and reliable solution.

The phone was repaired and returned to me in no time! I highly recommend this service," a satisfied customer Arunashantha de Silva said. He said that the staff members at the center were friendly, understanding and accommodating.

Repatriation flight: Perth to Colombo

The Honorary Consulate of Sri Lanka in Western Australia, under the guidance of Honorary Consul Rosh Jalagge, brought much-awaited relief to Sri Lankans who were unable to return to Sri Lanka, due to various Covid-19 related issues such as state border closures and the absence of direct flights.

Western Australia is home to a small population of Sri Lankans who faced many difficulties due to the current pandemic situation.

A significant number of Sri Lankans were therefore stranded in the state, wishing to return to their homeland but were unable to do so.

With the help of the Government of Sri Lanka, Sri Lankan Airlines, the Sri Lankan High Commission in Australia, and other supportive parties the Honorary Consulate was able to arrange a special repatriation charter flight for the



Rosh Jalagge

safe return of these Sri Lankans back to their homeland as they wished. This national carrier flight UL 609 departed Perth airport at 9:00 am on Thursday, August 27, 2020. The passengers will then follow government quarantine requirements and PCR testing, to

ensure the safety of the passengers as well as the Sri Lankan public.

As there is no direct flight from Perth to Sri Lanka, it was almost an impossible feat to bring about this service for Sri Lankans who were faced with numerous and sometimes unspeakable challenges due to the Covid-19 pandemic. For accomplishing a task which was deemed almost impossible, the Honorary Consul Rosh Jalagge wishes to extend his deep gratitude to the Government, Sri Lankan Airlines, Acting High Commissioner Senarath Dissanayake, Defense Counsellor Prasanna Kosala Warnakulasooriya, Sri Lankan Airlines Manager for Australia and New Zealand Sanjeeva Jayatilake and his team, and the staff of the Honorary Consulate of Sri Lanka in Western Australia for their immense support that made this possible.

Eric Rajapakse Opticians unveils new vision and expands product range

Colombo : Eric Rajapakse Opticians, Sri Lanka's leading eyecare specialist with over 100 years of expertise, has entered a new era with the unveiling of their new brand identity, together with the launching of world-class Beltone hearing aids from Denmark.

Embodying the new Vision of "Quality spectacles from expert hands", Eric Rajapakse Opticians offers high-quality products at affordable prices through their modern showrooms where professionally qualified staff serve customers of all age groups.

The company has also



embarked on a journey towards becoming a female-friendly optical brand by offering an extensive range of products for females.

It has taken numerous pragmatic steps - from employing more female staff to presenting a wider selection of female eyewear brands - to ensure that they have the perfect environment to look into their eye care needs.

Eric Rajapakse Opticians take pride in providing their valued clientele with the highest quality eyewear products from reputed international brands such as Ray Ban, Oakley, Vogue, Emporia Armani, Couch D & G at the most affordable prices.

Through the newly-introduced Beltone hearing aids, Eric Rajapakse Opticians is expanding its product offering to serve customers with hearing disabilities for the first time.

Customers will undergo hearing evaluations by specialists using state-of-the-art technology.

SeylanBank revamps gold loans, offers a higher value to customers

Seylan Bank, The bank with a heart, took measures to further reduce their Gold Loan rates to 0.79% per month, one of the lowest interest rates in the market to ease the financial burden faced by consumers due to Covid-19. As a result, Seylan currently offers the highest advance amount of Rs. 66,000 for a 24K sovereign with attractive repayment plans that range between 3 months to 1 year among the commercial banks.

Understanding the need within the market for consumers to be able to obtain financial aid immediately



with minimum documentation, team Seylan looked into revamping the Gold Loan facility for their customers' urgent financial needs be it for personal or business purposes. The Bank has already taken measures to enable a majority of its branch network with the required infrastructure and to train their staff

to educate and help customers to obtain Gold Loan services.

Team Seylan introduced the Gold Loan facility to strengthen its customer base with the opportunity to utilize their Gold assets to obtain working capital loans to revamp their businesses.

The reduced interest rates and the high advance amount offered by the Bank will help consumers fund emergency cash needs such as urgent medical expenses, educational expenses and cash needed for urgent household needs.

Veteran banker Senarath Bandara to take over the reins of Cargills Bank

Veteran banker Senarath Bandara has been appointed as the Managing Director/CEO designate of Cargills Bank Limited, and will commence his new role from September 30, 2020.

Bandara will take over as MD/CEO of the Bank with effect from

October 1, 2020, subject to regulatory clearance.

He succeeds Rajendra Theagarajah who is due to step down on September 30, 2020.

Prior to his appointment, Mr. Bandara served as the General Manager/CEO of Bank of Ceylon (BOC),

retiring from BOC after a service of 30 years.

Bandara, a Fellow of the Institute of Bankers of Sri Lanka, has served on several Boards of subsidiaries and associates of BOC in addition to Lanka Clear (Pvt) Ltd, and Credit Information Bureau.

SPECTRUM

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AUGUST 30, 2020



PRADEEP RANGANA

A superstar's balance of music and medicine



BY NIRA DIAZ

To go back in time to 2007- the event - Sirasa Superstar Season 2 - a 23 year old medical student clad in a bright hued sarong and kurta seated cross-legged on stage singing a classic and popular Sinhala folk song- *Hansa Rajini*- he is Pradeep Rangana Abeysinghe- the winner of the coveted crown Sirasa Super Star Season 2. Judges and audience sit mesmerised as the mellifluous and pure notes ring out - and as the song ends, a standing ovation with the judges on their feet.

Pradeep Rangana's performance that evening was as one of the 48 performers chosen to go forward to the quarter and semi-finals and then ultimately to the finals which only two of them would reach. *Hansa Rajini* was sung by him at the semi-finals too.

Rare find

The youthful medical student was a winner all the way with one of the judges Visharadha Chandrika Siriwardene calling him a *dolos mahe pahana* (an eternally shining light). Guest judge, the late Prof. Carlo Fonseka voiced the opinion that medical students can be found in any district but a singer of Pradeep's calibre was a rare find indeed. To receive such accolades from such persons early in the competition is evidence of the inherent musical talent of Rangana.

According to him, his rendition of *Hansa Rajini* and the tremendous acclamation he got was the catalyst that propelled him as a singer and to the stardom. Till then, he had not put his

whole being into singing though he did take it seriously.

At the grand finale, Rangana's tuneful and catchy renditions of two H.R.Jothipala favourites, *Sihina Ahase Wasanthaye* and *Sanda Modhuwela* won him the crown - Sirasa Superstar Season 2.

From then on, Rangana has never looked back. All his songs to date have been instant hits.

Rangana's first song *Mala Giravi* soared to instant success.

He did an album with M Entertainment titled *Adambarakari* and included in it is the song of the same name and an all-time hit, *Pana wage* and *Mal warusawe* are two other hit songs from the same album.

Rangana says that being a Superstar was an incredible experience and a learning curve with life-time memories.

His involvement with the Reality Show interrupted Rangana's medical studies and he took a year off from them to concentrate on his music.

In an unprecedented move, the Karapitiya Medical Faculty authorities gave the



THE YOUTHFUL MEDICAL STUDENT WAS A WINNER ALL THE WAY WITH ONE OF THE JUDGES VISHARADHA CHANDRIKA SIRIWARDENE CALLING HIM A *DOLOS MAHE PAHANA* (AN ETERNALLY SHINING LIGHT). GUEST JUDGE, THE LATE PROF. CARLO FONSEKA VOICED THE OPINION THAT MEDICAL STUDENTS CAN BE FOUND IN ANY DISTRICT BUT A SINGER OF PRADEEP'S CALIBRE WAS A RARE FIND INDEED

singer one year off for his music activities and allowed him to resume his studies thereafter. Rangana re-joined the Karapitiya Medical Faculty and went back one batch lower.

He obtained his MBBS in 2012. He did his internship at the Awissawellea Hospital in 2013 and is currently attached to the Marathenna Hospital, a medical facility between his home town Ratnapura and Balangoda.

Rangana immersed himself in music in addition to his medical career. A desire to create songs seized him and he did it. He wanted to stretch his musical talents to their limits. He learnt every aspect of singing and music, including the technical aspects. Today, he composes and records in his studio.

Man with messages

His *Pem Sihine* (2014) won the Best Music Video Award at the Derana Awards. He released *Mayawee* in 2016, followed by *Adaraya Oben* and *Mahawessa* in 2017 and 2018.

Rangana is not a mere composer and singer of songs, he is a man with messages. He subtly weaves them into the fabric of his songs. For instance, *Pem Sihine* is about picking up the pieces after a broken affair and getting on with your life.

Mayawee's message is on the same lines and *Maha Wessa* deals with the evils of drug abuse. As a medical officer and a person with empathy towards his fellow beings, Rangana is on a mission to create a better society through music.

He was touched when two youth approached him and said how his songs had helped and encouraged them to face life after traumatic emotional experiences.

Born at Weralupe, Ratnapura on November 12, 1983, Rangana is the second child and only son of Y.M. Abeysinghe and Chandrani Senaratne. His parents have always supported him, Pradeep says with utmost gratitude.

His first words after winning the Super Star title were *Palamuwen, mawa meylo keta bihikala Ammata ha Appachchi tasirasana wadimi*.

He inherits his musical talent from his father. One of the most unique

features about Rangana is his ability to whistle and his guru for this has been his father. Rangana grew up and thrived in an a musical environment as his father used to have music parties at home. He plays the guitar and the key boards.

His two sisters Susitha and Nisansala are singers though they have not made it a profession.

Rangana had his early education at Ferguson High School in Ratnapura and St. Thomas College, Bandarawela. In school, he was involved in music activities and won at singing and poetic competitions. Eastern music was one of his subjects for the GCE O/L examination.

Asked why he chose the medical profession, he attributed it to parental influence and the fact that he got distinctions only in Science and Maths.

"It seemed to be the logical thing to do", he said. Balancing music and medical studies was an uphill task for Rangana.

His musical interests cover a wide spectrum of genres, including pop, jazz, blues and ghazals. His favourite Sri Lankan singers are Victor Ratnayake, Sunil Edirisinghe and Pandith Amaradeva.

Other singers who had influenced him are Sonu Nigam, Hari Haran, Ghulam Ali and Rahat Pateth Ali Khan. His finger guitar style favourites are Tommy Emmanuel, Trace Bundy and Andy Mckee.

To the question as to why he chose to compete in the Sirasa Superstar Season 2, he said that after watching Season One, he got attracted to the show and wanted to test his talents.

His songs for the audition were Edward Jayakody's *Muwa Mukkhalatha* and *Ananthayata yana Para Dige* by Kasun Kalhara. As the former belongs to the classical genre, the judges requested him to sing another song and he chose the latter.

Rangana said that wife Chathurika is his tower of strength as she manages the domestic front and leaves him free to pursue music. Their pride and joy is seven month old baby daughter Shavari Yashorya.

Balancing music and medicine is Dr. Rangana's forte and these undoubtedly will be his life's mission and vision.

Berlin Film Festival switching to gender neutral acting awards in 2021

FESTIVAL ORGANISERS SAID THE 2021 FESTIVAL IS BEING PLANNED AS A PHYSICAL EVENT AND NOT A VIRTUAL ONE

BY ZACK SHARF

Berlin Film Festival directors Mariette Rissenbeek and Carlo Chatrion have announced a major change to the annual event: Beginning with the 2021 festival, the Silver Bear acting prizes will go gender neutral. A statement from the festival reads: "Instead of the awards for the Best Actor and the Best Actress, a 'Silver Bear for Best Leading Performance' and a 'Silver Bear for Best Supporting Performance' shall each be awarded on a gender-neutral basis."

The Silver Bear prizes for actor and

actress have been handed out since 1956. The most recent recipients are Elio Germano ('Hidden Away') and Paula Beer ('Undine') from the 2020 festival.

"We believe that not separating the awards in the acting field according to gender comprises a signal for a more gender-sensitive awareness in the film industry," said Berlinale directors Rissenbeek and Chatrion in a statement.

Berlinale's announcement makes it the first major international film festival to switch up how it awards its acting prizes based on gender.

Cannes still has its Best Actor and Best Actress prizes as of now, as does

the Venice Film Festival with the Volpi Cup for Actor and Actress.

Berlinale acting winners in the past include Tom Courtenay and Charlotte Rampling for '45 Years,' Benicio del Toro for 'Traffic,' Paulina Garcia for 'Gloria,' Charlize Theron for 'Monster,' and more.

In addition to the gender neutral acting categories, the Berlinale directors have also confirmed the 2021 Berlin Film Festival will be held as a physical edition and not a virtual one. A hybrid physical-virtual plan is being drafted for the European Film Market (EFM). "Festivals and markets are places of encounter and communica-



'45 Years' won Berlinale acting prizes for Tom Courtenay and Charlotte Rampling

tion," Rissenbeek and Chatrion said. "This applies to the public as well as to the industry."

We see an important and unique feature of festivals in their lively relationship with the audience. In times of the Corona pandemic, it has become even clearer that we still require analogue experience spaces in the cultural

realm. We are pleased that festivals with physically present audiences are slowly taking place again around the world, and we wish our colleagues much success."

The International Jury of the Competition will award the following eight prizes in 2021: Golden Bear for Best Film (awarded to the film's produc-

ers), Silver Bear Grand Jury Prize, Silver Bear for Best Director, Silver Bear Jury Prize, Silver Bear for Best Leading Performance, Silver Bear for Best Supporting Performance, Silver Bear for Best Screenplay and Silver Bear for Outstanding Artistic Contribution. The 71st Berlin Film Festival will be held from February 11-21, 2021.

Features



Pic: Lal Hegoda

PROF. EDIRIWEERA SARACHCHANDRA

Intellectual, cultural realist and literary critic

BY MIRAN PERERA.

The 24th death anniversary of Prof Ediriweera Sarachchandra fell on August 16, 2020. From the beginning of history most Asian nations adored and idealised their saints, philosophers and those who belonged to the Arts and who have stamped infinity on the lives and thoughts of their respective countries. The contribution towards our country's culture and arts, by Prof. Sarachchandra is considered invaluable to the entire world.

According to American Physicist Robert Oppenheimer, for the artiste, it is not enough that he communicates with others who are experts in their own art. Their fellowship, their understanding and their appreciation may encourage, but that is not the end of their work nor its nature. Similarly, to Prof Sarachchandra the artiste depends on a common sensibility and culture, on a common meaning of symbols, on a community of experience and common ways of describing and interpreting.

How true it is of Prof. Sarachchandra as Robert Oppenheimer says 'Literate need not write for everyone or paint or play for everyone, but his audience must be humanity and not a specialised set of experts among his fellows.'

Composite image

Today, things have changed. For the community to which the artiste addresses himself is largely not there; the traditions and the history, the myths and the common experience, which is the artist's function to illuminate and to harmonise and portray have been dissolved in a changing world. Among the Sri Lankan literati engaged in this stupendous task Prof. Sarachchandra ranks above most of his contemporaries.

To visualise a composite image of Prof. Sarachchandra, we should go back to the socio-cultural background that had prevailed in this country as well as other South Asian countries at the time of Ediriweera Sarachchandra's birth in 1914. The interests of Prof. Sarachchandra were centered around drama and he was the first to introduce a new type of drama Sri Lankan society. Among his dramas Maname was par excellence, a remarkable and historic achievement for him. It came to be ranked as the first drama written and produced at the time. At the Colombo University which is world-class and a magnificent seat of learning nature it self had created an ideal and favourable place to achieve all round academic excellence. It was against this backdrop (Maname) the greatest drama, brainchild of Prof. Ediriweera the great master emerged.

The great Asian cultural tradition that was nurtured and given its ideal shape by Asian intellectuals in different fields had to face totally different cultural traditions once the Asian nations were conquered by Western Imperialists beginning from the 15th century. The dilemmas faced by intellectuals such as Prof. Sarachchandra in these circumstances was a

PROF. EDIRIWEERA SARACHCHANDRA HAS LEFT A MEMORY SO BEAUTIFUL AS A SHINING EXAMPLE OF AN UNIVERSITY EDUCATIONIST AND AS A MOST VERSATILE DRAMA PATRIOT WITH HIS SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE TO THE ENTIRE STUDENT COMMUNITY.

question of selection and synthesis; what aspects of the Western culture were to be admitted in the fold of national culture; what aspects of tradition were to be revived and how was a synthesis to be achieved so that the foreign element would no longer appear alien. Many actors and actresses in Sarachchandra dramas were indeed privileged to participate and enjoy it. He produced them to be the most talented dramas Sri Lanka had ever produced at the time. A long felt need in drama to be filled since the early Nadagam style was his prime aim and concern. With his Buddhist outlook, at times the most interesting and best known

Jataka Stories formed the theme of many of his dramas. These reflected very human, very moving human accounts, very entertaining yet full of advice. All human emotions love, sorrow, and joy are well depicted.

Nadagam songs

In Sarachchandra's quest for a suitable person to give life to Nadagam songs stylised and rhythmic he came across well versed, efficient and experienced people. In an important sense, this world of ours is new and in which the unity of knowledge, the nature of human communities, the order of society, the order of ideas, the very notions of society and culture have changed and will not return to what they have been in the past.

According to Prof. Sarachchandra, what is new is new not because it has never been there before but because it has changed in quality. Sarachchandra's critical theories and evaluative criteria have become totally acceptable and taken for granted and he did succeed in what he set out to do – to create a popular audience. Drawing attention to very obvious and salient aspects of Sarachchandra's criticism of the Sinhala novel, it bottle necked the fiction writing of the day. Though the new Sinhala novel emerged in the form of Gamperaliya in 1944, only two years after the appearance of Sarachchandra's modern Sinhala fiction, the latter did not have any bearing or influence on the former.

The song, *Premayen Manaranjithawe* has become a favourite of Sri Lankans holding fond memories of the illustrious master of the dramas Maname and Singhabahu.

Among Prof. Sarachchandra's books are Nisandas, the novel literary verse form which came to the fore. Among his other books are Sahithya Vidyawa dealing with new theories of criticism.

Sinhala Navakatha Ithihasaya is another a well-known literary work. The wealth of experience Sarachchandra had gained from his research work abroad and the foreign exposure were contributing factors to his literary work. His drama, Singhabahu seems to represent what is perhaps the earliest attempt in modern Asian theatre to shake off the influence of the Western theatre and to rediscover the theatre of their roots.

Among many of Sarachchandra's discourses are the series of lectures which he delivered at American and German Universities (1966-1967, 1972), the series of articles which he wrote to the reputed Japanese journal Asai Shimbu in 1957. His famous lecture on Drama in the orient which he delivered at the International House of Japan in 1956, his essays such as Traditional values and the modernisation of Buddhist Society,

A critical examination of Buddhist teachings of the external world (Journal of Indian Philosophy – 1971), Contemporary Indian theatre (New York USA).

Indigenous theatre

Although Prof Sarachchandra went for his postgraduate studies to the University of London in 1947 and studied Western philosophy his keen interest in the fields of Asia tradition never disappeared. He started his career as a dramatist during the early 1940's with translations from the world theatre. Thereafter, he began writing his own plays and producing them. Subsequently, it brought the realisation that if there was to be a lively art form commanding a deep commitment from the art loving public a national theatrical idiom had to be established. Prof. Sarachchandra embarked on an intensive search for any remains of what would be called an indigenous theatre.

Prof. Ediriweera Sarachchandra has left a memory so beautiful as a shining example of an university educationist and as a most versatile drama patriot with his superior performance to the entire student community. He marked a significant milestone in the aesthetic history of Sri Lanka. The service thus rendered by him to his Motherland and Sinhala culture will linger on even in the future.

Today, in a world in which each of us know our limitations, knowing the evils of superficiality and the terrors of lethargy we will have to cling to what is close to us, to what we know, to what we can do, to our friends and our tradition and our love, lest they be dissolved in a universal confusion and know nothing and love nothing. Intellectuals and eminent achievers such as Prof. Ediriweera Sarachchandra has given us memories for us to love as we look forward to the future, never ever forgetting him as he was an immense inspiration and an idol urging all to emulate him. Only the brave and the bold can accept his challenge.

Agony of a suffered soul

BY K.S. SIVAKUMARAN

The end of terrorism in the North is a happy event for the people though sporadic violence committed by uneducated youth worries the people. The Police and the Army are gradually apprehending the *Aavaa Group* members wielding swords and knives.

Sellacutty Ganahan, a middle-aged man with sensitivity, is turning his experience into poems. He has compiled a 52-pages book of his poems titled *Oru Pulliyil Oaadum Mudkal* (Thorns running on one single point). The book has 30 poems and a few snippets.

Social atrocities, injustices, imbalance, social misfits, the paucity

of confidence in people, nostalgic yearning, fake people, the search for the salvation of those deprived of their rights, the people who search for a philosophy of life are some of his themes.

Here is an attempt to render in English, one of his poems titled *Athvaitham*

"When it comes to competition, he stands aside; not because he fears.

If one that fears competes, it doesn't mean that he becomes bold. Thoughts are different; meanings too are different.

Action is different; Obstacles too are the same.

Complication can occur, because of action

And because of that, another action can occur.

The relationship between losing and gaining is only such.

Like darkness leaves when light comes, like when light leaves, darkness hovers

Knowing that everything is Maya, the mind will be happy

And that gladness will one day be Maya"

While most Lankan writers write realistic social fiction, most foreign writers lay importance to imagination. Creative writing means a combination of imagination and reality to convince discerning readers.

Some writings in the Indian sub-continent reveal astonishingly realistic stories.

Painting exhibition

Nuwan Nalaka portrays Sansāra

A painting exhibition titled Sansāra by artist Nuwan Nalaka which is now on at the Saskia Fernando Gallery, will conclude on September 17. The exhibition can be viewed online only

Nuwan fills his latest series of paintings with raw energy produced by the Covid-19 pandemic. The artist reflects on suffering and despair endured by people around the world. Yet he strives to emphasise the collective strength of humanity that has emerged in this universal experience; the silver linings that will usher the crisis through to its natural end.

Nuwan initially planned a different series of work for this showcase, a selection of which is presented in the Cacti series of paintings, but he was so overwhelmed by the impact of the pandemic that he felt compelled to make this collection.

The dichromatic Cacti series illustrates Nuwan's exploration of the relationship between social conservatism and sexual nature. Sensuality once had a prominent place in classical South Asian art in the forms of sculpted human figures and carnal, yet religious, Hindu temples. Taking inspiration from how the colonial tradition documented the indigenous lands, Nuwan uses the Cacti as a metaphorical representation of individual resistance to political, emotional and sexual suppression.

Sansāra uses the symbols explored in Nuwan's previous showcase *Sutra* at Saskia Fernando Gallery. Buddhism describes a Middle Path set on the road to Enlightenment that sees as much darkness as it does light. It is on this metaphysical journey that one can understand the balance between the forms of order, chaos, life, death, mind and nature. The motif of the white lotus and the pond from which it emerges is an important symbol in many Buddhist cultures. The pure flower blooms from the murkiest of depths.



Nuwan Nalaka

This represents how mind, body and environment influence each other.

Nuwan previously immersed his thoughts within the microcosm of the lotus pond to reflect on the relationship between society and spirituality. He explores these ideas further, but within the context of the global pandemic. The artist presents a stark collection of largely monochromatic paintings, filled with energetic brushstrokes and subtle washes of watercolour paint. There is a relentless focus on the physical nature of his subject matter and the medium of paint. A fearful atmosphere permeates his pictures. However, the impression of emotional turmoil is often held in check with the calm presence of the white lotus flower, both in its open and unopened forms.

An eerie floral template reveals the violent nature of reality and the struggle for survival that lays beneath the surface. The human eyes peering out from behind the plant stems appear

NUWAN PREVIOUSLY IMMERSSED HIS THOUGHTS WITHIN THE MICROCOSM OF THE LOTUS POND TO REFLECT ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOCIETY AND SPIRITUALITY. HE EXPLORES THESE IDEAS FURTHER, BUT WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE GLOBAL PANDEMIC

indifferent; they signify an ever-present narrative of human population. The open sky seems cold and distant. When reflected in a pool of water, it appears as a void even as it provides an opportunity for breathing space. Nuwan develops these contradictions through the presence of fauna that populate the marshlands. Crystalline snakes slither in and out of sight. Black swans appear as a complex blend of beauty, purity and hope as they seem to consume the light and energy around them. The tough landscapes suggest the swans' hybridised role as scavenger-like vultures.

White beaks can be mistaken for unopened lotus flowers. Although predatory, the swans retain their symbolic elegance. Despite being a natural part of their frightful surroundings, they reveal a sense of presence, playfulness and ease. Nuwan questions the placement of humanity within this metaphorical landscape through his vibrant formalism. *Sansāra* highlights the collective experience of man and nature.



Nuwan Nalaka, *Sansāra 01*, 2020, Watercolour on Fabriano Paper



EU awards scholarships

The European Union (EU) awards 13 scholarships under the European Union's Erasmus+ Joint Master Degree program. The degree programs are tailored to help address critical issues of societies and equip students with knowledge, which transitions them from the classroom to the workplace.

Students will study in at least two European countries and three universities, receiving a joint Master's degree from each of these universities.

This year's scholarship awards cover ten areas of study, including urban climate and sustainability, tropical biodiversity and ecosystems,

flood risk management, and marine environment in five European countries: Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, and the UK. Scholarship winners will experience the international learning environments of universities in European cities, such as Bologna, Brussels, Glasgow, Bordeaux and Dresden.



A VALLEY OF MIST

—Text & Pix by—
Mahil Wijesinghe



Every year from January to April, the Sabaragamuwa region is a mesmerizing picture for visitors who find time to enjoy nature's beauty. This August, we experienced the hottest season in Sabaragamuwa.

At the crack of dawn each day, the eastern sky is beautiful, the smudgy orange glow of the rising sun piercing through the shimmering veil of mist over the vast landscape of Amutagoda, a charming village in Ratnapura. After the mist is cleared the shadow of the Sri Pada mountain range comes into sight, an enchanting view to be etched in memory.

The bountiful paddy plant bending down with the weight of the mist, and nestling in the valley, is a vista of golden colour; with the tiny birds that dot the paddy fields at daybreak to breakfast and bask in the warmth of the sun.

Armed with my Nikon camera, I explored the village in the misty dawn during dry weather in August. Streaks of warm light paint the canvas on the eastern sky as I start off from my home. I steer myself to a *niyara*, a narrow foot-path, interconnecting the paddy fields.

The interior of the village is laced with narrow channels, some flanked by houses and paddy fields and other places connected by narrow bridges.

The veil of mist in the valley carpeted with paddy fields portray the shadow image of a farmer heading towards his field. The sun peeks out for a moment, giving the mountains a touch of warmth. This is a perfect picture postcard shot.

Perfect venue

The dawn is a perfect venue for landscape shutterbugs as mist laden mountains and paddy fields give a true composition to insightful frame. Farmers and gem miners start their work early in the morning in the misty fields.

Mist settles on the foliage and mountains of the village and on the rooftops of houses built on the foothill of the mountains. In the distant hilltop is a cluster of houses.

The village temple lies in the mist laden valley. The upper part of the towering 80-foot high seated Buddha statue visible at a distance through the mist-laden valley gives a serene and spiritual setting to the village.

AMIDST A VEIL OF MIST, I CAPTURED A SLICE OF LIFE AT DAWN IN THE PASTORAL VILLAGE OF AMUTAGODA, IN THE VICINITY OF RATNAPURA SURROUNDED BY PADDY FIELDS AND AN UNDULATING MOUNTAIN RANGE



A Sakyamuni Buddha statue viewed through the mist covered foliage

This village is part of an ancient heritage of elderly villagers' recollections of the ruins of a structure in the middle of the paddy field, now covered with rank growth.

The interesting tales also re-

late to the Sacred Tooth Relic of the Buddha when it was hidden in the Delgamuwa Raja Maha Vihara in Kuruwita.

The Sacred Tooth Relic after being taken to many temples was enshrined at the Sri Dalada Ma-

ligawa in Kandy. A famous legend relates how the Sacred Tooth Relic was provided sanctuary against the Portuguese invaders, in a grinding stone in the thick of the jungle of Delgamuwa, in Kuruwita, a village close to Amutagoda.

The Vihara, known as Sabaragamuwa Vihara at the time, was part of the Kingdom of Seethawaka and was thus under the protection of King Mayadunne. Despite his constant struggle with the Portuguese, the King ensured the protection of the Tooth Relic and donated land to build the Delgamuwa Dalada Vihara.

His son, Rajasingha I of Seethawaka is credited with initiating the *Esala Dalada Perahera* at the Sabaragamuwa Saman Devala which was conducted for 11 years during his reign.

The Sacred Relic had been taken from Delgamuwa Vihara to Sabaragamuwa Saman Vihara to hold the Dalada Perahera.

The nine-kilometre long route from Delgamuwa to Sabaragamuwa Saman Vihara lies through Amutagoda, and a small hill called Dalada Godella had been built amidst the paddy fields at Amutadoda to enshrine the Sacred Relic during its journey to Saman Vihara.

The entourage that carried the Sacred Tooth Relic had taken a break and refreshments at this place. Even today, elderly people refer to the place as Dalada Godella, although it is not visible any more.

Sanctified area

"When we were young boys, we used to go to Dalada Godella to venerate the Sacred Tooth Relic. Now the place has been erased from visibility. In the past it was a sanctified area where the Sacred Tooth Relic of the Buddha had been kept for a while for veneration on its way to the Dalada Perahera at the Sabaragamuwa Vihara," said Ven. Amutagoda Indrarathana Thera, the chief incumbent of Sakyamuni Sri Maha Vihara, Amutagoda.

Even today, the villagers perform ancient rituals, offering the first paddy harvest to the Maha Saman Devala in Ratnapura as *baraya* (vow) since all these paddy lands had belonged to the Saman Devala as *Nindagama*.

Amutagoda has changed for the better now. Most of the houses are built of bricks and roofed with tiles with modern facilities.

Silent language of scents

BY R.S. KARUNARATNE

Scientists have found a silent and secret language of scents which affect our behaviour. It is supposed to be the oldest language in the world. It has been named 'pheromones' derived from the Greek word 'pherein' meaning 'carry on' and 'horman' meaning 'to excite or stimulate.' The scents are common to every living being.

According to scientists, most living beings still use the sense of smell to communicate. Why does your pet cat rub her cheeks against your leg? She does so because her scent glands are located at the base of her whiskers. By doing that rubbing the cat silently says, "He belongs to me." Likewise, you may have seen dogs urinating around trees and lamp posts. They do so to mark their territory. Not only dogs, even wolves scent mark their boundaries. Any dog or wolf trying to enter the marked territory will have to think twice before doing so. Female rats also leave their scent mark to regulate the mating cycle.

In addition to marking the territory, pheromones directly affect reproduction. The female gypsy moth sends out a scent signal in spring to indicate that she is ready for mating. Scientists have isolated the chemical to distract males from pursuing males and they are lured into traps. This is another scientific war against insects which can destroy paddy fields and harvest.

Ant colony

Long before man used pheromones to destroy insects, ants had used it in their colonies. When an ant colony comes under attack, the ants release a chemical similar to pheromones compelling the invaders to beat a retreat. Scientists have found that pheromones can be used to instil fear in the attacker. Unlike animals, humans are poorly equipped to live by smell. While a German shepherd dog has 320 million cells in its nose the number of cells in the human nose is relatively less. The salmon uses its sensitive nose to cross rivers and mighty oceans, but humans are poorly equipped to use their noses. Instead they use their eyes and ears although their noses are quite sensitive. For instance, the odour of a dead animal can be unbearable. Natural gas has no odour but scientists have added a foul odour to it to warn users of gas leaks. Even at home when you smell something foul, you use your nostrils to detect the source.

Sensitivities to odours can vary widely among individuals. When I was working in a state media organisation, one day the staff found it very difficult to work because of a foul smell. All of us tried to locate the source with our noses but we failed. Then we informed the maintenance department. They sent a man who detected the source quite easily and removed a dead mouse from a nook. We heaved a sigh of relief!

Different odours

Scientists say most of us can recognise at least 4,000 different odours, but there are some people who can recognise 10,000 distinct odours. On the other hand, a woman's nose is more sensitive than that of a man. Whatever that may be, the perception of odours involves pheromones and hormone.

We still do not know how the sense of smell works. According to one theory, our scent cells respond to the shape of molecules. In fact, there may be only a few dozen scent receptor shapes in addition to primary colours. Scientists can combine primary colours to produce unusual scents. According to another theory, our noses can detect vibrations just like eyes and ears. Scientists are still debating the issue.

The olfactory cells of the nose are directly connected to the limbic system of the brain. It regulates our primary drives relating to sex, hunger, and thirst. Consisting of a series of doughnut-shaped structures that include the amygdala, hippocampus, and fornix, the limbic system borders the top of the central core and has connections with the cerebral cortex. In simple terms, the limbic system controls our eating, aggression and reproduction.

Human body

The human body emits certain chemicals which function as pheromones in other species. For instance, when we perspire, we give off a complex scent called 'androsterone.' Even some animals such as wild boars and pigs emit this substance. For them it is an odour signal of aggression in male boars and receptivity to mating in sows. According to scientists, most men cannot detect any odour in androsterone but women tend to smell it most readily when they are midway through their monthly cycle.

The results of 'sniff tests' show women have a better sense of smell than men. Most people have the ability to distinguish males from females on the basis of smell alone. People can also distinguish happy from sad emotions by sniffing underarm smells. Women are able to identify their babies solely on the basis of smell.

Most of us are unaware that scents are used to lend an air to stationery and greeting cards. This gives an illusion of freshness to them. Today this has extended to fabric softeners, dishwashing liquids, and washing powders. Apart from using scents in paints and medicines, even reconditioned cars are given a spray to give them a 'new car' smell. In the modern world, we are continuously influenced by odours but we have the freedom to ignore them if necessary.

Diagnosis

It is interesting to note that in ancient times doctors diagnosed illnesses by the smell of their patients. Typhoid fever was said to produce a smell like hot bread, measles like freshly-plucked feathers, insanity like the scent of mice or deer, plague like honey, yellow fever a butcher-shop odour. The art of odour diagnosis has not been abandoned. Medical research shows that if the breath of a patient has the peculiar smell of acetone, diabetes is the probable cause. If the smell is of ammonia, his kidneys are probably the culprit.

Our senses of smell and taste are inextricably linked. If you smell something savoury, your mouth will begin to water. Smell something rotten, you will get a bad taste in your mouth. For a dog or cat, there is a wealth of things to be smelt and tasted every day. But such a world of sensation is unknown to humans. They find good smells amazingly therapeutic. When you smell forest ferns, roasting coffee beans, freshly-baked bread, you feel happy. Although smell is the most evocative of senses, we do not pay much attention to our noses.

Scientists believe that we can make up the ancient sense of smell and put it to work because we transmit millions of messages that only the nose knows. We do not know whether all such smells would lock into our hormones. However, if we pay some extra attention to them, they will provide us with amazing information about ourselves and others.

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A close up view of Sri Pada mountain (middle) at Amutagoda



A veil of mist spread across paddy fields at dawn in Amutagoda



Birds flock to the trees in search of breakfast



Birds rest at dawn

THIS VILLAGE IS PART OF AN ANCIENT HERITAGE OF ELDERLY VILLAGERS' RECOLLECTIONS OF THE RUINS OF A STRUCTURE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PADDY FIELD, NOW COVERED WITH RANK GROWTH

Interview / Literature

A creative mind flows like a river

- Rohita Munasinghe

BY RAVINDRA WIJEWARDHANE

Rohita Munasinghe is an expatriate Sinhala writer in France. Starting from the *Kalu Dumārāya* (Dark Smoke), a short story collection in 1996, he has written 33 books, including novels, short stories and several non-fictions. His books on the JVP political movement are controversial, popular books and his second book, *Eliyakanda Wada Kandawura* (Eliyakanda torture camp) shaped his literary career. The *Sunday Observer* spoke to him to discuss his books and his art of fiction.

Excerpts

Q: What are your new literary endeavours?

A: New editions of my three previous books are to be published by Sarasavi Publishers. One is *Eliyakanda Wada Kandawura* (Eliyakanda torture camp) which is a non-fiction and others are novels, titled *Seine Gangath Henduwā Madhu Oba Giyadā* (The River Seine also wept when you leave me) and *Madhurangige Kathāwa* (Story of Madhurangi). I have finished writing a new novel too for which I couldn't select a title as yet.

Q: What is that novel about?

A: Once our family - me, my wife and my eldest son - travelled to Switzerland. My youngest son was three years old and got lost among the crowd in Geneva. We searched for him everywhere, but couldn't find him. About ten minutes later, we found him at the subway station in Geneva.

Though it wasn't a long time, those ten minutes haunted me, because there were many children who got lost at the time in France. My new novel is based on this incident.

Q: You were first known in Sri Lanka as a writer, when you published *Eliyakanda Wada Kandawura* which includes your experience of torture during the '88 - '89 terror period. Could you describe how the book was launched?

A: In the 1980s, I joined the JVP and worked for the party. In 1989, I was captured by the Army and had to spend a year

as a political prisoner. It was rare at the time for a youth to survive when caught by the Army. But with sheer luck, I could survive. One thing that kept my spirit in camps was reading books. When I was at the Boossa Army camp, I read all the Sinhala and English books that the Red Cross had brought us. I left the country illegally to France in 1990, which was an incredible journey. *Eliyakanda Wada Kandawura* was written, when I got political asylum in France. The book, containing my bitter experience in camps was launched in my absence in Sri Lanka in 2000.

Q: You are a speedy writer who launches three or four books for a year?

A: The late writer Chandrasiri Dodangoda also regarded me as a speedy writer. In his last letter to me, he stated, "Writing leisurely is not writing." There are many materials in my creative store. It is not difficult to write three fictions for a year. The most difficult task for me is to deal with publishers. One publisher destroyed my books by printing manuscripts without proof reading.

Q: Could you elaborate on your art of fiction?

A: I don't predetermine when I write. I have no plans or sketches. All the things in my fiction emerge from my creative mind and flow like a river. If I predetermine the story, I cannot create something new. Leo Tolstoy, the great Russian writer once said, "A very strange thing happened. You know that pretty girl, Tatyana, she suddenly got married! I never thought she would do such a thing. Anna Karenina also did the same. Some characters in my fiction do so strange things that I never imagine. Their deeds aren't mine, but theirs."

As a rule, I start to write a story with one or two images, but with some stories, I see the ending. I have a good memory from childhood. Because of this, I reckon, the things I write automatically come to the page when I sit at the table.

Q: How long have you been writing a novel?

A: For two or three months.

Q: Can you engage in two or more book projects simultaneously?

A: I can write a short story while I write a novel. But it is difficult to write two novels simultaneously.



Rohita Munasinghe

Q: How do you end a book?

A: I try to end a book with a tragedy. When I write a sad ending, sometimes tears fall from my eyes. A mother who read my novel, *Madhurangige Kathāwa* once reproached me for its shocking end that created trauma in her.

Q: Your novel, *Hinnikathara*, deals with a fantasy. Is it easy to write a fantasy novel?

A: No, it is difficult, because there you have to maintain a certain level of realism. If the reader cannot believe the events you describe, he abandons reading. But it is fun to write fantasy. When I was writing *Hinnikathara*, I enjoyed immensely.

Q: Mostly your characters and settings are from Sri Lanka, not from France where you have been living for 30 years?

A: I write my feelings to which there are geographical boundaries. But when I talk about my home environment in Paris, I see it's a blend of multi-cultural, globalised Paris life and conservative Sri Lankan life. France or Paris is a place where so many different ethnicities, cultures, languages, customs and ideas are mixed. I have to deal with this reality when I write a fiction. But most of the time, I write my nostalgia about my motherland.

Q: You are an expatriate writer. Is it difficult to write from a foreign country where you don't hear the mother tongue around you?

A: It is a difficult question to answer. However, it hasn't been a problem when writing in a language that I cannot hear around me. But there is a problem with regard to the common usage of Sinhala in Sri Lanka as we are less aware of the words and idioms of the contemporary society. It is also difficult to imagine some of the current scenes in Sri Lanka.

For instance, I write about the bullock carts (*Bara Karatha*) and venders (*Kathkaarayan*) in my fictions, but I don't know whether those bullock carts and *Kathkaarayan* are still functioning.

Q: Do you edit your manuscript before sending to a publisher?

A: I edit my manuscript while writing the book. But there aren't major corrections in it. I send the first version of the manuscript to the publisher directly. I have no habit of rewriting the manuscript many times.

Q: I heard, you write fiction while you are working at a hotel. Isn't it?

A: Yes, you are correct. I work at a hotel in Paris. Though I worked from 2.00 pm to 10.00 pm, I am more or less free after 7.00 pm. When I can write a story conjured up during early hours of the day. I am used to this routine.

Q: Is there any person who helps you develop your manuscript?

A: No. I have nobody to develop my manuscript. However, I believe that if my manuscript is developed by somebody else by adding things, it is no more my work.

Q: How do you manage time with writing?

A: I write at my workplace. During my weekend holidays, I spend time with my family and work in the home garden. I read while travelling by subway train. Generally, my life is free as I do not use mobile phones.

Q: France is the heart of the literary world. Have you been influenced by this environment?

A: It's a sheer luck to be in a country, such as France that produced many great authors. Incidentally, the bus-stand in front of my house is also named 'Balzac'. All these things are great fortunes for a writer. I was attracted to the French literature when I was a teenager in Sri Lanka.

Q: Who are your favourite authors in France?

A: I like old time authors, such as Maupassant and Victor Hugo. Although now I read them in French, those days I read their literature in Sinhala translations by Dadigama V. Rodrigo, K.G. Karunathilake, Cyril C. Perera, to whom I am indebted to.

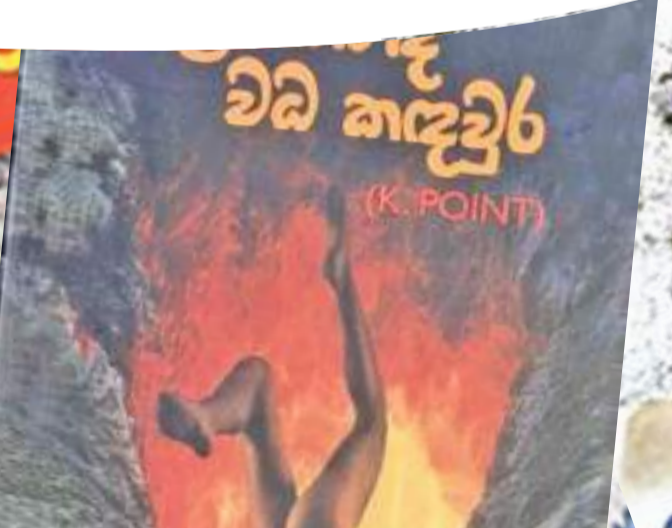
Q: What do you think about the Sinhala novels that have been translated into French?

A: Martin Wickramasinghe's *Virāgaya*, Jayasena Jayakody's *Amā Wessa* and a few other novels have been translated into French by Ven. Mandawala Pragnawansa Thera, but none of them were received by the French readers. I don't know why, but French readers are not interested in Sinhala literature.

Q: What are the new literary trends in France?

A: There isn't any prolonged literary trend as they are changing every time. However, since last month, readers are interested in President Nicoloi Zarcosi's book.

There is a demand for thrillers, romantic novels, autobiographies and fantasy books. It is the same for postmodern literature too.



Fear and Tears

Fear and Tears is Dharanee Upeka Weerasekara's debut English novel. It is the fourth book authored by her, and has a different story line.

Prabash is a talented, young law student. But the hardest pain in his life is the sudden murder of his father, the former Minister of Foreign Affairs. His tragic death occurred when Prabash was a small child. After years of silence, Prabash is determined to find the murderers of his father. *Fear and Tears* is woven around the unexpected experiences encountered by Prabash.

The author, Dharanee Upeka Weerasekara is a lawyer who graduated

from the Faculty of Law, University of Colombo. She joined the Sri Lanka Administrative Service in 2017 and currently serves as Assistant Commissioner of Elections (Legal) at the Election Commission.

Her first book, *Bermudawen Wishwayata*, an adventure fiction won third place at the National Youth Awards Festival, and the Wayamba Literary Award for the Best Children's Fiction of the Year. Her second book, *Mandaram andura medin* is a collection of short stories. Her third book *Mage pem Wehilihini* is a collection of poetry published in 2015.



Joseph Conrad: Heart of Darkness

A broadview best-seller for this third edition of Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*, the book has been revised and updated to take account of the scholarship of the most recent generation.

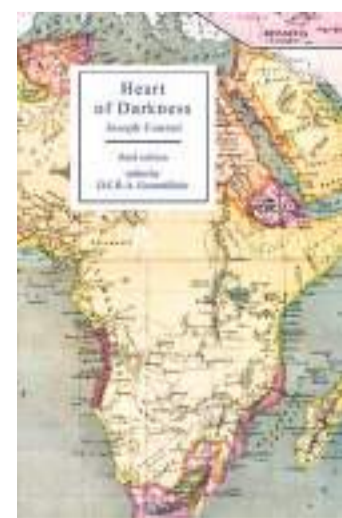
The introduction has been rewritten and the appendices of contextual materials overhauled.

This new edition includes excerpts from George Washington Williams's Letter to Leopold II, as well as excerpts from an extraordinary document not included in any other edition of *Heart of Darkness* (but discussed extensively in two groundbreaking twenty-first century works of scholarship, David Van

Reybrouck's *Congo: The Epic History of a People* and Maya Jasanoff's *The Dawn Watch: Joseph Conrad in a Global World*): the autobiography of Disasi Makulo.

Makulo grew up near the shore of the Congo River in the 1880s and early 1890s, was enslaved by notorious ivory dealer Tippu Tip, and then was taken under the wing of Henry Morgan Stanley.

Makulo's account—substantial excerpts of which are here translated into English for the first time—opens an unprecedented window on life in the equatorial forest of the Congo in the late nineteenth century.



Yugathra by Channa Perera

MONTAGE

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AUGUST 30, 2020



Championing Illusions of Democracy

A review of the Sinhala stage play *Garu Katanayakathumani*

By Dilshan Boange



"Democracy means, governing people who commute by bus by people who don't take the bus." This phrase that was articulated in the 'legislature' brought to life in Udayasiri Wickremaratne's latest stage play *Garu Katanayakathumani* stands in stark contrast to Lincoln's phrasing of democracy, as a 'people's government', described in the famous Gettysburg address. However, in my opinion, Wickremaratne's words spoken through his character donned with a maroon-burgundy coloured shawl, describes a much more truthful picture of what 'democracy' has 'devolved' (and not evolved) to, over the course of time.

On November 9 last year, seated in the gentle darkness of Punchi Theatre in Borella I watched Wickremaratne's 'lively theatrical caricature' on matters of the legislature and the State, come alive on the boards, as Sri Lanka was gearing up for the Presidential polls. Watching the myriad of behaviour of the 'Honourable members' of 'the House', which ranges from whimsically frolicsome to humorously braggadocios to unapologetically bawdy to musically ramunctious, one must ask, how serious a 'political critique' mounted on the boards is *Garu Katanayakathumani*?

This, in my opinion, is not a play that intelligentsia would care to make the subject of critical analysis on art that defines the times.

And I for one doubt that Wickremaratne has any grand notions that his latest play will be appraised and praised as a work of theatre that holds immense 'intellectual merit' that 'encapsulates the times' while being 'timeless'. *Garu Katanayakathumani* reflects our times to an extent that it projects the image of 'franchised' people's 'representation' that cares not for meaningful representation, nor the 'people'.

Humour and nonsensical theatrics

There is much truth in the larger picture that belies the humour and nonsensical theatrics to the effect that one may bear an afterthought that this comedic play insinuates that the 'people' are a myth in the folds of the workings of the legislature, and that pretty much all forms of politics has transformed into a play of song, dance and mayhem which 'the people', 'the electors', may watch passively.

It is clear that in this world, politics is a drama that cannot be scripted nor directed by the people but only watched.

What really goes on at the various committee stages of legislation formulation in Parliament? How does a parliamentary committee call upon evidence and what evidence does it decide to accept in a matter under inquiry? An interesting turn of events and a much welcome change to the tone and pace of action takes place

in the play when a parliamentary select committee decides to investigate the burning question of who exactly gave the sword to Princess Maname to give it to the King of the Veddhas (forest dwelling aboriginal folk) to kill Prince Maname? Was Princess Maname given the sword by someone else or did she take possession of the sword in her own volition? While the humorous narrative that unfolds on stage, when characters of the classic Maname by the late great Prof Ediriweera Sarachchandra are summoned before the parliamentary committee is an investigation into a work of classical Sinhala theatre, it can perhaps also be read in the metaphorical sense of how the aspirations of the people are betrayed by a government. It is no secret that looking at the antics of politicians over the decades in Sri Lanka, the people, time and again, feel betrayed.

Maname

The essence of the classical Sinhala play Maname is about betrayal. Perhaps the parliamentary committee on stage, by going into this subject, is performing a metaphoric, investigative, self critique of how 'the original betrayal' took place.

As all political play acting leads to no final resolution of an issue for sincere redress, this investigation too is a process of a politically contrived trip 'around the mulberry bush' that goes 'up the garden path'.

If one thinks deeply about a possible larger picture this stage play may subtly speaks of, it is perhaps the truth about the subject of the 'troubled contract' between the 'elector', and the 'elected' is but an unending cycle of betrayal and forgiveness that the people and their representatives unfaithfully amend and perpetuate each time, with almost natural ease.

Garu Katanayakathumani is a play that will unfaithfully tickle the funny bones of the 'gallery' with comedic entertainment. It is not timeless but very much built on caricaturing events, incidents and 'sayings' that echo the political landscape of today. It is in that sense easily identifiable for what it is.

A very saleable mass market work of comedic Sinhala theatrical entertainment. While the acting and flow of action is appreciable in most parts of the narrative, the element of Sinhala song and dance was overdone in my personal opinion to the point that it was more irksome than entertaining, to me. Wickremaratne is bold in his approach to the extent that he gives voice to much 'political sentiment' of what was at the time of this performance being reviewed, a turn of regime that would usher in a new order. I could not help but wonder later, how far will *Garu Katanayakathumani* be allowed to stride if it gains the colour of a brazen lampoon? Time will tell one may suppose as this play is still not banned or censored and continues to mount the boards to entertain theatregoers. And how long will this play continue to be on the boards and adopt new events and incidents to caricature as the political drama of Sri Lanka flows on? Time will tell.

SCOPE-SARASAVIYA

FILM FESTIVAL NEXT MONTH

Kathuru Mithuru by Giriraj Kaushalya



Gindari by Udayakantha Warnasuriya



Scope Cinemas will host the Scope-Sarasaviya Film Festival from September 4-8, at the Scope Cinemas Liberty complex. The festival will celebrate the diverse landscape of Sri Lankan cinema, bringing to the big screen a selection of first-rate films to entertain, engage, and inspire.

Throughout the Film Festival, Scope Cinemas will host exclusive paid previews of compelling films of some of the country's most acclaimed artists and filmmakers, months in advance of their official release. Ticket-holders will also meet and greet the directors, producers, and key cast members of each movie from that day's final screening.

Wide spectrum of genres

The list of films slated to be showcased has been artfully curated for the festival, and includes productions across a wide spectrum of genres.

Miss Jenis, a light-hearted comedy by Director Susirinda Silva revolves around the desperate antics of a middle-aged man who has resorted to disguising himself as a woman to sustain his family.

Sri Wickrama by Director Mohan Niyaz is a dramatic biopic based on the life of King Sri Wickrama Rajasinghe of the Kandyan Kingdom, the last ruling monarch of Sri Lanka. Director Channa Perera's *Yugathra* tells the fantastic story of a young man Visal, and his quest to dis-

cover the secret behind the mysterious girl of his dreams. Director Jayantha Chandrasiri's *Midunu Wishwaya*, a tale of time-travel centres around the complex love of two people from entirely different eras. *Kathuru Mithuru* directed by Giriraj Kaushalya is the tale of a friendship developed between a tailor and barber over a common tool. *Gindari*, a comedy/mystery film by Director Udayakantha Warnasuriya follows the dysfunctional results of when supernatural and real lives collide.

Optimism

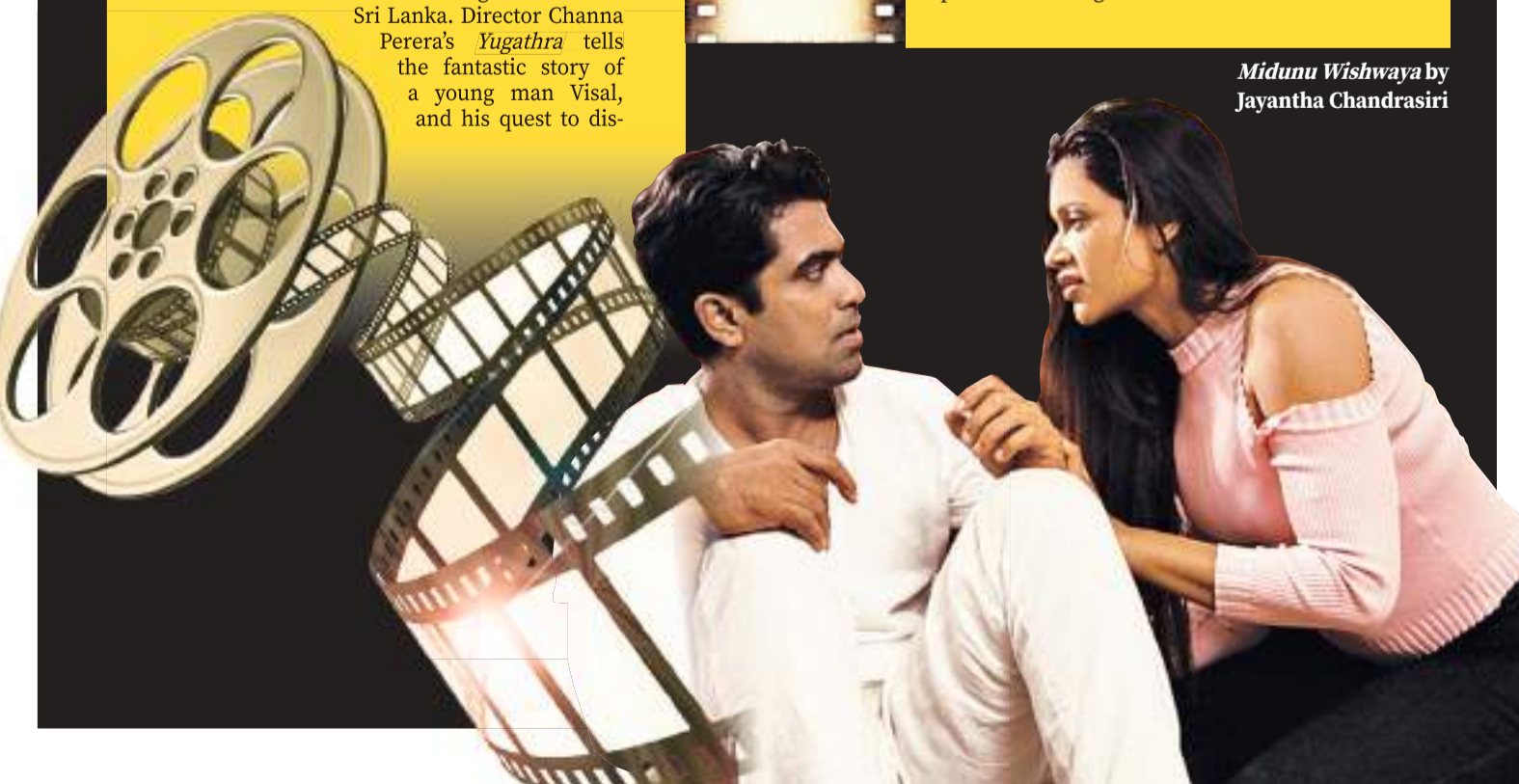
Scope Cinemas is confident that the film festival will serve as the perfect platform for cinema-goers to appreciate contemporary Sri Lankan film. Additionally, the event is expected to build optimism and spirit as a recovery medium for the industry, especially at a time when audiences have been deprived of the chance to appreciate not just the immense talent behind filmmaking, but also the cinema experience as a whole.

The organisers are working to create the most memorable experience; a film-fest vibe, attended by some of Sri Lanka's well-known film personalities and celebrities.

Scope Cinemas will also ensure that the venue and all operations adhere to public health and safety guidelines on Covid-19, promising a healthy, safe, comfortable, and state-of-the-art experience for all guests.



Midunu Wishwaya by Jayantha Chandrasiri



ART NEWS

Recommencement of classes at SVCC

The Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), High Commission of India, Colombo, will recommence its regular classes on - Hindi, Violin, Sitar, Tabla, Carnatic Vocal, Bharatnatyam, Kathak and Yoga from September 1, 2020. A limited number of vacancies is available in the batches for Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced levels.

- Classes are conducted by eminent artistes of Sri Lanka such as:
 - Dr Somasiri Illesinghe (Violin)
 - Dr Aruthathy Sri Renganathan (Carnatic Vocal)
 - Dr Nirmala Kumari Rodrigo (Sitar)
 - Dr Subashini Pathmanathan (Bharatnatyam)
 - Ms Kalasuri Vasugy Jegatheeswaran (Bharatnatyam)
 - Ms Moksha Samarasuriya (Kathak)
 - Mr Ranga Perera (Tabla)

For details of registration and class timings please contact the SVCC, Colombo, on Tel. 2684698/email - icccolombo2@gmail.com.

Features



THE STATE AND FATE OF THEATRE

A FEATURE SERIES OF Q&A INTERVIEWS WITH SRI LANKAN THEATRE PRACTITIONERS ON PERCEPTIONS AND PERSPECTIVES OF WHAT LIES AHEAD FOR SRI LANKAN THEATRE AS THE WORLD GRAPPLES WITH A PANDEMIC THAT CALLS FOR 'SOCIAL DISTANCING'.

By
Dilshan Boange



Kaushalya Fernando is a well known face of the screen, yet has her roots in theatre, and continues to be part of the vibrant Sinhala theatre community in Sri Lanka. The daughter of the famous theatre and screen artiste Somalatha Subasinghe, Kaushalya drives forward, together with her husband Dr. Chandana Aluthge, the theatre company 'Somalatha Subasinghe's Kotte Playhouse' founded by her late mother, that has been a platform for many young artistes to find their feet in the world of drama and theatre. In this week's instalment of The State and Fate of Theatre, Kaushalya speaks of the challenges they faced during the past few months and what she sees as issues and factors that need to be focused on and addressed, to help drama and theatre to grow in the next few years.

Q. Did the nationwide lockdown and the subsequent situation that arose, halt any theatre productions that you had planned for this year?

A. We were preparing to debut a new play this year but now we have halted work on that production temporarily.

A part from that our plans to stage the regular shows we

have every year are now in a difficult position. The lockdown itself caused some severe difficulties for young theatre artistes who take part in our productions.

Most of them are from outstations and stay in Colombo as boarders in rented lodgings. During the lockdown they had to get back to their homes, and now continuing with the planned schedules is not possible as some of them cannot find lodging in Colombo at rates affordable to them since as artistes they cannot find work like they would usually get.

Q. How big a task is it to get your schedules reorganised and make a workable performance plan for the productions that are usually staged annually by The Playhouse?

A. Getting the artistes back together is only one part of the task. The operational costs and social distancing factors when added to the equation make it very difficult. The artistes who mostly come from rural areas are faced with many economic difficulties at this point. When a production is organised we have to bear all costs from

AS ARTISTES WE CANNOT IDLE WITHOUT ENGAGING IN THE ARTS. IT IS OUR PASSION AND WE MUST ENDEAVOUR TO DO SO. ALTHOUGH WE HAD TO HALT THE PRODUCTION PLANS TEMPORARILY WE HAVE NOT CANCELLED IT. WE WILL PERSEVERE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE TO BRING NEW CREATIONS TO LIFE IN THE COMING YEARS DESPITE THE CHALLENGES.

costumes, to makeup, to stage sets, to transport. And that is without counting the payments to artistes. Therefore, without the possibility of having regular shows it is difficult to financially manage a production under these conditions.

When we were given the opportunity to perform *Vikurthi* at the theatre festival at the Elphinstone and Tower Hall theatre, we at first thought it might be possible to do it.

'Vikurthi' is part of the O/L Grade 11 Sinhala language syllabus. Although the Elphinstone theatre festival offered the hall free with a stimulus of Rs 50,000 to bear costs and even offered the ticket sales revenue, the cost factor was simply too much.

Ticket sales revenue is an uncertain factor, and it has been halved due to social distancing factors.

Therefore, we are looking at half the usual ticket sales. Hence we were unable to utilise the opportunity and withdrew due to cost factors. In that context it is very difficult to reorganise the show runs we usually do for a year.

Q. Given the situation you and other theatre artistes are faced with, how do you see the future for Sinhala theatre in the next two to three years?

A. The situation is precarious looking at the state of how things are at present. As I said, many young

theatre artistes from rural areas find it difficult to secure lodging in and around Colombo due to the lack of work. That is a significant hurdle that needs to be addressed.

They are struggling as artistes and when faced with a further drop in work and with only a few jobs available in theatre for a year is not financially possible for them.

Apart from that how many shows can be expected to stage outside Colombo? That is a crucial factor.

Stage plays such as *Vikurthi* which my mother wrote and produced originally, and is part of the Grade 11 Sinhala language and literature syllabus in schools, can be shown in schools only if the school administrators are cooperative and give it priority.

At present most of the Education Department officials and school administrators focus only on the academic work in classrooms and do not believe in allocating 'school time' for stage plays even when the play happens to be one that is in the syllabus.

Watching the stage play as a performance is also part of the learning process and learning drama and theatre is not merely about reading the script in the classroom from the textbook. Therefore, I think there is a need for immediate dialogue and cooperative measures to be adopted by stakeholders such as the Department of Cultural Affairs, the Department of Education, and operators in the theatre sector.

While theatre festivals in Colombo's main theatres held with the support of the state are greatly appreciated, and while applauding such measures, I must also say that drama and theatre is not something that must be limited to Colombo and other main urban areas.

It must be made accessible to outstations as well with a well crafted plan to go beyond Colombo in the future.

The state should consider providing a stimulus plan for theatre groups.

That is a much needed requirement at this point for all theatre artistes. Otherwise drama and theatre in Sri Lanka will suffer a massive setback in the next two to three years.

Q. You said that a new production which was planned for debut this year has now been halted. Does this mean that you will not go ahead with new productions in the next few years?

A. As artistes we cannot idle without engaging in the arts. It is our passion and we must endeavour to do so.

Although we had to halt the production plans temporarily we have not cancelled it.

We will persevere as much as possible to bring new creations to life in the coming years despite the challenges. We may not be able to do long show runs but may be one or two shows since it is a new play, but we will certainly not give up altogether. Despite the odds, as artistes we must try to realise our visions of creativity.

And we sincerely hope that all stakeholders in Sri Lanka will consider giving theatre the required support to not merely survive but to actively grow in the coming years.

The Indelible



Making a sincere attempt to bring an unimagined and unexplored treasure trove of modern Sinhala literature to the English reading community, *Montage* is bringing Mahinda Prasad Masimbula's award winning novel *Senkottan* translated by **Malinda Seneviratne**, veteran journalist, writer and poet. *Senkottan* (The Indelible), a remarkable creation of literature by Mahinda Prasad Masimbula was his debut effort in his literary career for which he won the State Literary Award in 2013 and short-listed in *Swarna Pusthaka* Literary Awards and many other Literary Award Festivals in the same year. The book has been published by Santhawa Publishers and *Senkottan* has blazed the trail in the self-publishing industry as one of the best-selling books in Sinhala literature.

CHAPTER 10, PART 1

Although there had been two messages from the Niyamgama Walawwa to pick up soiled clothes Veerappuli Henaya was not inclined to go there. He hadn't gone to Godakawela even once after the incident concerning Podina. Malma Ridee, knowing very well that he was mired in an immense sense of disappointment which he took care not to reveal to the world, undertook this journey along with Baba Henaya without troubling Veerappuli Henaya in any way.

Veerappuli Henaya, as always, took charge of soaking the clothes in the stream and laying them out in the *vellaava*, but at all other times his attention was directed towards the boy sapling which was growing well, one leaf at a time.

Malma Ridee often watched him from the house. She remembered how she had just rolled on the ground and wept inconsolably the moment she had been informed of Podina's death and how that sorrow gradually faded simply by washing it in tears. A faint pain would pierce her heart and envelop her entire being whenever she thought of Podina but she knew she had the strength to bear it. She knew, however, that Veerappuli Henaya lacked this strength.

He was like a little child. She still remembered how one evening, crouching by the hearth, he had murmured 'my dearest mother...' and wept alone. It was more than twenty five years since his mother, her mother-in-law, Ugnang Ridee had died, but it was as though his sorrow had received a fresh lease of life.

His visits to Guna Ralahamy had become less and less frequent. Baba Henaya now went all by himself to Guna Ralahamy's house twice a week for his lessons. He could now write words such as *amma*, *thaaththaa* and *aatha* in beautiful round letters, all from memory. He would spend the evening using a stick to write on the sand outside the house. Veerappuli Henaya, therefore, had stopped sweeping with the ekel broom. He would walk all over the compound, admiring the work of the boy. There were lots of letters written with pieces of charcoal on the walls of the house which had been whitened with [SH1] *makulu*.

As the days passed Malma Ridee gradually stopped accepting invitations to *kotahalu* ceremonies outside the village. If it was too important to reject she would send Nambu Henaya to Bungiriya with a message for Rambari. Rambari would give him five cents for his efforts. This money he saved to buy books for Baba Henaya the next time Bavatha came by.

One day while Malma Ridee was washing clothes in the *petthare* Garu Ridee came to see her. At this time Veerappuli Henaya was by the stream, rinsing clothes and laying them out on a rock to dry. Garu Ridee was not one to look her in the eye and talk. However, Malma Ridee suspected that she had come to talk of something that was profitable to herself. Garu Ridee began to speak.

'I have been thinking of coming to see you Nandamme for quite some time. I even told my brother. Didn't Nambuwa tell you anything?'

'Hmm...no. Nambuwa told me nothing of the sort. What is it Garu...what's it that you need?'

Garu Ridee thought for a while how she could articulate the matter. Malma Ridee looked at her. Garu Ridee's jacket had slipped off her shoulder. The one thing striking about her face was her teeth, which stuck out of her mouth. It was as though a skeleton had been covered with a cloth. Malma Ridee felt sorry for her. Garu Ridee stuttered and stammered.

'My Nandamme...we are closely related. We are of the same clan. You know well Nandamme that our mother could tirelessly wash clothes. You are a woman from Bungiriya. I am not saying there's

anything wrong in that. What I mean is that you rarely go out of the village for *kotahalu* ceremonies. So maybe you could pass on invitations for such things to me instead of sending word to people in Bungiriya. I am struggling to make ends meet. And anyway, I have no one to take care of me. The only one I had took up residence in your home, as you know.'

'That's not a problem Garu Ridee...but you are not a woman who does anything properly, you know. That's not good in these matters. If a word is given you have to go, even if you break your neck doing so. All you've done is to take a story from here and relate it somewhere else, take something from there and relate it here. You've never done anything for anyone to have any confidence in you.'

Garu Ridee's face well when she heard this, but Malma Ridee hadn't rejected outright her proposal. Anyway, it was just a small part of all the things she had wanted to say.

'I am not saying no to you. If you undertake such things, you have to remember the day, the time and the place. You have to attend to things in such a way that there would be no complaint. Also, you need some white cloth. If you are ready to do things properly I can give you some cloth. When you visit such a house you should have no ears for other people's affairs. You do what has to be done in the morning.'

You take what's given. You come back. That's all. You understand, don't you Garuwo?'

Garu Ridee was overjoyed. 'Yes, yes I understand,' she said excitedly and taking a pile of clothes lying on a nearby rock, soaked and started to wash them. Although he had heard this exchange Veerappuli Henaya did not utter a single word. He took the wad of washing soda and rubbed it on the stains on clothes from which the water had been squeezed out.

Garu Ridee spoke while washing the clothes.

'Nandamme, I am not too interested in washing clothes. I don't have the strength. However, if I could bathe a single *kotahalu* once a week, it would suffice. If this was possible I won't have to eat *kos-polos* every day. I could actually eat some rice.'

Malma Ridee felt sorry for her. She thought to herself that this is a highly meritorious act and felt happy.

There's a message from Bibilegama. I will pass it on to you. When they come with betel I will send them along to your place. You accept the invitation.'

Garu Ridee laid aside the cloth that was in her hand, went on her knees and worshipped Malma Ridee.

'Much merit should go to you Nandamme. It's no small matter. You've come to the aid of a helpless woman. I will do the bathing perfectly. I can now eat my fill of rice. This merit should go to the two of you, our fellow, his boy, Podina who has now gone beyond reach, your Heen Ridee and also the baby in her womb...May they all be blessed with merit. There! I have wished it so!'

Malma Ridee was curious. 'The baby in the womb...?' she asked.

Garu Ridee came nearer and spoke to Malma Ridee as though sharing a secret.

'Didn't you know? The Heen girl has been vomiting. Now listen Nandamme. The day before yesterday when I walked near Babanis' place in search of *indalolu* mushrooms, she was trying to eat the kernel of *goraka* fruit fallen on the ground. I said "wait," and climbed a little way up the tree, plucked six-seven fruit and gave her. She ate them all, would you believe it?'

When she heard this Malma Ridee's eyes filled with tears.

'I will prepare some polos and go see the little girl.'



Kaushalya Fernando

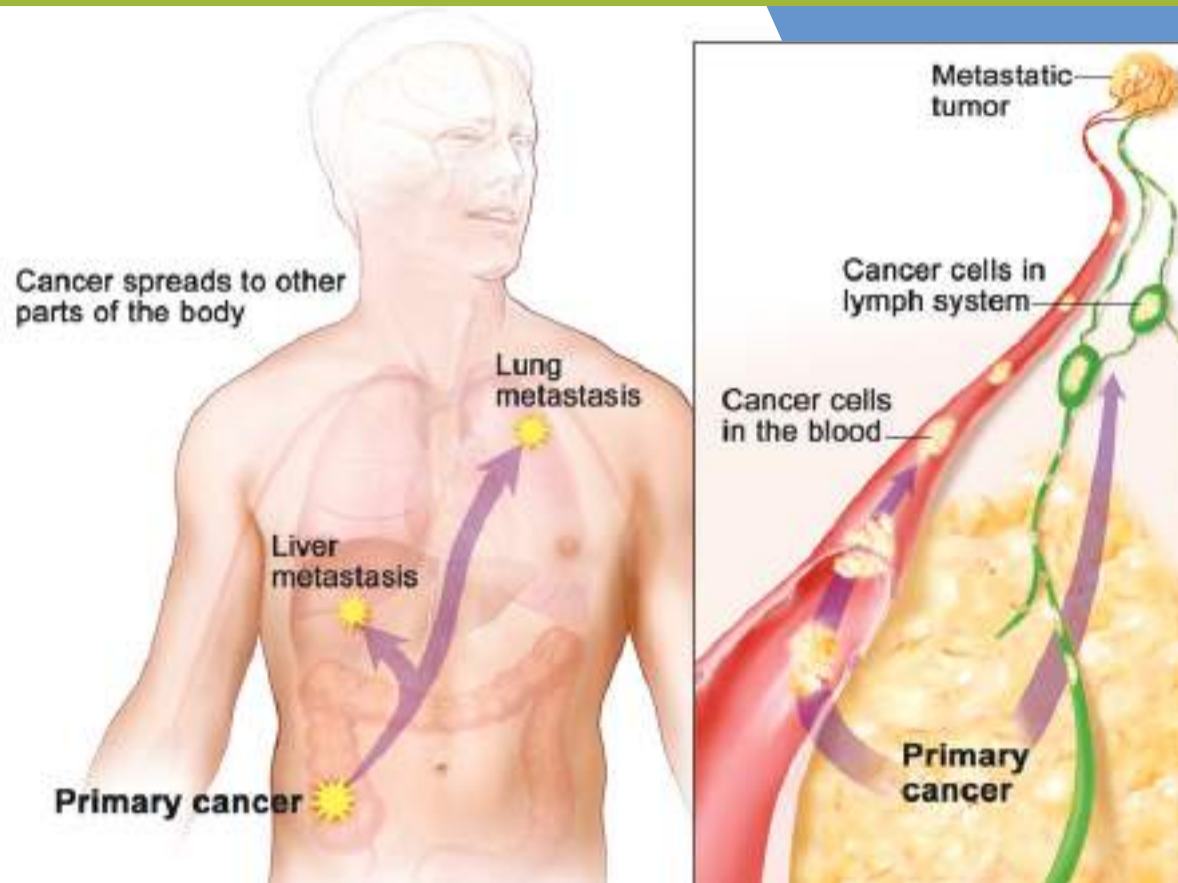
EARLY DETECTION LEADS TO BETTER TREATMENT OUTCOME

By
Carol Aloysius



Cancer is the second leading cause of death globally accounting for 1 in 6 deaths, the majority (around 70%) in low middle income countries. Demographic (aging population) and lifestyle changes, accelerated urbanisation, partly contribute to this increase in many developing countries including Sri Lanka. To give readers a better understanding of what cancer is and how it could be prevented, the *Sunday Observer* today has brought this subject on centre stage to raise more awareness in a collective effort that now has the backing of a government that is fully committed to drastically reduce the percentage of cancer patients in Sri Lanka.

Consultant Community Physician National Cancer Prevention Programme (NCP) Dr Nayana de Alwis explains what cancer is, how it spreads, signs to look for, and most importantly how modifiable risk factors can be reduced to prevent cancer.



One-third of cancers can be reduced with healthy lifestyles

Excerpts:

Q. Many of our readers still don't understand what cancer is. So tell us what is cancer.

A. Cancer is a group of diseases having similar characteristics. Cancer can start anywhere in the body where cells are present. Cells are the basic building blocks of the body. Cells grow and divide to make new cells when the body needs them. In normal circumstances cells divide according to the body's need and new cells form and replace old cells.

Cancer begins when genetic changes interfere with this orderly process. At the initial stages when very few abnormal cells are formed the body's immune mechanism identifies them as abnormal and destroys. As cells become more and more abnormal and more and more rapidly proliferating, the body is unable to destroy them. In all types of cancers, cells in the particular organ or part of the body begins to divide in an uncontrollable manner and form a mass called a tumour. A tumour can be cancerous or benign. A cancerous tumour is malignant, meaning it can grow and spread to other parts of the body. A benign tumour means the tumour can grow but will not spread. Some types of cancers do not form tumours e.g: cancers of the blood or lymphatics leukemia, some types of lymphoma and myeloma.

Q. What causes it?

A. Cancer is a genetic disease caused by changes in the genes that control the way cells function, especially, how they grow and divide. Cancer begins when genes in a cell become abnormal and the cell starts to grow and divide out of control.

There are two ways one can have abnormal genes

1. Inherited: An abnormal gene can be passed from the mother or the father at the time of birth which is called inherited gene abnormality. These abnormal cells will proliferate during one's lifetime to produce cancers. These types of gene abnormalities run through families. That's why family history of cancer is important in some people. Inherited gene abnormalities are thought to be a direct cause of only a small fraction (5 - 10%) of cancers.
2. Acquired: gene abnormalities also arise during a person's lifetime as a result of errors that occur during cell division or damage of DNA caused by certain environmental exposure. Acquired gene abnormalities are much more common than inherited gene mutations. About 90 - 95% adult cancers occur due to acquired gene mutations.

Q. How does it spread?

A. When a cancerous tumour grows, the blood stream or lymphatic system may carry dislodged cancer cells to other parts of the body. A cancer spread to a distant place in the body from the original site is called metastatic cancer. Metastatic cancer (secondary deposit) has the same type of cancer cells as the original or primary cancer. E.g: Breast cancer which spreads to the lung and forms a metastatic tumour in the lung is metastatic breast cancer not lung cancer.

One of the first places a cancer spreads is lymph nodes, which are very tiny organs located in clusters in different parts of the body such as neck, groin or under the arm. Their main function is to fight infections.

Cancer may also spread to distant parts of the body through the blood stream and the sites may include bones, liver, lung and brain.

Q. Where do these different types of cancers originate?

A. There are more than 100 types of cancers named according to the organ or tissue where cancer forms.

E.g: Breast cancer starts in the cells of the breast; lung cancer in the cells of the lung and liver cancer in the cells of the liver.

Q. How are cancers different from one another?

A. Some cancers grow fast and spread fast while others grow very slowly. Cancers respond to treatments also in different ways. Some cancers respond better with surgery and some with radiotherapy or different groups of drugs including chemotherapy. Some respond better when treatment modalities are given in combination.

Q. Probable reasons for developing cancers?

A. While definite causative agents have been identified for certain cancers (e.g: Tobacco smoke for lung cancer, Human papilloma virus infection for cervical cancer) there are no definitive causative agents for a majority of cancers.

Q. Risk factors - what are they?

A. Risk factor is something which increases a person's chance of getting a disease. There are known risk factors which increase the chance of developing a cancer. In most instances it is not a single risk factor responsible for the development of a cancer but a combination of different risk factors (multifactorial). Of these, there are factors which you can change or modify (modifiable) and some cannot be changed or modified (nonmodifiable).

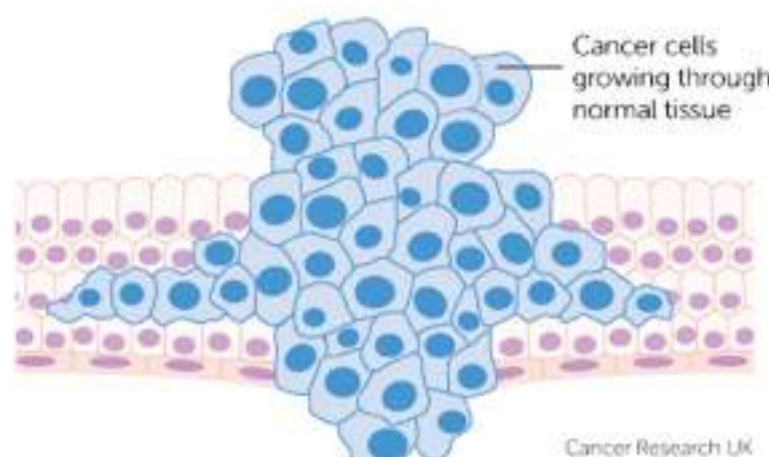
Modifiable risk factors

Smoking - Tobacco smoke is made up of thousands of chemicals, including at least 70 which are known to cause cancer. Following cancers can occur due to tobacco smoke:

Lung, oral, laryngeal, oesophageal, bladder, pancreatic, liver, kidney, colon, rectum and cervical cancers are some. Breathing in other people's smoke, called passive smoking, also can cause cancers.

Smokeless tobacco/areca nut - it has been scientifically proven that the areca nut and smokeless tobacco in the betel quid contain several carcinogens. The chemical Arecoline in the areca nut and several other carcinogens in the smokeless tobacco are responsible for developing oral cancers in betel chewers. This is one of the main reasons for the high incidence of oral cancers in South East Asian countries including Sri Lanka.

Alcohol - alcohol consumption is positively associated with the development of various cancers including oral, laryngeal, oesophageal, vocal cord, liver and breast cancers. Cancer risk increases with the amount and frequency of drinking. It has also been proved that people who use both alcohol and tobacco (Smoking/smokeless) have a greater risk of developing cancers than people who use either alcohol or tobacco.



Dr Nayana de Alwis

Unhealthy dietary habits - Research has found that the people consuming plant foods are at a lower risk of developing cancers than those who consume animal foods. Studies have also shown that people consuming more vegetables and fruits have a less chance of developing colorectal cancers. Consumption of high fat diets can increase the risk of developing breast, prostate, uterine, ovarian and colon cancers. It is advisable to limit the daily consumption of foods containing fat so that only less than 30% of daily calorie requirement is supplemented by fat.

Animal food - Red meat such as beef, mutton and pork, processed foods (sausages, ham, bacon), grilled and meat prepared under high temperatures are also known to increase the chance of developing cancers of the digestive tract.

Aflatoxin - a toxin released by certain fungi which can contaminate crops while in the field, at harvest and during storage can cause liver cancer.

Artificial flavours used to enhance the taste of the food and other preservatives and colouring products may also act as carcinogens. Hence, it is advisable to select food items prepared adhering to proper standards and guidelines.

Q. Is being overweight and obese also risk factors?

A. Yes. Overweight and obesity are risk factors for many cancers. E.g: breast cancer, colon, oesophageal, uterine, ovarian, renal, pancreatic, gall bladder and prostate cancers.

Q. Lack of regular physical exercise - what role does it play?

A. Regular physical exercises prevent many cancers including colorectal, breast and uterine cancers. Regular physical exercise indirectly helps prevent cancers by reducing body weight, reducing circulating hormones, especially, oestrogen.

Q. Environmental carcinogens- what are they?

A. Any substance that causes cancer is known as carcinogen. It does not mean that just exposing to a carcinogen would cause cancer, many factors influence whether a person exposed to a carcinogen will develop cancer, including the amount and duration of the exposure and the individual's genetic background. There are many scientifically proven environmental carcinogens, some of them are:

Arsenic, Asbestos, Benzene, Benzidine, Beryllium, Cadmium, coal tar, Crystalline silica, Formaldehyde, second hand tobacco smoke, Vinyl chloride, wood dust, leather dust, ultra violet radiation.

Radiation - Radiation of certain wavelength called ionising radiation has enough energy to damage DNA in the cells and initiate causation of cancer.

Ionising radiation includes Radon, X rays, gamma rays, CT scan, PET scan, Radiotherapy and other high energy radiation. However, the risk of cancer from the medical procedures is very small and the benefit of having them when necessary is always greater than the risk.

Infectious agents - certain microorganisms including viruses, bacteria and parasites can also cause cancer or increase the chance of developing cancer.

eg:
Human papilloma virus - cancer uterine cervix
Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C - liver cancer

Human Immunodeficiency virus (virus causing AIDS)

Q. How many of the cancers you mentioned are preventable and how?

A. About 30 -35% (1/3) of all cancers can be prevented by avoiding possible risk factors and choosing a healthy lifestyle.

Q. Symptoms?

A. Following are some suggestive symptoms and signs of possible cancers. However, they are not specific to cancers; they can be found in non-cancerous disease conditions as well but need further investigations to exclude cancer.

- Prolonged cough / coughing with blood
- Prolonged hoarseness of voice
- A sore/wound that does not heal
- Sudden change or growth of a lump, wart or a nevus
- Thickening or a lump in the breast or elsewhere
- Indigestion or difficulty in swallowing
- Frequent fever, pallor or unexpected loss of weight
- Passing blood- or blood-stained stools
- Unusual bleeding or discharge

Q. Will early detection result in better outcome?

A. Early detection of cancer increases the chances for successful treatments. A significant proportion of cancers can be cured if detected early.

Q. Your message in brief to the public?

A. There is no single way to prevent all cancers. But by choosing healthy lifestyles you can lower your risk of some cancers. Of all cancers about 1/3 can be prevented by adhering to a healthy lifestyle.

Medi snips

Compiled by Carol Aloysius

Children who missed vaccinations should be immunised immediately-Epid Unit

Consultant Epidemiologist, Epidemiology Unit, Ministry of Health, Dr Deepa Gamage has urged parents whose children missed getting vaccinated due to the Covid-19 outbreak to do so immediately.

"The huge impact on health due to the Covid-19 pandemic is global, and all countries have taken measures to contain the transmission and reduce the impact of the outbreak on health-care services", she told the *Sunday Observer*. "Temporary interruption of essential basic health-care delivery services such as routine immunisation services has affected most countries.

This may lead to secondary health crises such as outbreaks due to measles, poliomyelitis, rubella, whooping cough, diphtheria, tetanus, Japanese encephalitis as main vaccine preventable diseases, along with the on going Covid-19 outbreak in the world. Multiple communicable disease outbreaks can result in amplifying the economic damage of the existing epidemic and unexpectedly exacerbate morbidity and mortality due to communicable diseases that could be prevented through vaccination", she said.

She said, Sri Lanka achieved a very low under 5 child mortality rate due to effective public health interventions, by focusing on preventing vaccine preventable diseases. To this end, the Epidemiology Unit, Ministry of Health as the main implementation authority for the National Immunization Program took priority measures in the resumption of National Immunization Program after temporary suspension of vaccination clinics at the initial stage of the Covid-19 transmission, from mid-March to mid-April 2020.

Guidelines have been given to all field level public health staff of the Regional Epidemiologists and Medical Officers of Health (MOH) on precautionary measures to mitigate Covid-19 transmission, on resumption and continuation of field level immunisation clinics.", she said. She warned that most vaccine preventable diseases which existed even during the pre vaccine era, cause long term morbidity and mortality. "If any child contracted such diseases, it could lead to a great deal of complications including death. Timely visits to MOH, midwife or the closest vaccination clinic to get the vaccine can prevent this danger", she said.

She said that one vaccine was targeted to prevent only one disease and would not give protection to another disease. "It is important to get all recommended vaccines for adequate protection from vaccine preventable communicable diseases," she emphasised.

On the benefits of vaccination, she said the vaccine components helped to develop protective level immunity. This immunity will remain for a long term in the body providing protection for such diseases. "If any patient suffering from vaccine preventable diseases such as polio, measles or tetanus, closely associated with a vaccinated person, who has developed adequate immunity, the vaccinated person will not get the disease as he /she is protected from the vaccination.", she said.

Asked to comment on the quality of the vaccines, she said "Sri Lanka gets down only standard assured quality vaccines to the National Immunisation Program, with standards certified as "World Health Organization pre-qualified" vaccines. All vaccines are specially stored in a specialised vaccine storage refrigerator called "Ice Lined Refrigerator" at the MOH office, to maintain the required cold chain, and ensure their efficacy and potency when given to children", she said.

"We have now taken measures to re-start and continue the National Immunisation Program. All parents are advised to vaccinate their children, if they have missed any doses. Public health care staff has been advised to maintain precautionary measures during this pandemic period to prevent Covid-19 transmission.

All should adhere to frequent hand washing practices and maintaining social distancing and minimizing crowding in clinics. The midwife will provide such advice and will provide appointments to visit clinics during her home visits for other public health services.", she said.

Stroke a major cause of disability and death -NSLA

The National Stroke Association of Sri Lanka which completes two decades of service to stroke victims in the nation next year- 2021, will bring Stroke back to the centre stage at its 19th annual general meeting today.

Dr Harsha Gunasekara former vice president NSLA told the *Sunday Observer* that stroke was a major cause of disability and death and the commonest cause of permanent disability worldwide. He said the NSASL brings together both medical and non-medical persons interested in improving stroke care in Sri Lanka. It was launched in January 2001 by a team of specialist doctors and professionals led by Dr Jagath Wijesekera, Consultant Neurologist and Founder President, with the objective of reducing the burden of stroke and improving the quality of stroke care in Sri Lanka.

"Over the two decades of its existence the NSASL carried out numerous projects, of which winning the Gold Award of the World Stroke Organization for its activities organised for the celebration of World Stroke Day in 2009 is remarkable. Organising the Asia Pacific Stroke Conference in September 2011 was another exciting experience. The NSASL has made major contributions to the medical profession and the public. A National Stroke Day (last Sunday of February every year) was declared by NSASL in 2001 even before the World Stroke Day was declared by World Stroke Organization.", he said.

Major role

He said the NSASL plays a major role in increasing knowledge and awareness of stroke among the public in Sri Lanka with the aim of preventing stroke. "This has been achieved through stroke walks and free health camps for stroke screening organised in Colombo and other districts annually, press conferences, meetings at places of work and schools, programs on electronic media and articles on print media. Patient information leaflets to educate the public and patients on awareness and prevention of stroke and a book on Stroke Care for care givers have been published in all three languages by the Association for distribution.

The Association also conducts regular programs and workshops to train doctors and nurses involved in both emergency stroke care and stroke rehabilitation and also to train care givers of stroke victims," he said.

People



Ravindra and Nita



Hemal and Nita



Dasun, Visakesa and Yashodha



Jagath, Visakesa, Nita, Randika and Xavier



Thilakshini



Buddhi and Jayasiri



Ganya



Malith and Yashodha



Yureni



Sabeetha and Jackson



Sriyani



Himali



Niranjani



Kamal and Nita



Sachini, Nita and Dhanu



Damitha and Visakesa



Priya



Nilmini, Anoma and Soniya



Sujani, Visakesa, Bhoomi and Bimal



Chandani, Visakesa and Kaushalya

The Premiere of Paangshu

Visakesa Chandrasekaram's second cinematic encounter *Paangshu* hit the silver screen last week and is now showing in cinemas islandwide. The premiere of the film was held at the PVR cinema in One Galle Face on August 21 with the participation of many artists and professionals. The film was screened at many international film festivals including the Montreal Film Festival 2018, Jogja-Netpac Asian Film Festival 2019 in the Asian Feature Competition category and received many

reviews from critics. Cast includes Nita Fernando (Leading role as baba nona), Nadee Kammallawera (as Namalee), Jagath nuwarna (as Indika), Nilmini Buwaneka, Malcom Machado, Randika Gunathilaka, Gayan Lakruwan, Xavier Kanishka, Mayura Kanchana Perera, Grace Ariyawimal, Yehani Hansika, Daya Wayaman, Hal Yamanouchi and Kumudu Kumarasinghe. Music was composed by Chinthaka Jayakody. Here's the line-up of the artistes at the Premiere of 'Paangshu'.



Kalani and Thumindu



Yashodha



Gayan



Shirley

Family Time Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12					13					14		
15				16						17		
		18								19		
20	21	22					23	24				
25						26					27	28
29				30	31					32		
33			34							35		
		36					37	38				
39	40					41						
42				43	44					45	46	47
48				49						50		
51				52						53		

ACROSS

- Young one wet behind the ears
- (K) "Voth," when you meant "both"
- (K) You can't drag race without it
- A fruit from Jamaica
- (K) Hoppy creature
- Bullet in Vegas
- (K) Belfry (2 words)
- (K) That lady with the dog
- Girl in Belfast
- (K) Part of a staircase
- (K) Next to
- Vague memory, visually?
- (K) Totally wreck
- Dominance by just two companies
- (K) Common hand holder

DOWN

- (K) Pencil stump
- All grown people should act theirs
- (K) "Well, ___ be!"
- (K) Be a successful substitute (2 words)
- (K) The ones over there
- Swerves off course, in a yacht
- (K) It means before, before words
- Preposition in "The Star-Spangled Banner"
- (K) Snail or slug, for example
- (K) Lasting pain
- Ooze through the cracks
- Just a ___ (slightly)
- Dine at nine
- Dennis the Menace, comically
- (K) 100 cents, but not in the USA
- Real doofus
- "Steer" or "rap" lead-in

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

P	O	M	P	T	A	B	C	L	A	D	
A	R	E	A	A	G	E	T	H	A	V	E
L	C	A	N	O	L	A	M	C	N		
M	O	D	E	S	T	A	V	I	A	R	Y
S	A	P	E	N	D	T	E	M	P	T	
A	R	E	C	I	M	E	R	A			
C	R	U	B	E	A	T	O	N			
I	N	U	L	O	W	I	N	K	B	S	H
P	D	A	L	E	E	O	N	O	N	C	E
H	P	U	S	E	V	E	O	D	O	T	E
L	E	S	B	A	R	K	M	O	T	E	

KENKEN

THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

EASY

4X		1-	
	1-		2÷
3	7+		
3-			3

CHALLENGING

20X	2÷	2-	2÷
	6		48X
3-	7+		5
	1-	4	4-
8+		5X	2÷
5			13+

TODAY'S ANSWERS

3	2	1	4
2	1	4	3
1	4	2	3
1	2	3	4

WORKSPACE:

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SUDOKU 221

Have fun with this highly addictive logic-based number-placement puzzle, the objective of which is to fill the 9x9 grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3x3 sub-grids that compose the grid contains all of the digits from 1 to 9.

	7		2					
3	9		1			5		
	1		4	7	9			
		5	6					
7	6							4
					8	6		
			8	6	5		3	
	4			1			2	5
				4				6

Riddle:

Moving picture?

Last week answer:
37-A) Scrub

Last week's solution

4	7	8	2	3	9	6	5	1
3	5	9	6	1	7	2	4	8
1	6	2	4	5	8	7	9	3
7	8	1	5	6	3	4	2	9
5	3	6	9	4	2	1	8	7
2	9	4	8	7	1	5	3	6
8	2	7	1	9	5	3	6	4
6	1	5	3	8	4	9	7	2
9	4	3	7	2	6	8	1	5

OBSERVER EDUCATION

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MAS - EEC NATIONAL PARTNER FOR ... **PAGE 49**

SLIM revamps Postgraduate Diploma in Marketing Management



The Sri Lanka Institute of Marketing (SLIM) has recently upgraded the course structure of the Postgraduate Diploma in Marketing, adding novel topics and subject areas, such as Digital Marketing, AI in Marketing and Services Marketing, to develop skills needed to respond to international marketing challenges.

SLIM has also renamed the program as the "Postgraduate Diploma in Marketing Management", in which the course content ensures providing comprehensive knowledge of the key marketing management theories while educating the students on their practical application. Whether you are new to marketing or have a wealth of experience in the industry, this professional qualification adds immense value for professional and personal development. The carefully curated course content not only ensures a deep understanding of the key marketing theories and concepts, but also grooms students to face future challenges. Budding marketers can easily secure their career paths towards obtaining an MBA by qualifying in SLIM-PGDIP.

The new 18-month program consists of four levels; Diploma in Marketing Management, Higher Diploma in Marketing Management, Graduate Diploma in Marketing Management and Postgraduate Diploma in Marketing Management. While the duration of the first stage to the third stage will be four months each, the final stage will last for six months. With various assessment criteria to evaluate the performance of students, the course ensures continuous learning and development. The graduate-level of the course focuses on wide concepts, such as Sustainability and Strategic Marketing Planning, and every student is required to carry out an individual research study to complete the final level. With an experienced panel of expert lecturers, SLIM is synonymous with bringing out the best in students.

The revamping of the program was initiated and executed by the Education Reforms Committee of SLIM headed by Prof. Arosha S. Adikaram, who is an academic of the Human Resource Management Faculty at the University of Colombo. The structural change of the course was implemented upon the approval of the institute's Board of Study led by Prof. Sampath Amarathunga, who is serving as the Chairman of the

University Grants Commission.

Following the revamp, SLIM expects to add more value to the industry by igniting the potential of budding marketers, who one day will steer the corporates towards greater heights. With the vision of leading the nation's efforts towards economic prosperity and the mission of establishing marketing as the driving force to enhance business and national value, SLIM promotes marketing as an essential business philosophy.

Roshan Fernando, President of SLIM said, "As the national body for marketing, SLIM is dedicated to elevate the marketing profession in the country. SLIM PGDIP, one of the most sought-after marketing qualifications in Sri Lanka, was revamped to suit the modern-day requirements. With our exceptional resource personnel who possess extensive experience in both local and international spheres, this program promises a remarkable learning experience."

"This is the most-preferred marketing qualification looked for by employers when it comes to recruiting the top talent to their organisations. The PGDIP holders are pursuing successful careers not only in Sri Lanka but also beyond our shores. While SLIM students are trained and mentored by industry experts, they also get an opportunity to take part in various national events conducted by SLIM, such as SLIM-NASCO, SLIM Brand Excellence, SLIM Peoples Awards, SLIM Marketers' Ball, EFFIES and the opportunity to join SLIM Toastmasters," added Nuwan Gamage, Vice President of SLIM.

Sanath Senanayake, Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director of SLIM said, "SLIM PGDIP is the most recognised professional qualification in marketing in Sri Lanka. We are sure that the new course content will enable students to delve deeper into the world of marketing, including the digital aspects of it, and be empowered to face the challenges of the future."

SLIM President Roshan Fernando and CEO/ Executive Director Sanath Senanayake handed over the revamped Postgraduate Diploma in Marketing Management book to Prof. Sampath Amarathunga, the Chairman of the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka and Prof. Arosha S. Adikaram, an academic of the Human Resource Management Faculty at the University of Colombo.

Study at ACBT and transfer to Australia

Australian College of Business Technology (ACBT) with its long-standing academic partner, Edith Cowan University (ECU), awards undergraduate degrees in a range of disciplines, such as Commerce, Computing, Engineering and Health Studies.

In addition to providing an all-inclusive ideal learning environment, students also have a number of pathways to choose to complete ECU Foundation or Diploma courses as well as ECU degrees at ACBT Sri Lanka.

ECU has been rewarded with five star ratings for teaching quality, graduate satisfaction and generic skills six years in a row in the Good Universities Guide. All ECU courses are developed in consultation with industry. ACBT teaching staff, who have been selected by ECU, also have extensive industry experience and networking. As a result, ACBT students

can expect to gain the relevant knowledge, skills and confidence required to meet the challenges of today's workplace. CBT students have unlimited access to state of the art computer labs equipped with Microsoft Office applications, fast and uninterrupted internet, multimedia applications and specialist software to facilitate their individual courses/modules.

ACBT Library provides ample support, services and information for students with an up-to-date collection of select text books and printed material related to the modules of study. There is also the opportunity to obtain various online scholarly material via digital databases. ACBT Campuses are conveniently located so that students can purchase their text books, reference books, course materials and stationery from prominent bookstores and stationers within

close proximity to the campuses.

ACBT also has a range of special interest and recreation clubs and activities on campus, facilitated by the ACBT Student Council. Sports clubs include Cricket, Rugby, Basketball, Football, etc. while the numerous societies organise various recreation activities such as get-togethers, charity projects, CSR projects, career development programs etc. Other facilities on campus include a cafeteria and sitting areas to relax as well.

Entry into ECU programs at ACBT requires applicants to meet initial academic and English language proficiency criteria. Interested students can visit ACBT to have their qualification assessed for eligibility or e-mail them to counsellors who would guide them in the process.

Get ready to transfer to Australia. Students also have the option of transferring to ECU or any other univer-

sity in Australia to continue their Masters Degree upon completion of the 2 year ECU Bachelor's degree at ACBT.

ACBT has made available a range of programs and facilities for students to both complete their degrees locally or in Australia. Students studying at ACBT for Edith Cowan University (ECU) programs are at a greater competitive advantage because their programs are industry-relevant and quality assured by an internationally ranked university while the study environment is similar in every way to what they would experience in foreign universities. Therefore, ACBT students do not only survive in the world of work, - they thrive in it.

For more information about ACBT programs or studying in Australia, dial ACBT Hotline 0773 000900 or visit ACBT Campus at 442, Galle Road, Colombo 3, or email to: info@acbt.lk

ECU is ranked 9th in the world for quality education and 1st in Australia for starting salaries

I AM DIFFERENT TO YOU



I'm a 100% Edith Cowan University graduate
How about you?

Courses in:

- Commerce
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- Cyber Security
- Software Engineering

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- Engineering

ECU programs are, Australian Qualification Framework approved (AQF), CRICOS registered and UGC approved

442, Galle Road, Colombo 03
077 3000 900/ 0112 555 123
www.acbt.net/ www.ecu.edu.lk




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MARITIME CAREER
BECOME A
SHIP'S CAPTAIN**




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Rs. 2 Million
for
Female Applicants**

NAVIGATION OFFICER CADET Application Closing Date 30th September 2020

PHASE 01 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Be above 18 years and less than 24 years
- Credit pass in English at GCE O/L or in London O/L
- Two passes in GCE A/L or London A/L, one of which must be for Mathematics or Physics
- Two passes in Technology subjects, one of which must be for Engineering Technology or Science for Technology

Please forward your application to
MERCMARINE Training
696/4 Maradana Road, Colombo 10.
E-mail : apply@mercmarine.net
Web : www.mercmarinetraining.net

For more information please contact
0769 387 477 / 0117 476 100

MERCMARINE TRAINING




The aerial view of Mercmarine Training

Mercmarine Training, a pathway to world-class marine education

**APPLICATIONS CALLED FOR
THE NEXT INTAKE**



Students undergoing training

Mercmarine Training, the maritime training institute of the Mercmarine Group, will welcome its latest batches of students who are looking to pursue world-class marine education here in Sri Lanka. Interested students can submit their applications now for a wide range of courses.

The courses at Mercmarine Training include "Officer Training" which offers Navigation Officer Cadet and Engineering Officer Cadet training and "Rating Training" which covers Deck Rating, Engine Rating and Catering Rating training. Mercmarine Training also offers short courses for a wide variety of topics, including STCW (Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers) and non-STCW training, Simulator Training on Engine Simulators and Navigation Simulators as well as various Customised Trainings.

Mercmarine Training's ultra-modern training facility provides the ideal environment for students to pursue their career at sea. It is one of the best facilities in Sri Lanka offering courses for deck, engine and catering at all levels and qualifications. Founded in 1986, Mercmarine Training has produced top-notch Sri Lankan seafaring professionals and has been a driving force in attracting talented youth to the industry. All courses are specially-designed to meet the demands of the prestigious career as a seafarer. The institute has also pioneered many initiatives in the field such as the scholarship program for female cadets where scholarships valued at over Rs.2 million were presented to two selected female students for a number of years and will be continued this year as well.


Capt. Rohan Codipilly - Chief Operating Officer of Mercmarine Group said, "At Mercmarine, shipping is our business and this is proven by the fact that we specialise in everything from ship owning and ship management to crew management and maritime training. When it comes to Maritime Training, through Mercmarine Training, our mission is twofold. One is to impart academic knowledge of the techniques required by a seafarer and the other is to provide practical training in the skills that come from long years of experience acquired at sea by professional seamen. Today's ships are sophisticated, crews are smaller and their voyages are shorter. As a result, new recruits have to be well trained, disciplined and ready to take on challenges from day one, and our training methods have kept pace with these new requirements. Mercmarine has been training seafarers for the past 34 years with great success, and we look forward to many more years of creating opportunities for young men and women to enter the exciting world of shipping."

The Mercmarine Group of Companies comprises four sectors - Ship Owning, Ship Management, Crew Management and Maritime Training, with each specialising in specific fields of shipping complementing each other and providing a range of services under a single brand. Mercmarine Group's Crew Management is handled by Mercantile Marine Management (MMM), the flagship company of the Group. Established in 1996, MMM has capitalised on local, location and industry advantages to gain mastery in crew management. MMM's crew management service reaches beyond the industry norms and with crew sourced from the largest pool of Sri Lankan seafarers, it is able to secure the precise experience and expertise for diverse types of vessels and assures clients dedicated and exclusive crew. Further information on Mercmarine Training and its courses can be obtained by visiting the website www.mercmarinetraining.net

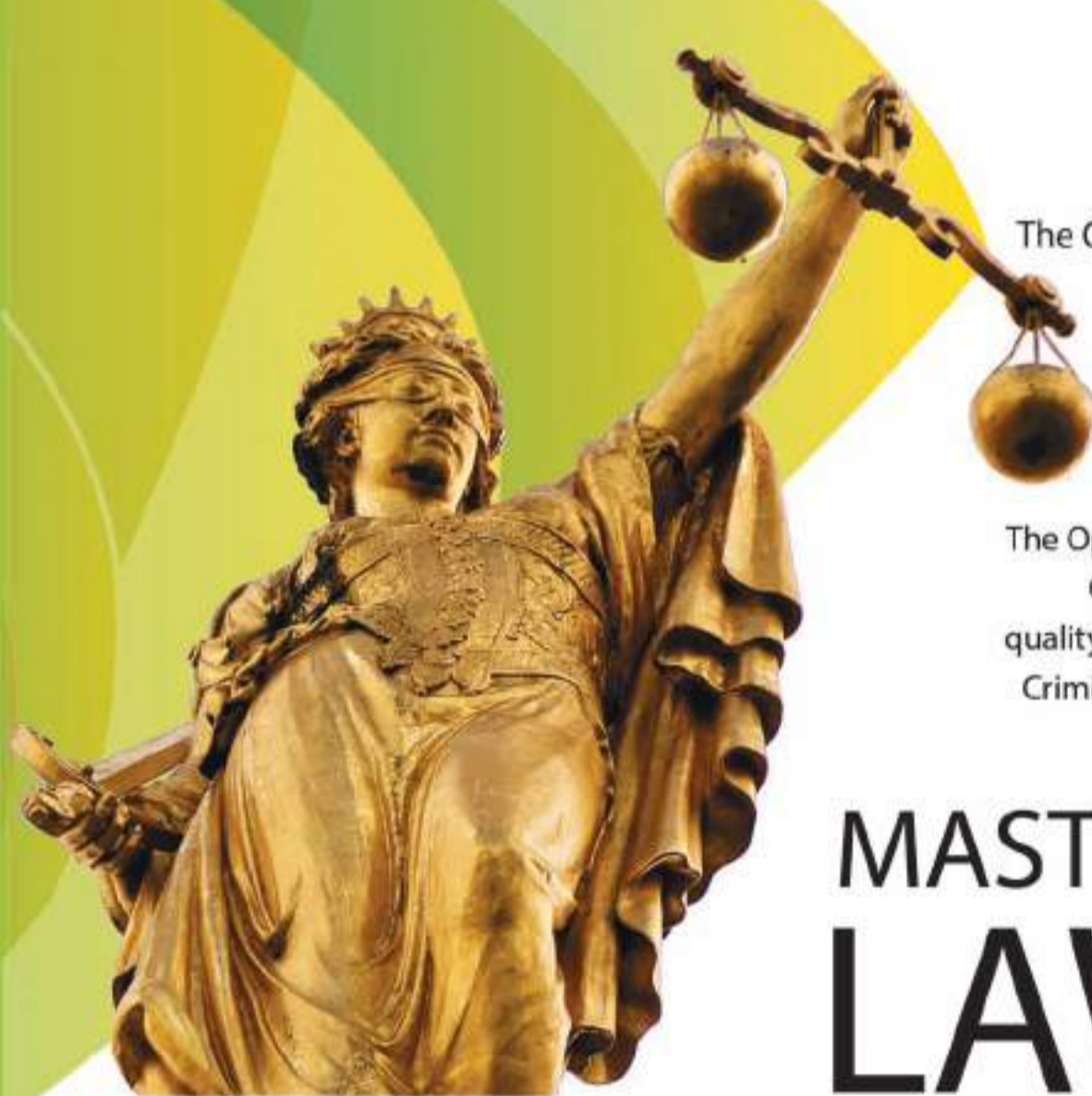


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40 years



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Department of Legal Studies



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quality Post-graduate program in
Criminal Justice Administration

MASTER OF LAWS

(LL.M) in Criminal Justice
Administration 2020 / 2021

Applications will be available from 30th August 2020 online for this study program.

Application Closing Date - 29th September 2020

Program commencement - January 2021

Program Duration - 2 years

Medium of Instruction - English

Total Program Fee - Rs.441,000/= (payable in four installments over a period of two years)

Entry Qualifications - A degree in law from a recognized University or Attorney-at-law with three years post-qualifying professional experience or Registration at the Sri Lanka Medical Council as a medical practitioner with an MBBS Degree with 3 year post qualifying professional experience in the field of forensic medicine.

Apply Online Only

The application form along with a program brochure can be obtained online by visiting the web <https://payment.ou.ac.lk/> and on payment of Rs. 800/-

All applicants will have to face an interview for selection.

For further details contact - 011 2881230 / 011 2881432
E-mail: dirllm@ou.ac.lk
Web: www.ou.ac.lk

Registrar
The Open University of Sri Lanka
Nawala, Nugegoda.

A BRITISH LAW DEGREE ORIENTED TO SRI LANKAN PRACTICE

The law training programme at APIIT Law School leading to LLB (Hons) Law degree awarded by Staffordshire University, UK is unique; students learn not only the British Law with reference to Sri Lankan legal practice, but also a few Sri Lankan law modules. An optional work experience project in the local legal environment is designed to increase students' interaction with leading practitioners and extend their learning in the classroom to the profession. This allows our graduates to develop themselves as effective legal practitioners in Sri Lanka with an international perspective to legal practice.



“OUR BRITISH LLB (HONS) LAW DEGREE PROGRAMME IS SO MUCH MORE THAN THE LAW. IT IS ONE OF THE MOST VERSATILE TRAINING PROGRAMMES. IT TEACHES YOU TO THINK DIFFERENTLY; TO CHALLENGE AND DEBATE; TO RESEARCH AND ANALYSE; TO TAKE DECISIONS BASED ON FACTS; TO NEGOTIATE; AND OBVIOUSLY TO OPERATE WITHIN A LEGAL FRAMEWORK.”

one of the most versatile training programmes. It teaches you to think differently; to challenge and debate; to research and analyse; to take decisions based on facts; to negotiate; and obviously to operate within a legal framework.

Further, we appreciate that Law should be learnt in a practical context. That's why our Law students visit the courts and parliament, debate legal topics, and take part in mock trials and mooted competitions in addition to their classroom work.

From careers in the legal profession to international diplomacy; business management to entrepreneurship; and politics to academia, the opportunities for our graduates are truly endless.

We are pleased to invite you to visit our Law School to see the facilities, meet with the staff, and experience first-hand the excellent academic environment we have created for a high quality learning experience.

“AT APIIT LAW SCHOOL, STUDENTS LEARN NOT ONLY THE BRITISH LAW WITH REFERENCE TO SRI LANKAN LEGAL PRACTICE, BUT ALSO A FEW SRI LANKAN LAW MODULES. AN OPTIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE PROJECT IN THE LOCAL LEGAL ENVIRONMENT IS DESIGNED TO INCREASE STUDENTS' INTERACTION WITH LEADING PRACTITIONERS AND EXTEND THEIR LEARNING IN THE CLASSROOM TO THE PROFESSION.”

APIIT Law School is a vibrant place to pursue legal studies; high quality teaching and learning is supported by modern technology. Students are taught to leverage IT to improve their learning and are provided with unlimited access to computer laboratories, the Internet, and online databases such as Westlaw-UK, Lexis Library-UK and E-law web application. The overall goal is to produce a new breed of IT savvy legal practitioners who will bring creativity and innovation to their practice.

Our British LLB (Hons) Law degree programme is so much more than the law. It is

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FOCUSED ON SRI LANKAN PRACTICE

- Study for a British Law Degree oriented towards Sri Lankan legal practice
- Gain an insight into the Sri Lankan legal profession through the work experience module
- Leverage technology to enhance learning
- Develop legal practice skills through mooted, debating, mediating and other skills development programmes
- Graduate well-equipped to pursue a rewarding career

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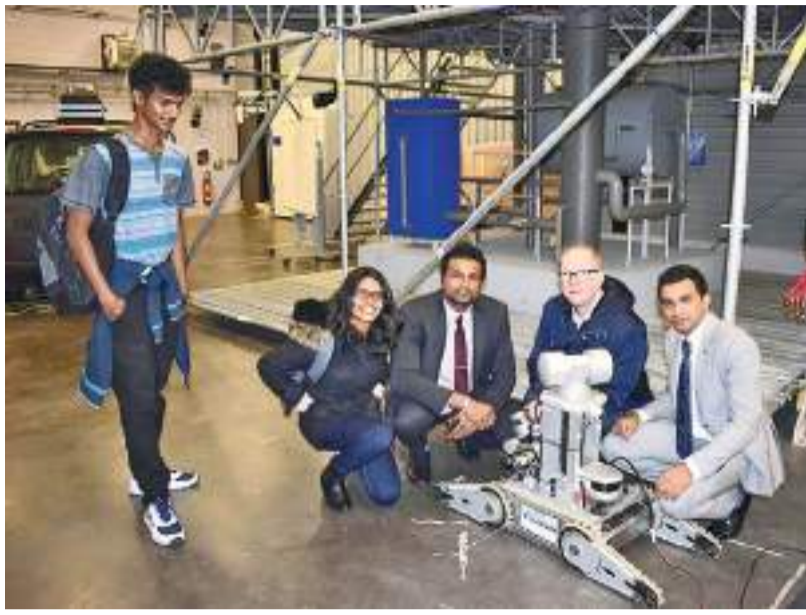
Study Engineering, IT, Business and Biomedical Engineering in France

France remains to be one of the most developed countries in the world. France is a member of European Union and is the most visited tourist destination in the world.

The Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame, Louvre, Montmartre, Arc Triomphe, Versailles and River Seine remain to be the most popular destinations. The French economy is well developed thanks to the support from industry and the service sector. France has the world's 5th largest economy and the 2nd largest economy in the European Union. The main exports include machinery and equipment, Aircrafts, Plastics, Chemicals, Pharmaceutical products, Iron and Steel and Beverages.

University education

Little known fact to many Sri Lankans is that France has one of the best education systems in the world. The Public University Education system in France provides affordable education in multiple study areas. The Grande Ecole system which is similar to the IV league system in the USA is supported by a well developed industry with near 100% employ-



ability, excellent careers and salaries. There are specialised Grande Ecole for each area of industry, Engineering, Technology and Business Management. The unique funding supported by the industry partners makes education an affordable investment and career opportunity.

There are study opportunities at leading French Grand Ecoles in the following study areas.

Grande Ecoles in Engineering

- ESIGELEC Graduate School of Engineering
- EPF School of Engineering
- ESTP School of Engineering

Engineering Majors – Aeronautical, Mechanical, Mechatronics, Civil, Computer, Robotics, Electrical, Electronic, Automobile, Telecommunication, Embedded Systems Engineering, Big Data and many, Digital

Technologies, Building, Eco cities, Space Engineering and many more.

Grand Ecoles in Business and Management

- Montpellier Business School
- Rennes School of Engineering
- IPAC Business School

Business Majors – International Business, Marketing, Management, Entrepreneurship, Event and Sports Management, Accounting, Finance, Human Resource Management, Economics and many more.

Affordable France

The cost of education in France is extremely affordable and it is only around 25% of the cost of education in other developed countries that Sri Lankan students apply for their higher education.

The moderate course fee is supported by affordable cost of living and state support for housing.

Students are encouraged to get valuable industry exposure which will lead to employment upon successful completion of the degree programs. Grande Ecoles in France are funded by many leading industries. Because these industries fund, students only have to pay 50% of their tuition fee.

These industries and the students have a close relationship where students get a 50% Scholarship and industries can attract the most ineligant students to join their company. For the past many years, this has become a practice in France.

Students and parents can visit AIC Campus to find out more information about education options in France. For free consultation, you can call 0779 779 776 or 0774 409 620. You can visit AIC Campus No. 154, Havelock Road, Colombo 5 or our Website <https://www.aicedu.lk/>.

Induction of 83rd President of Institute of Chemistry Ceylon

The induction of the 83rd President, Prof Sagarika Ekanayake and annual dinner of the Institute of Chemistry Ceylon were held on August 15 at the Galle Face Hotel, Colombo.

The evening was graced by the presence of the Chief Guest, Emeritus Professor Savitri Kumar, University of Peradeniya and Visiting Research Professor at the National Institute of Fundamental Studies, Kandy. She is a holder of many scientific and research awards and a bearer of over 18,000 citations.

Prof Priyani Paranagama, the outgoing President of the Institute of Chemistry Ceylon, welcomed the gathering.

The Guest of Honor, Prof Jayantha Welihinda, introduced the incoming president to the audience and proposed a toast to her success.

Prof Sagarika Ekanayake gave an insight into her future objectives as the president at IChemC and what she intends to do to make the institute a better learning and working facility. She expressed her gratitude

towards those who helped her reach this position, including the staff at College of Chemical Sciences.

The entertainment item by the institute's graduates made the event even more colourful. The evening ended with the Vote of Thanks delivered by Dr. Chayanika Padumadasa, followed by the raffle draw and a few performances by the staff at CCS.

The Annual General Meeting of the college of past presidents was held before the commencement of the induction program.



Delivering the vote of thanks by Dr. Chayanika Padumadasa



Lightning the oil lamp by Past President Prof. Tuley De. Silva



Addressing the gathering by the Chief Guest, Prof. Savitri Kumar



Entertainment item by the graduates of the Institute of Chemistry Ceylon



Bestowing the past president's medal upon Prof. Priyani Paranagama



Induction of the incoming President Prof. Sagarika Ekanayake by the outgoing President Prof. Priyani Paranagama



POSTGRADUATE
INSTITUTE OF
ARCHAEOLOGY
PGIAR University of Kelaniya

407, Bauddhaloka Mawatha,
Colombo 07, Sri Lanka
Tel. 94-1-2694151 - ext. 224
94-1-2667885

ARCHAEOLOGY / MUSEOLOGY / HERITAGE / ART HISTORY

Call for applications 2020/2021 Academic Year

Postgraduate Diploma in Archaeology/Museology/Heritage/Art History (01-year)

1. Bachelor's degree awarded by a recognized university, or
2. Professional or any other such qualification (Conditions Apply) or
3. Minimum of 10 years sustained practice-based experience with notable achievements relevant to the subject matter (Conditions Apply).

Master of Science Degree in Archaeology (02-year course work & research program)

1. Special Bachelor's Degree in archaeology with a second class or above or
2. Bachelor's Degree in any discipline with successful completion of Postgraduate Diploma in archaeology with merit pass or
3. A merit pass at the relevant Postgraduate Diploma offered by PGIAR or
4. An ordinary pass in the Postgraduate Diploma in Archaeology offered by the PGIAR and 3 years professional field experience in Archaeology, or Heritage Management, or Museum or Conservation of Cultural Properties (Murals or Artifacts).

Master of Arts Degree (by Research) in Archaeology/ Museology/Heritage/ Art History (02 - year research program)

1. Bachelor's Degree in a relevant subject (Conditions Apply) or
2. A pass in relevant Postgraduate Diploma offered by PGIAR.

Master of Philosophy (MPhil) Degree in Archaeology / Museology / Heritage / Art History (02-year research program)

1. Special Bachelor's Degree in a relevant subject with a second class upper or above (Conditions Apply) or
2. Two-year Master of Arts Degree (Research or Taught or Course Work and Research) in a relevant subject (Conditions Apply) or
3. Two-year Master of Science Degree (Course Work and Research) in a relevant subject (Conditions Apply).

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Degree in Archaeology/ Museology / Heritage / Art History (03-year research program)

1. Two-year Master of Philosophy (Research) Degree in a relevant subject (Conditions Apply) or
2. Two-year Master of Arts (Taught or Research or Course Work and Research) Degree in a relevant subject (Conditions Apply) or
3. Two-year Master of Science (Course Work and Research) Degree in a relevant subject (Conditions Apply).

Medium: Sinhala and English.

Applications will be received up to 30th September 2020.

Application forms and information sheets can be obtained from PGIAR office on weekdays (9.00 am - 3.00 pm).

For more Details and Application, visit, www.pgiar.kln.ac.lk.

Inquiries: Assistant Registrar (Academic), PGIAR / Tel: 011-2667885,
011-2694151 - ext.224

Director
Postgraduate Institute of Archaeology



UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

MASTER OF HISTORY 2020 / 2021

Call for applications for the Master of History to be offered by the Department of History at the University of Colombo, in the year 2020/2021.

Entry Qualifications:

- (i). A relevant degree from a recognized university/ institution with a First or Second Class Honours.
OR
- (ii). Passed the Master of Arts qualifying (MAQ) examination in History offered by the University of Colombo.
OR
- (iii). Professional qualification from a recognized professional body recommended by the University Grants Commission with three years of experience.
OR
- (iv). Either a Postgraduate Diploma in History from the Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo or a SLQF Level 08 Postgraduate Diploma in History.

Total Course Fee: Rs. 130,000.00

Commencement:	Duration :	Medium:
October 2020	One Year	Sinhala / English

Application forms and other information can be obtained from the Department of History, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo (Contact No: 0112055658) or can be downloaded from <https://arts.cmb.ac.lk/history/>. The completed application form along with the voucher indicating the payment of the application fee should be scanned and emailed (mahistorycmb@gmail.com) to the Department of History. All applicants are also required to hand over or send the duly completed application form by registered post to Department of History, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo, No: 94, Cumaratunga Munidasa Mawatha, Colombo 03 on or before 30th of September, 2020.

Application fee of Rs.3,000/= can be paid by using the code 304140500001 to any People's Bank Branch.

Registrar,
University of Colombo.

More time for Grade One students to get uniform material

The Ministry of Education has decided to extend the validity period of the Uniform Material Gift Vouchers issued to Grade One students of government schools for 2020 up to September 30.

This decision was taken to give more time to the students to obtain uniform materials considering Covid-19 pandemic situation in the country.



Faculty of Arts & Culture South Eastern University of Sri Lanka

Master of Philosophy/ Doctor of Philosophy in Geography/ Political Science/ Sociology/ Philosophy/Tamil (MPhil/PhD)

Calling Applications for Master of Philosophy (M.Phil) & Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) in Arts & Culture by Research.

Entry Requirements

Please refer faculty website.

<http://www.seu.ac.lk/fac/index.php>

Options for applicants

Can apply for either full-time or part-time MPhil/PhD Programs

Course fee (in LKR)

MPhil Program 159,000/=

PhD Program 252,250/=

Other fees applicable to the program

Medium

Tamil/English

Application forms can be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, Faculty of Arts & Culture, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka or can be downloaded from the Faculty website. Duly completed applications along with certified copies of degree certificates, transcripts, the concept paper (synopsis), two confidential referees reports (in prescribed form) and bank slip paying Rs. 1500/= to People's Bank, Addalachenai branch to the Account No: 228-1001-5004-0340 of Postgraduate Unit, Faculty of Arts & Culture, SEUSL should be sent to the Senior Assistant Registrar, Faculty of Arts & Culture, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka on or before 25th Sep 2020.

Further Information can be obtained from

Program Coordinator (MPhil/PhD)
Faculty of Arts & Culture,
South Eastern University of Sri Lanka
Email: rameezmam@seu.ac.lk
Tel: +94 67 2255180

Registrar: South Eastern University of Sri Lanka

Four students win medals at Indian Karate, Tae Kwon Do competition

Four students of Sri Gunarathana Kanishta Vidyalaya, Paragoda, made Sri Lanka proud by winning four medals at the Indian Open Karate and Tae Kwon Do competition.

A meeting was held at the Ministry of Education with the participation of Education Minister Prof G.L. Peiris and Sports and Youth Affairs Minister Namal Rajapaksa to consider the possibility of giving these children an opportunity to improve their sports skills. It was decided to admit these students to the Batemulla National School.

Minister Rajapaksa said that steps should be taken to admit the children to a sports school. The students who won medals at the Indian Open Karate Competition are Desindu Samarantunga, Hirun Jayawardena, Malitha Madhushan, Keshara Buddhimal.



Education Minister Prof G.L. Peiris and Sports and Youth Affairs Minister Namal Rajapaksa talk to the students who won medals at the Indian Open Karate and Tae Kwon Do competition



Get your Bachelor's degree from Middlesex University, UK @ ACBT

Do you wish to take your career further with a globally recognised qualification? Then Middlesex University - UK is your best option at ACBT. At ACBT, We offer internationally recognised degrees in the field of Business and IT directly awarded from Middlesex University - UK;

- BA (Hons) Business Management (Finance)
- BA (Hons) International Business Administration
- BSc (Hons) Information Technology and Business Information Systems

BA (Hons) Business Management (Finance)

The finance pathway allows students to shape their studies towards their career ambitions and build knowledge of business and finance practices within a wide range of industries. Tailored towards ambitious students who are keen to apply theory to practise in a business environment, this program addresses how organisations operate from developing strategy to styles of management. The program focuses on areas that emphasise both theoretical and practical applications of finance, corporate governance, strategic management and financial statement analysis; to name a few; through interactive workshops, simulations and case studies; while employability is at the center of students' learning experience.

BA (Hons) International Business Administration

The focus on a broad range of modules on global strategy, cultural communication and intercultural ethics lead students to learn the fundamentals of marketing, human resource management, operations management and accounting while exploring the challenges associated with taking a business to the global market. They will also develop the professional communication skills required to succeed in a fast-paced international business environment.

BSc (Hons) Information Technology and Business Information Systems

The program is aimed at students who are interested in studying Information Technology and also wish to acquire knowledge in the application of IT in business. The program aims to provide students with an understanding of the advantages of aligning information systems with different organisations and business goals and with various strategic and operational activities. Graduates from this program will be equipped with professional and employability skills that will enable them to pursue a successful career in this field.

Only four modules for the final year

The final year of the Middlesex University degree consists of only four modules and upon successful completion of these modules in their respective degrees, students can achieve an internationally recognised bachelor's degree from Middlesex University, UK.

The structure of studying only four modules allows the students to receive an in depth knowledge with more time to learn a particular subject matter, unlike other top-up de-

grees where students are expected to complete eight modules.

Study at ACBT

ACBT is the pioneer in Australian Higher Education in Sri Lanka since 1998, and partnered by world renowned Navitas group, with 130 colleges around the world in over 31 countries.

Expanding its wings, ACBT now offers UK qualifications at its state-of-the-art campus equipped with modern facilities, ideal learning environment and a carefully chosen, experienced

lecture panel.

ACBT offers an education with cutting-edge facilities to gain knowledge, skills and self-confidence to meet the challenges of rapid global integration.

Abiding by rules and regulations of the Middlesex University, ACBT is committed to deliver programs that are equal to the international standards. ACBT places the learner at the heart of what they do.

Our dedicated staff members will guide and assist students throughout their journey with ACBT with....

- Scholarships based on academic performances and extracurricular activities.
- Installment plans for tuition fees.

We cordially invite you to choose ACBT to make your dream on UK higher educational qualification a reality.

Contact us on 0117 699499, 071 115 1234 or visit us at 32 C, Dickmans Road, Colombo 5 for more details. You can also visit our website, www.acbt.lk or e-mail your request to info.mdx@acbt.lk

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Why London?



I'm a 100% Middlesex University London graduate
How about you?

Courses in:

- BA (Hons) Business Management (Finance)
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1st

Modern University in the UK
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90%

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UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN HISTORY 2020/2021

Call for applications for the Postgraduate Diploma in History to be offered by the Department of History at the University of Colombo, in the year 2020/2021.

Entry Qualifications:

- I. A relevant degree from a recognized university/institution.
- OR
- II. A relevant Postgraduate Diploma from a recognized university/institution.
- OR
- III. An equivalent academic qualification with two-year post-qualification work experience acceptable to the Senate as recommended by the Faculty Board.

Total Course Fee: Rs. 110,000.00

Commencement:	Duration :	Medium:
October 2020	One Year	Sinhala / English

Application forms and other information can be obtained from the Department of History, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo (Contact No: 0112055658) or can be downloaded from <https://arts.cmb.ac.lk/history/>. The completed application form along with the voucher indicating the payment of the application fee should be scanned and emailed (pgdhistorycmb@gmail.com) to the Department of History. All applicants are also required to hand over or send the duly completed application form by registered post to Department of History, Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo, No: 94, Cumaratunga Munidasa Mawatha, Colombo 03 on or before **30th of September, 2020**.

Application fee of Rs.3,000/= can be paid by using the code 30414060000 to any People's Bank Branch.

**Registrar,
University of Colombo.**

Advertorial

Dialogue on educational reforms

Education Minister Prof G.L. Peiris held discussions with Provincial Governors, principals, teachers, parents, students, state officials, civil and social organisation representatives on the amendments to school syllabuses and teaching methods.

Minister Prof Peiris said that the Government's entry to policy planning and implementation is not from top to bottom but from bottom to top,

stressing the importance of conducting programs and feedback meetings with relevant parties to obtain their views before taking decisions.

The participants at the meeting focused on the connection between subject contents and job opportunities, directing students to vocational education and educational programs conducted online. North Central Province Governor Maheepala Herath, West-

ern Province Governor Roshan Gunatilleke, Sabaragamuwa Province Governor Tikiri Kobekaduwa, Central Province Governor Lalith U. Gamage, North Western Province Governor A.J.M. Muzzamil, Southern Province Governor Willie Gamage, Eastern Province Governor Anuradha Yahampath, Uva Province Governor Rajah Kollure, Northern Province Governor P.S.M. Charles also participated.



BUDDHIST AND PALI UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

Registration of Candidates for Bachelor of Arts (General) External Degree - 2020

The Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka will entertain applications up to 30th September, 2020 to register students for the Bachelor of Arts (General) External Degree for the academic year 2020.

Educational Qualifications

(a) For Local Students

- Should have passed Prachina Prarambha or Prachina Maddhyama examination in all three languages.
or
- Should have passed at least three subjects including a Buddhist subject in one sitting at the G.C.E (A/L) examination. (At least 30 marks should have been obtained at the General Common Test).
or
- Should have passed G.C.E (A/L) examination including Pali, Sanskrit, Sinhala or Buddhist Culture in one sitting. (At least 30 marks should have been obtained at the General Common Test).
or
- Should have passed Dharmacharya exam or Daham Sarasaviya Diploma in Buddhism along with three passes in A/L examination in any subject stream in one sitting. (At least 30 marks should have been obtained at the General Common Test).
or
- Should have obtained a degree from a recognized university (local or international) or any other qualification accepted by the senate of this university to be equivalent to the above.
or
- Should have passed Higher Diploma in Buddhism, Pali, Sanskrit or English conducted by Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka.
or
- Should have passed the Daham Sarasaviya Diploma in Buddhism conducted by Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka or University of Sri Jaywardenepura and two year teaching experience at a Dhamma School after passing the examination.
or
- Should have passed any other examination with a subject related to Buddhism that could be accepted to be equivalent to G.C.E (A/L) examination by the senate of Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka.

(b) For Foreign Students

- Should have obtained one of the above qualifications specified under 1-8 for local students.
or
 - Should have passed the G.C.E. (Advanced Level) Examination conducted by the University of London or any other equivalent qualifications accepted by the senate of Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka.
- All applicants should have passed the G.C.E. (Ordinary Level) Examination with six subjects including Mathematics and Sinhala at least three credit passes in not more than two sittings.

The Prescribed Subjects

The following are the subjects prescribed for the Bachelor of Arts (General) External Degree Programme.

Pali, Buddhist Philosophy, Buddhist Culture, Sanskrit, Sinhala, English, Archaeology, Religious Studies and Comparative Philosophy.

Application Procedure

A self-addressed (10 × 8) stamped envelope to the value of Rs.55/- and the paid voucher to the value of Rs.750/- credited to the account No. 711202 of Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka at the Bank of Ceylon, Homagama branch through any branch of Bank of Ceylon in the island should be sent along with the letter of application to **Deputy Registrar, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Centre for External Examinations Studies, Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka, No. 214, Baudhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 07**, if the applications and details are obtained by post.

Otherwise, if the application is obtained by personally calling over at the office it should be obtained by paying the relevant fees to the Shroff at the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Centre for External Examinations Studies of the above address on any working day of the week from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.
Or the application form and the details can be obtained by the website: www.bpu.ac.lk

N.B

* If the details and the application are obtained through the website or by post, it should be forwarded with the paid voucher to the value of Rs.750/- credited to the Buddhist and Pali University's Account No. 711202 of the Bank of Ceylon, Homagama branch through any branch of Bank of Ceylon. It is compulsory for you to put the symbol "B.A." before your name in the paid voucher.

* In an instance where an excessive number of students have applied while the selection is strictly done through the criteria prepared by the university, the students are enrolled by giving priority to the above qualifications (1), (2), (3) and (4). The decision taken by the university is the final decision since the number of students selected is decided upon the resources available at the university.

Issuing of application forms will be closed on 29th September, 2020. Duly completed applications should be sent under registered cover to: **Deputy Registrar, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Centre for External Examinations Studies, Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka, No. 214, Baudhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 07**, on or before 30th September, 2020. Incorrectly filled applications and applications without the required documents will be rejected. Rejected applications will not be reconsidered.

Contact Nos. :- 011-2580609/011-2502944.

Registrar,
Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka,
No. 214, Baudhaloka Mawatha,
Colombo 07.

18th August, 2020

Study Medicine

AT GRODNO STATE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY – BELARUS

Why choose IMC education for Grodno State Medical University?

- IMC Education is the Sri Lanka's undisputed leader in Overseas Medical Placements to world's leading Medical Universities across the Europe, Eastern Europe, Asia and South America.
- IMC is the only Sri Lankan organisation to have a fully functional representative office in the Republic of Belarus and particularly in the state of Grodno to give post settlement services for Sri Lankan students and look after their welfare needs for the study duration of 6-years.
- IMC Facilitates students to select a medical university based on the country of destination, tuition fee, payment plans, future career plans, scholarship opportunities and specializations available.
- IMC provides unparalleled opportunities for medical practitioners to reach the world's best medical career destinations respectively in USA, Canada, Australia, UK and Europe through guided medical licensing exam training and counseling.
- Students are given professional counseling on University Education, finance and visa matters.
- Free Pre-University Preparation program, including Basic Anatomy, Bio-Chemistry, Physiology, Orientation for Clinical Scenario and GRSMU Entrance Examination Preparation with 100% pass rate.

How good is Grodno State Medical University (GRSMU)?

- Grodno State Medical University is one of the leading medical universities in the Republic of Belarus and in the European Region.
- Among the Top 500 list of the



- world's best universities.
- Since, 2003 university has been providing training in English during the whole period of study.
- International students have been studying at the university since 1995.
- Over 600 International students from 30 countries study at the university.
- Over 225 Sri Lankan students have chosen GRSMU as their study destination.
- GRSMU works in collaboration with educational and research centres of Poland, Germany, Russia and other countries.
- GRSMU students have opportunities to do practical training abroad.
- GRSMU is an ideal place for living and studying. The atmosphere of coziness and friendliness gives you a sense of safety and comfort and you feel at home.

Is Grodno State Medical University (GRSMU) recognised by SLMC and internationally?

- Grodno State Medical University (GRSMU) is fully recognised and approved by the Sri Lanka Medical Council (SLMC), General Medical Council (GMC - UK), Australian Medical Council (AMC), Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG - USA), Medical Council of India (MCI)

and also enlisted in the World Directory of Medical Schools (WDOMS) a medical school database managed by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Where is Belarus?

- Republic of Belarus is an Eastern European country, bordering Russia in the North and East, Ukraine in South and Latvia, Lithuania, Poland in the West.

How good is (MD) program at GRSMU and the pre-clinical and clinical facilities at GRSMU?

- The 6-year Doctor of Medicine (MD) program offered at the Grodno State Medical University is among best English medium programs offered in Belarus.
- GRSMU is also equipped with the State-of-the-Art Digital Anatomage System the most technologically advanced anatomy visualisation system for Anatomy education which is being adopted only by the world's leading medical schools
- GRSMU is equipped with modern simulated laboratory facilities to provide a greater platform for students during the pre-clinical stage.
- The university works with joint collaboration with Government Hospitals and Clinical centres of the city.
- All the hospitals are well-

equipped with facilities for students to obtain practical knowledge and provide them a comprehensive clinical training for the students.

- GRSMU has one of the biggest medical libraries in the country.
- It includes over 420,000 copies of textbooks as well as various supplementary materials, CDs, medical journals, periodicals etc.
- The library is connected to the Internet and offers online access to the biomedical database, digital catalogues and also uses up-to-date informational technologies.

How do I get prepared for entrance exam and my first year studies?

- IMC Education conducts a "FREE" comprehensive Entrance Examination training which has resulted 100% pass rate over the years. All students of IMC in the September 2019 batch passed all exams with distinction grade.
- FREE comprehensive Pre-University Preparation (Pre Med) program conducted by IMC Education which equips essential competencies to start the MD program in Belarus and to have a competitive edge over other students. This program is conducted by a Medical Doctor currently practicing in Sri Lanka who graduated from Belarus and ranked 8th during the ACT 16 examination conducted in year 2016.

How do I register or book an appointment?

- Admissions for 2020 intakes have opened now. Students who are looking to secure a Medical University Admission can contact IMC Education on **077 30 888 40 | 0774 42 15 97** or visit us at **No. 154, Havelock Road, Colombo - 5. www.imcedu.com**

FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE AND PLANTATION MANAGEMENT 16th Intake (2021 – 2023) WAYAMBA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA B.Sc. (Plantation Management) External Degree Programme

Faculty of Agriculture and Plantation Management of Wayamba University of Sri Lanka offers a Bachelor of Science Degree in Plantation Management (External).

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Executives of plantation sector or institutions related to Plantation or Agriculture sector or Proprietary planters possessing any one of the following requirements may apply for admission.

- Higher National Diploma in Plantation Management (HNDPM) with one (01) year working experience in the relevant field
or
- National Diploma in Plantation Management (NDPM) or National Diploma in Plantation Extension Management (NDPEM) with two (02) year working experience in the relevant field
or
- Any other Diploma (Approved by the Senate) of which the minimum duration should be twelve months and awarded by a recognized institution related to Agriculture with three (03) year working experience in the relevant field
or
- Three (03) passes in G.C.E. (A/L) examination either in Bio Science or Agriculture or Mathematics or Commerce stream or Advance Level examination of Edexcel or Advance Level examination of Cambridge with four (04) year working experience in the relevant field.

The applicants of all above categories should be above completed 24 years at the closing date of applications.

MODE OF SELECTION: Applicants fulfilling admission requirements will be called to appear for an aptitude test on Basic Agriculture and English Language. Those who obtain minimum of 40% for each paper will be called for an interview. Only the candidates who successfully complete above evaluations will be selected.

DURATION: Three (03) academic years (2021-2023).

MODE AND MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION: Medium of instruction will be English and distance mode of education will be used in instructing the students. Printed learning materials will also be provided.

COURSE FEE: Rs. 200,000/- for the 03 year program (Rs. 50,000/- to be paid at the registration and balance in 05 instalments).

COMMENCEMENT: January, 2021

MODE OF APPLICATION: Application forms may be obtained in person or by post sending a self-addressed stamped envelope (9" × 4") to the value of Rs. 45/- to the **Assistant Registrar, Faculty of Agriculture and Plantation Management, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka, Makandura, Gonawila (NWP)**. Application forms can also be downloaded from the web www.wyb.ac.lk (News & Events).

Completed applications with copies of certificates to prove educational qualifications and other relevant documents (letter of appointment and copy of a salary slips with EPF/ETF numbers) to prove employment should be sent through registered post on or before **02.10.2020** to reach the **Assistant Registrar, Faculty of Agriculture and Plantation Management, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka, Makandura, Gonawila (NWP)**. An application fee of **Rs. 1,000/-** should be credited to the Account number **137- 1 - 001 - 2 - 0000171** of the **People's Bank, Makandura Branch** and the payment slip should be enclosed. Name of the course should be written on the top left hand corner of envelope. Incomplete and late applications will be rejected.

Registrar
Wayamba University of Sri Lanka, Kuliyaipitiya.

MSU's 26th convocation

Management and Science University (MSU) Malaysia held its 26th Convocation Ceremony in February 2020, presenting 1,769 graduates from 87 academic programs. Forty eight graduates received their PhDs, 34 Master's, 1,108 bachelor's degrees and 579 their Diplomas.

Awarding the 26th Convocation graduation scrolls and special awards were MSU Pro-Chancellor Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Wan Mohd Zahid Mohd Nordin and MSU President Prof. Dr. Mohd Shukri Ab Yajid.

Faculty of Business Management and Professional Studies has the highest number of graduates with 467. Faculty of Information Sciences and Engineering presented the greatest number of programs - eighteen, from which 113 graduated with a bachelor's degree and 12 with Diplomas.

Management and Science University, Malaysia has established the Management and Science Institute in Colombo to create better opportunities for Sri Lankan students to receive an excellent education at home country. MSU is a member of the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) and recognised by the University Grant Commission (UGC) of Sri Lanka and also its MBBS programme has been recognised by the Sri Lankan Medical Council (SLMC).

The research-based Ph.D. program offered by MSU, meets the international standards by complementing the thesis work with minimum of three journal publications. The program is conducted as per the schedules provided by the university that consists of a defence presentation, thesis work, work completion seminar and the final defence of VIVA. A Malaysian supervisor who is assigned by the university and a local Academic advisor guides the PhD candidates. Monthly progress monitoring and all exams are conducted by MSU Malaysia.

Dr. A S Gunasinghe
(Asst. General Manager, Development Lotteries Board)

The MSU PhD program provides a challenging and rewarding educational experience. This stimulating research environment exposes PhD students to a wealth of opportunities and provides them with support to develop their skills according to their area of specialisation. MSU is a fast moving intellectual and academic environment. The eclectic nature of this experience helped me to reach a number of personal, profes-



sional and academic goals. MSU is a great community and is the perfect place to do a PhD."

Dr. Kumudini Priyanka Seneviratne
(Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Education, University of Colombo)

The doctoral program in Science Education at Management and Science University added a great value to my proficiency as well as research excellence in Science education. My research-based PhD thesis was on "Science Teacher Self-efficacy for Constructive Alignment in Teaching Scientific Inquiry: An Analytical Study of State Schools of Colombo District in Sri Lanka".

It has been a great privilege to carry out my PhD study at MSU with a rich academic culture. It is because of MSU's never ending struggle in keeping high standards in research work, I was successful in completing my PhD with a number of research publications in peer reviewed international journals of high standards.

I am happy with the right decision I took to pursue my doctoral program at MSU and my sincere gratitude to MSU for making it happen

Dr. Nisha Anupama Jayasooriya
(Senior Lecturer at SLIIT)

The unique method of teaching and smooth procedure of MSU helps me to complete PhD



Dr. Shyaman Udayanga
(Senior Lecturer, and the Founder Head, Department of Entrepreneurship, Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, University of Sri Jaywardenepura)

I read for a Ph.D. in Entrepreneurship in Management and Science University (MSU) of Malaysia that provided me a challenging and rewarding educational experience.

The friendly and inspiring learning environment helped us to cling on to the studies when it comes to difficulties and discouragements due to the responsibilities towards the family and heavy workload at the workplace.

The support of academic staff from MSU Malaysia and Colombo Learning Centre (Local Advisors) and administrative staff was indeed admirable.

The nature of this experience helped me to realise many personal, professional and academic goals. I am grateful to MSU and its team for the beautiful journey they accompanied us for the past three years.

Dr Nishantha De Silva
(A Chief Manager of a leading private bank)

My doctoral journey for 3 years at MSU-Malaysia was thought-provoking, challenging and enriching. Being a qualified senior Banking professional, I was curious to have a deep dive in theories on the hot topic of Competition and Profitability in the Banking industry. After much works, I had the joy of successful completion of my thesis titled 'The Impact of Competition on Profitability among Sri Lankan Local Banks' with a 360-degree view on the subject area. My doctoral thesis had the opportunity of discovering hundreds of related studies undertaken globally with guidance for application in Sri Lankan context.

Being a private sector professional, I had the privilege of sharing research knowledge with fellow academics from many Sri Lankan state universities and professionals from leading private institutions. Occasional academic sessions held in Malaysia from time to time allowed us to mingle with fellow foreign students and such opportunities gave us an exposure at international level. Supervisors and co-supervisors for the thesis were appointed from Malaysia and they were world class with academic knowledge and experience.

I am grateful to MSU and proud to be an elite Alumni of MSU PhD program which is fast becoming the much sought-after PhD program, especially among Management and Business scholars not only in Sri Lanka but also in Asia and other regions.

Dr Piumi Perera
(Senior Lecturer, University of Sri Jaywardenepura)

I am privileged to earn my PhD from a world pre eminent university, Management and Science University, Malaysia. It was not an easy journey. Courage, patience and self-encouragement were highly needed through the way. I have started with an area which is being minimally tapped in Sri Lankan Context; that is about sports. Being a senior academic member in Sports Management of a Sri Lankan National University, MSU had provided me with a great opportunity to address a national issue in the field of sports.

My main consideration was given to a desired area which broadly addresses the psychological factors affecting sports performance in Sri Lanka.

My supervisor, the co-supervisor and the academic advisors guided me to end up with success.

The program for PhD of MSU is a well-developed program which includes the radical thrives of completing with the comprehensive knowledge. I will always be thankful to MSU for everything I gained during my PhD journey.



Dr. L.A.C Sajeewanie
(Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Marketing Management, Faculty of Management Studies, Sabaragamuwa)

I am honoured to be the MSUrian. Pursuing a Ph.D is a difficult and sometimes a lonely path. In pursuing this path, the constant encouragement and endless support given by MSU was vital in making the dissertation a reality. MSU taught me how to be a researcher and encouraged me to determine appropriate solution methodologies to organise research findings. My academic supervisors and all the Professors and Doctors of Advisory panel of Sri Lanka and Malaysia spent countless hours guiding us and helping us to overcome some of the difficulties we have come across. They were always full of ideas and open for new ideas. My ideas and comments were always welcomed, and none of them were bad ideas. This instilled a lot of confidence in me. The many skills I have learnt from MSU will constantly guide me on how to be a great advisor throughout my life as a university lecturer. I am fortunate to be a Ph.D. holder of MSU and my appreciation for their guidance and continuous support is immeasurable.

Dr. Haritha Wedathanthirige
(School of Management, University of South Australia)

Accomplishing the Doctor of Philosophy (Management/Business) in Sustainability from MSU is a remarkable milestone in my life as a Research Consultant. In this journey, MSU provided and facilitated me to perform the research study on green orientation and sustainable organisational performance of tourism industry in terms of economic, environmental and social perspectives that contributing to corporate response for climate change within the paradigm of green economy and sustainable development to save this planet for future generations.

Greatest supervision granted by the supervisors at MSU in Malaysia is immensely supported to complete my research work and the thesis successfully within a wonderful learning atmosphere, while maintaining the world class of academic standards. My sincere thanks and deep gratitude to my supervisors and all the MSU academic staff members who made such a wonderful oppor-



tunity and incredible experience for my research career.

Dr. Santhiyappan Karunakaran
(Senior Lecturer, National Institute of Education)

The National Institute of Education (NIE) found that the MSU is the best university to satisfy the needs of the NIE and selected suitable officers to follow PhD program. My research was focused on "The Impact of Educational Leadership and School Culture in Plantation Sector schools in Sri Lanka".

The PhD study at MSU has helped me produce a comprehensive thesis in my selected area and also guided me to publish my papers in internationally recognised research journals. The compulsory course work on Research Methodology and Statistical Methods which I followed in my first year has strengthened my research capacity as well as my teaching ability. Today, I teach this course with confidence and competence to my Bachelor and Post Graduate degree students at the NIE as well as other higher education institutes. I also help my colleagues at the NIE and others who are following higher degrees.

Dr. W M I Udayanganie
(Lecturer, Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Faculty of Engineering, University of Ruhuna)

My PhD research mainly focused on the Development of Entrepreneurial Behaviour of Engineering Graduates in Sri Lanka, which is the most important field in the country for developing technological products and services. Developing business-oriented professionalism through education and human resource development is a national requirement.

I selected MSU for my PhD studies and I could complete it on time under the guidance of my research supervisors assigned by MSU and the well-organised degree program schedule of the University.

The knowledge received through the PhD program of MSU has supported me achieve my career goals.

For more information about MSU & MSI programs and especially about next PhD intake, contact Management & Science Institute, on enquiry@msi.edu.lk telephone Tel: 011 257 6900 / 011 257 6700 Hot line 077 0777 880, or visit MSI at No 300, Galle Road Colombo 3. www.msi.edu.lk or www.msu.edu.my



MBA AND Ph.D FROM MSU

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MBA LEADING TO Ph.D

- Project Management
- Health Management
- E-commerce & Service Management
- Sales Management
- Quality Management & Techniques

Ph.D AREA OF RESEARCH

- International Business
- E-Commerce
- Multimedia Technology
- Management
- Strategic Management and Globalization
- Marketing
- HRM / Customer Relationship Management
- Accounting / Finance
- Information and Communication Technology

Management & Science University
University Drive, Off Persiaran Chia Seng, Section 13,
40100 Shah Alam, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia
Tel: 603 5521 9868, 603 5521 2548

Management & Science Institute
(Colombo Learning Centre)
No: 300, Galle Road, Colombo - 03, Sri Lanka.
Tel: +94 112 576 900, +94 112 576 700

Email: enquiry@msi.edu.lk
Website: www.msi.edu.lk

Advertorial

Mowbray College Kandy invites applications

ADMISSION FOR GRADE 1-14

Mowbray College in Kandy is the youngest member of the Church Missionary Society Board of Schools in Sri Lanka, which also has four sister schools across the island. Mowbray was founded in 1922 initially as a training school for Bible Women but later transformed into providing a quality and meaningful education for girls from the Tamil speaking up country regions of the country. The College is in the Rajapihilla Mawatha overlooking the Kandy Lake on a sprawling campus of nearly five acres. The College is perched in the beauty of the Kandy hills and surrounded by a diverse nature which itself has become a living laboratory.

The school is equipped with all modern facilities, including parking, play ground, indoor sports complex, auditorium, laboratories, IT centre, support infrastructure and accommodation with a special emphasis on hostel education owing to its past as a primarily select boarding school which was made their home by several hundreds of young ladies from all across the island. The school has a pre-school which provides an orientation and all round education for children below five years and maintains the Primary School with a strong emphasis on English, Tamil, Sinhala and German languages. The school provides Advanced Level Education in Commerce, Arts, Languages, IT and general streams with all new subject combinations being made possible. Mowbray College stresses on a student centred education with personalised attention due to smaller sized class numbers and have in the past few years guaranteed a no tuition approach which has yielded over expected results with students being successful at examinations as well as being well rounded in character.

The private school tradition which centres on holistic education provides sports facilities, such as Athletics, Swimming, Tennis, Badminton, Netball and Table Tennis among which the students have achieved provincial and national acclaim. Mowbray College owing to its historically cultural approach has maintained an overarching prominence on the arts, such as Carnatic Music, Baratha Natyam, Tamil Drama and Literature, while inculcating elements, such as Kandyan Dancing, Western Choir, Girl Guiding, In-teract Club and Western Band. Owing to the

school's spiritual roots, it engages in religious education with accent on festivals and outreach programs.

As the school is on the verge of celebrating the 100th anniversary, the management and staff of Mowbray College has lined-up many development projects that will be initiated during the journey towards the centenary.

- Mowbray Mart – Convenience store with a range of groceries, snack food, confectionery and soft drinks. Organic vegetables harvested from the school garden will also be sold at a reasonable price.
- Table Tennis Complex for competitions and coaching sessions – A special indoor area equipped with modern facilities to host inter-school, zonal, provincial and mercantile Table Tennis competitions.
- Mowbray College Ground Extension Project – The college play ground will be extended further and a pavilion will be constructed to accommodate more than 500 guests.
- Mowbray College Auditorium Revamp Project – By the end of 2020, the School Auditorium will be renovated with state-of-the-art Sound/Multimedia System and Lighting System and will be rented for College Concerts, Conferences, Award Ceremonies, AGMs and Training Programs. This consists of a 350 theatre style seating capacity.

With the approach of international modernism and local cultural goodness, Mowbray College continues to stand by her principles founded nearly one hundred years ago. As a "School with a Difference", Mowbray will make that change wherever it might be present in whoever it might be needed in the hope that the society and the country will experience a distinction and service in whichever manner that is required.

Mowbray College has announced the opening of admission process for Grade 1-14 for 2021 for Tamil, English and Sinhala mediums.

Applications are available in College Office at No.40, Rajapihilla Mawatha, Kandy and online applications are available in College website www.mowbraycollege.lk.



Students receiving their certificates

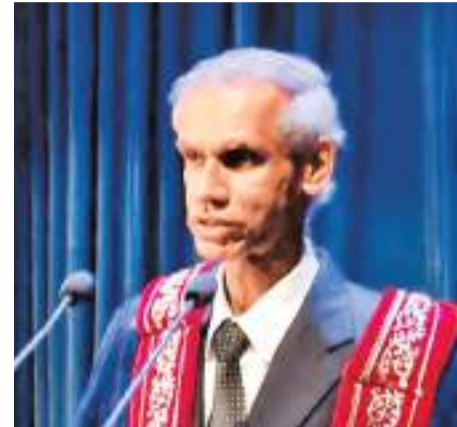
Moratuwa University General Convocation

The 41st General Convocation of University of Moratuwa (UoM) was held on August 24 and 25 at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH) in six sessions.

The Chancellor of the University, Vidyajyothi Professor Emeritus KKYW Perera presided the convocation ceremony. It was attended by the graduands with their parents, invitees as well as the academic and administrative staff of the University.

The University of Moratuwa holds its General Convocation in the 3rd week of August every year. Irrespective of the global threat of Covid-19 pandemic, the University held its General Convocation having no changes in the planned dates, empowering the students to apply for jobs and enroll for local and international postgraduate programs without any. All students who were planning to graduate this year have been able to do so with the support of the academic, administrative, academic support and non-academic staff and the special services provided by the Centre for Information Technology Services - University of Moratuwa (CITeS).

The University administration in coordination with the BMICH authorities took



steps to adhere to the Covid-19 protective guidelines issued by the Director-General of Health in order to hold the convocation as scheduled. The BMICH implemented health safety plans including screening, checking temperatures of each individual prior to entering the BMICH premises, personal distancing with spaced seating, hand washing and sanitising to ensure a health safety environment for the attendees.

Some 1877 competent graduands with remarkable potential to inspire and chal-

lenge the status quo were conferred degrees in fields, such as engineering, architecture, information technology and business with over 20 percent of them at post graduate level including 11 graduands receiving PhDs.

University of Moratuwa graduates are

Faculty	First Degree	Postgraduate Degree/Diploma
Architecture	332	57
Engineering	903	268 (7PhDs)
Information Technology	256	36 (3 PhDs)
Faculty of Business	-	25 (1 PhD)

in high demand among the state sector and private sector employers. Most study programs have recorded zero unemployment within three months after graduation. Having earned internationally recognised accreditation status from a number of international accreditation bodies, UoM degree programs are considered qualitatively equivalent to those offered by the world's best universities.

The university has taken steps to integrate quality assurance in all its activities and to support the establishment of a quality culture throughout the institution having earned an "A" grade (the highest possible grade) for the 2019 Institutional Review conducted by the University Grants Commission (UGC).



MBA in Strategy in KIU

KIU was founded on the vision of a group of like-minded academics and professionals, set out to capture the tertiary higher educational market with these fundamental principles; simply, to launch the most affordable, flexible, high quality and highest ranked local accredited postgraduate portfolio with the help of Japanese universities.

It did this by combining three key ingredients that paved the way for success in the already highly competitive higher educational landscape that is Sri Lanka.

The first step was building MBA curricula with the relationship of local Reputed Management Universities of Sri Lanka. The second was building a team of experienced lecturers that possess the ideal balance of academic and professional acumen along with top level industry experience to deliver an unparalleled, modern and inspirational learning experience for students on the program. This highly respected faculty is able to bring real world application and context to the theory built in to the syllabus. The third was launching a competitive and academically rigorous 2 year "Research Oriented" postgraduate platform, that allowed students multiple modes



of delivery to choose from, giving ultimate flexibility while retaining high quality educational provision, strictly adhering to the standard delivery protocols approved in the non-state higher education ministry and University Grant commission in Sri Lanka. This, coupled with a staff that prides itself on excellent student support and after class services, meant that MBA has become one of the most attractive in the country, with arguably the best modern postgraduate learning environ-

ment. One of the key features was the introduction of Block Mode delivery, which provides MBA students the opportunity to attend face-to-face classes as online MBA student for one weekend every four weeks. So successful has this delivery option been, that it has opened up opportunities for people on roster to attend lectures from overseas, and do so regularly on a monthly basis.

All of these factors have led to MBA being one of the few institutes that have recorded full batches since their inception. Commenting on the success of the KIU recruiting their first batch, Vice Chancellor of the KIU said, "MBA owes its success to the faith and trust of its students. Students have decided to put their trust in us and the promise of quality we try to emulate under the KIU banner. This trust has only served to further our resolve to be the provider of the highest ranked MBA in the country and has furthered our commitment to providing our students with the best postgraduate learning experience in the nation as well."

– Professor Kennady Gunawardana
Honorary Dean Faculty of Graduate Studies - KIU

UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA
Department of Textile and Clothing Technology

M.Sc. / PG Diploma course in TEXTILE AND CLOTHING MANAGEMENT

Duration of the Course
The minimum period for the completion of the MSc and Postgraduate Diploma course will normally be 24 months and 16 months respectively. The course will be conducted on a modular basis.

Admission Requirements

- An honors degree of Bachelor of the Science of Engineering of the University of Moratuwa specializing in Textile/Clothing field, OR
- An honors degree of Bachelor of the Science of Engineering from a recognized University specializing in Textile/Clothing field, as may be approved by the Senate OR
- The Degree of Bachelor of Design of Fashion Design and Product Development of the University of Moratuwa and a minimum of one year of recognized appropriate experience, as may be approved by the Senate OR
- Any other engineering, science, technology or design degree of at least four years duration, from a recognized University, and a minimum of one year of recognized appropriate experience, as may be approved by the Senate OR
- Any other engineering, science, technology or design degree of at least three years duration, from a recognized University, in a relevant field and a minimum of two years of recognized appropriate experience, as may be approved by the Senate OR
- Any recognized category of membership of a recognized Professional Institute, obtained through an academic route, with a minimum of one year of recognized appropriate experience obtained after the membership, as may be approved by the Senate.

Note:
Preference will be given to those with at least 2nd class honours degrees and having work experience in the Textile or Garment Industry.

Download application from
<https://uom.lk/textile/courses/msccl>

Course Fee:
Postgraduate Diploma: LKR 200,000.00
M.Sc : LKR 250,000.00

Contact:
rangaa@uom.lk, chinthaka@uom.lk
(94)-11-2640480, 0716800265 - Mr Chinthaka
www.textile.mrt.ac.lk

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2020 INTAKE

DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING
University of Moratuwa

Training Programme on Total Station and AutoCAD for Engineering Surveys

Target group: Engineers and other Technical Personnel.

Course Objectives: This programme is intended to impart knowledge on participants regarding the Total Station instrument, its applications in engineering surveys, and the use of AutoCAD software and Surfer software with the Total Station to produce maps and plans quickly.

Days: 10th, 11th, 17th, 18th, 24th and 25th October 2020.

Venue: Department of Civil Engineering, University of Moratuwa.

Course Content: Electronic Distance Measurement (EDM) and its applications through Total Station instrument, such as data transfer, data management, reflectorless measurements and setting out. Use of Total Station with AutoCAD and Surfer to produce maps and plans efficiently. Special project to impart confidence about the use of Total Station and its engineering applications, covering contouring, production of a three dimensional image of a selected area, production of maps and plans, and computation of areas and volumes.

Fees: Rs. 39,500.00 per person.

Closing Date for Applications : 24th September 2020.

Application procedure : Application forms can be obtained by sending an e-mail or a self-addressed stamped envelope to the following address. Successful applicants will be notified by 25th September. They should register by paying the course fees by 05th October 2020. Payment can be made by cheque written in favour of the "University of Moratuwa".

Address:
Mr. T.D.C. Pushpakumara, Senior Lecturer,
Department of Civil Engineering, University of Moratuwa, Moratuwa.
Phone : 071-9694088 (Pradeepa), 011-2650567 (Ext. 2135 /2004)
Fax : 011-2651216
E-mail : pradeepap@uom.lk, kumara2004kumari@yahoo.com

Registrar, University of Moratuwa.



MAS - EEC National Partner for Sri Lanka

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We truly understand and feel the requirement of our students, where they have a big challenge to avoid fake operators and misleading information in mainly electronic medias and invite students to receive true information free of charge before making a decision about their study destination.

To make it more attractive and effective, we are developing connections directly to universities by our prospective students before they enroll prior to spending any penny.

With respect to Russian universities, we joined hands with EEC (Education Export Centre) in Russia where all leading professionals of this industry work together to support prospective students in various countries with true and correct information.

Russian universities have been a popular choice for the Sri Lankan youth. Every year there are over of



1,000 Sri Lankas pursuing degree programs in Russia. But there are clear signs that demand is growing now and this number can significantly increase in coming years.

Education Export Center is a Russian not-for-profit organisation that deals with Russian universities and international education consultants to increase the number of international students who are happy with their study experience in Russia. We build capacity of Russian universities on supporting and serving the needs of international students. We constantly increase awareness of international education consultants on opportunities of studying in Russia.

Education Export Center has introduced its certification system to help international education consultants working with Russian universities to achieve better results and build on their market reputation by providing only accurate information to candidates and helping them build their study and career pathways in Russia. The list of certified consultants is updated every month and is available at www.eduexport.ru.

There are great efforts standing behind the EEC Certification as education consultants have to undergo a dedicated training that is delivered in a partnership with leading Russian universities. They also have to take part in regular information sessions delivered by Education Export Center. And the certification is reviewed annually taking into account different factors, including peer feedback from universities.

According to Dmitri Nersesyan, Director of Education Export Center, the highest level of certification is the EEC National Partner.

"This status means that the consultancy has demonstrated the highest level of market knowledge and has dedicated significant resources to promotion of Russian education. They serve as National Centers of Excellence and Expertise on studying in Russia and it is expected that they will share it with other education consultants in their markets. We are happy to introduce MAS Pvt. LTD represented by Milroy Fernando and Wimashan Wimalagunasekera as the EEC National Partner for Sri Lanka," Nersesyan said.

Education Export Center also supports a number of activities for Russian universities helping them get better exposure on global market and constantly improve their services for international students.

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Examinations starting from August

Examinations that are scheduled to be conducted by the Department of Examinations commencing from August 2020 are as follows.

Name of the Exam	Date /Dates of Exam
1. Examination of Oriental Studies Society of Sri Lanka - 2019 (2020) Intermediate Examination of Oriental Pandit	August 24, 25, 27, 28, 31 September 02, 03, 04, 07
2. Examination of Oriental Studies Society of Sri Lanka - 2019 (2020) Final Examination of Oriental Pandit (New/Old)	August 24, 25, 27, 28, 31 September 02, 03, 04, 07, 08, 10, 11
3. Examination of Oriental Studies Society of Sri Lanka - 2019 (2020) Preliminary Examination of Oriental Pandit	August 29, 30 September 05, 06, 12, 13
4. First Departmental Examination for Motor Examiners of the Sri Lanka Technical Service - 2017(2020)	August 29
5. Efficiency Bar Examination for Class II Officers of the Sri Lanka Principals Service - 2019 (2020)	August 29, 30
6. Link Language (English) Examination for Sri Lanka Teacher Educator Service - 2019 (2020)	August 30

Faculty of Management Studies & Commerce
University of Jaffna - Sri Lanka
Commencement of Academic Activities

The **1st year, 2nd year, 3rd year and 4th year** batches of students of Faculty of Management Studies & Commerce are hereby informed that the normal academic activities will commence on **(Wednesday) 02.09.2020**. All batch students are expected to be present and attend the lectures and other academic activities from that day onwards. Students who are given hostel accommodation should report to respective hostels from **01.09.2020 (Tuesday)**.

- The 2nd year 2nd semester and 3rd year 2nd semester (Academic Year - 2017/2018) lectures will be held at **faculty new premises** located at 10th Lane, Kalasalai Road, Thirunelveli.
- 1st year 1st semester & 2nd year 1st semester (Academic Year - 2018/2019) lectures will be held at usual place (Main Premises).

The Registrar, University of Jaffna.
 26.08.2020

DEPARTMENT OF MANUFACTURING AND INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING
FACULTY OF ENGINEERING
UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME IN ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT

This is the first and only Postgraduate Programme offered in Engineering Management by a Sri Lankan university which was established through ADB funded project in 2000. Its alumni include professional engineers and managers currently employed in leading local and multinational companies, government and semi government organizations. This unique programme covers essential theories and principles required for engineering management and guide candidates to apply them to real-world industrial problems in the industry. With internationally qualified lecturers and an up-to-date syllabus, it has become the pioneering and leading postgraduate degree programme in Engineering Management. Programme includes classroom, online sessions, hands on experience in commercial software, local & foreign industry visits.

Applications are now called for the 2021 intake of the Postgraduate Programme in Engineering Management leading towards the qualifications of:

- Master of the Science in Engineering (MSc.Eng.), Master of Science (MSc)
- Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip.)

Admission Requirement:
 A first degree in engineering of at least 120 credits with first or second class honours, subjected to the general regulations of the postgraduate programmes at the Faculty of Engineering, University of Peradeniya.
 More info at www.pdn.ac.lk/eng/cerps/index.php

Duration of the programme : 24 months
 Lectures will be held on Sundays and will be conducted in both in-class and online modes.

Applications can be made on-line at <http://eng.pdn.ac.lk/mis/pg-program.html>

For more information, please contact:
 Postgraduate Programme Coordinator
 Department of Manufacturing and Industrial Engineering,
 Faculty of Engineering, University of Peradeniya
 Peradeniya 20400, Sri Lanka

Course Fee
 Rs. 200,000 for PG Dip.
 Rs. 300,000 for MSc.Eng./MSc

Closing Date of Applications
 31st October 2020

Programme Commences in
 February 2021

Acting Registrar
 University of Peradeniya

Tel : 081 239 3964
 Email : pprme@pdn.ac.lk
 Web : <http://eng.pdn.ac.lk/mis/pg-program.html>

Advertorial

Pen your thoughts to flow

By
Vasana
Abeynayake



For most of the people who maintain a journal, it's a way of healing themselves, of coping with things. There are times when you experience or feel something that you can't share with anybody, not your mom, or your best friend or just about anyone you're close to. Still, there is a great urge to tell it to someone.

Hence, you talk to your only friend who's an expert at keeping secrets - your diary.

One of the most important ways of expression is to maintain a diary with all their best and worse. We should always give it a thought in releasing our pleasures and pains. The life would be so good if we could pen to paper on expressing all what we feel.

Hence let the pen flows on as it should be a daily journal, a flow of life which makes one expresses or releases his vices and betterments. Writing your emotions down helps you in managing and controlling your emotions. It gives you an outlet to let out both your negative and positive emotions. When you experience an excessive arrival of either of them you feel the need of sharing your thoughts with someone. Maintaining a journal has many benefits for all - writing down your thoughts puts you in a whole different state of thought. But as you start venting out the frustration in your journal, a sense of calm and peace washes over you. You feel much more relaxed as if a heavy burden has been lifted off your shoulders. Maintaining a journal is not just about writing down the events of your day. There are many different kinds of journal entries you can make.

You feel more in control of your emotions. And that's necessary especially when you are away from the comfort of familiar things and mak-



MAINTAINING A DIARY IS AN ACT OF MENTAL FULFILLMENT. ONE FEELS SO FREE AFTER WRITING HOW HE FEELS AND IT IS SOME KIND OF A THERAPY IN RELEASING THE BURDEN OF PAIN AND THE BLISS OF HAPPINESS TOO

ing your way through a new phase of life. It can help you cope with the changes and focus better on important things.

A person can maintain many different kinds of journals as per their need and requirements. Some maintain a dream journal, some log in everyday event; some use it for creative writing like poem, stories and songs. Or you could just maintain a simple idea journal, a book where you maintain a list of all the weird and crazy ideas that pop into your mind.

Moreover, when you focus on creative thoughts, your mind opens up to a variety of ideas you never thought you had in you. At times, you come across the best of your ideas when you are hardly thinking about

them, irrespective of whether you are driving a car or just enjoying a warm shower. This is because your mind is always on the lookout for creative ideas.

Maintaining a diary is an act of mental fulfillment. One feels so free after writing how he feels and it is some kind of a therapy in releasing the burden of pain and the bliss of happiness too. Moreover, it is a way of improving your language capacity of expression with descriptive writing. It is always interesting and fulfilling when one has the habit of writing a journal or maintaining a diary.

"Expressive writing is the route to healing- emotionally, physically and psychology" - Dr. James Pennebaker

Cambridge International releases results for June series

Cambridge International released the results of its June 2020 series on time, to thousands of schools around the world today. More than 950,000 grades were issued, to almost 4,000 schools in 139 countries.

In Sri Lanka, this year the most popular Cambridge O Level subjects are English, Mathematics Syllabus D and Computer Science and the most popular Cambridge International AS & A Level subjects are Physics, Mathematics and Chemistry. Globally, the most popular Cambridge International AS & A Levels this year are English (General Paper), maths and physics.

This year, Cambridge International took the decision not to hold exams for its global June 2020 series. Instead, we engaged with education authorities, governments and schools around the world to develop a robust process for awarding students with assessed grades.

Our awarding process combined teacher insights with a rigorous standardisation process.

This ensured grades issued for June 2020 would be fair and reliable and accepted by universities and employers globally, in the same way as any other year. Our awarding method is robust, clear and available on our website.

Mahesh Srivastava, Regional Director, South Asia at Cambridge Assessment International Education said, "2020 has been a transformational year and has had a huge impact on teaching across the world. With school closures, Cambridge Learners were not able to take their June exams and therefore we developed a statistical standardisation process with the schools to award final grades. Through the process, we aimed to create a level playing field and ensure that our grades are fair."

Christine Ozden, Chief Executive, Cambridge International said, "In a unique situation, Cambridge International had to respond quickly so that our global community of Cambridge students stayed safe, but could progress with their education.

A key priority was to en-

sure Cambridge students receive grades that are trusted by employers and universities around the world."

"Our process for awarding assessed grades is built on best practice from the UK and adapted to ensure it works across the many different countries we work in.

"I would like to thank our schools and teachers for the huge amount of effort they put into supporting our awarding process for the June 2020 series, which has enabled us to provide students with reliable and trusted grades this year.

"I hope our students around the world, can now move forward with their lives, and have come through this experience stronger and more resilient, after what has been a very challenging time for everyone."

Universities have confirmed they are happy with the method used to determine assessed grades this year and have said they will be flexible, to help as many students as possible to progress with their educational journeys.

Schooling during Covid-19 pandemic

Life during the Covid-19 pandemic is difficult for parents and children alike. The return to school is an important and hopefully welcome step, but you and your children likely have many questions. Here's the latest information on what to expect and how you can support your young student.

When and how will schools be reopened?

We are slowly seeing an increasing number of children return to the classroom. More than 1 billion students are still out of school due to nationwide school closures. However, 105 of a total of 134 countries that have closed schools (78 per cent) have decided on a date to reopen schools. 59 of those 105 countries have reopened schools or plan to open them soon.

Given the difficulty of the situation and variation across the globe, countries are in different stages regarding how and when they plan to reopen schools.

These decisions will usually be made by national or state governments, often in discussion with local authorities. When deciding whether to reopen schools, authorities should consider the benefits and risks across education, public health and socio-economic factors,

in the local context.

The best interest of every child should be at the centre of these decisions, using the best available evidence, but exactly how this will look will vary from school to school.

Is it safe for my child to go back to school?

Decisions on control measures in schools and school closures and openings should be consistent with decisions on other physical distancing and public health response measures within the community. Generally schools are not opening in countries as an isolated action, but as part as a number of actions related to opening back the country, such as reopening factories, public transport and business.

It's crucial that schools plan ahead and look at what additional measures they can put in place to help ensure students, teachers and other staff are safe when they return and communities are confident in sending their students back to school.

Going back to school will likely look a little different from what you and your child were used to before. It's possible that schools may reopen for a period of time and then a decision may be made to close them again temporarily, depend-

ing on the local context. Because of the evolving situation, authorities will need to be flexible and ready to adapt to help keep every child safe.

What precautions should the school be taking to prevent Covid-19 virus from spreading?

School reopenings should be consistent with each country's overall Covid-19 health response to help protect students, staff, teachers and their families. Some of the practical measures that schools can take include:

Staggering the start and close of the school day, Staggering meal-times, Moving classes to temporary spaces or outdoors and Holding school in shifts, to reduce class size.

Water and hygiene facilities will be a crucial part of schools reopening safely. Administrators should look at opportunities to improve hygiene measures, including hand-washing, respiratory etiquette (i.e. coughing and sneezing into the elbow), physical distancing measures, cleaning procedures for facilities and safe food preparation practices.

Administrative staff and teachers should also be trained on physical distancing and school hygiene practices.



UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME IN CIVIL ENGINEERING 2021
MSc Eng./MSc/PG Dip

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED TO THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMMES

- ❖ Environmental and Water Engineering
- ❖ Geotechnical Engineering
- ❖ Highway and Traffic Engineering
- ❖ Structural Engineering
- ❖ Sustainable Built Environment

Lectures on: Saturdays and Sundays

Course Fee: Rs. 350,000/-

Duration: 18 months (Part time) / 12 months (Full time)

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. A Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering with first or second Class Honours from or recognized university
or
2. A Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering with acceptable postgraduate qualifications or with a minimum of one year experience after obtaining the Degree or such qualification.
or
3. A degree or such other qualifications as may be approved by the Faculty Higher Degrees Committee as suitable for candidates for the MSc Eng./MSc./PG Dip. with a minimum of one year experience, after obtaining the Degree or such qualification, in a field related to the programme of study.

APPLICATIONS

For further information and application forms:

Course Secretary : Ms. Jeevanie Dehigama

T.P. : +94 717691566

E-mail : pg.civil.pdn@gmail.com

Website : <https://eng.pdn.ac.lk/civil/education/postgraduate.php>

Completed applications should be forwarded to:

Assistant Registrar
Faculty of Engineering,
University of Peradeniya,
Peradeniya.



CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 31 October 2020

Only short-listed applicants will be called for interview

Acting Registrar
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Schools reopen for all grades

The Education Ministry has decided to reopen government approved schools for all grades, closed owing to the Corona virus pandemic.

Instructions have been given to Provincial Chief Secretaries, Education Secretaries, Directors of Education, Zonal Directors of Education and Principals to reopen schools for all grades as per the instructions of the Health Authorities.

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Virtual Queuing – service queue management for social distancing

Continued from last week

How does it work?

With a virtual queue management technology, customers can remotely get in-line through a mobile ticket - an online ticket that can be viewed on a mobile phone. The process starts with the customer checking-in by scanning a QR code or being assisted by a mobile concierge who is a staff member of the service organisation.

There are several ways a customer could “virtually” get in-line. The most common are, firstly customers use their mobile phones to scan a QR code which is posted outside the service premise (e.g. at the main entrance/door or window) and secondly, a web page or a mobile application presents a list of services from which the customer can choose a service and get in-line a virtual queue. If a customer has confirmed an appointment in advance, initially



he or she will receive an email or a text message when the appointment is created and enable the appointment for committing a self-arrival through the system.

Then the customer will be able to “self-arrive” and get in-line for the appointment within a pre-defined time period decided by the system based on the actual appointment time.

Subsequently, customers can wait remotely (may be at the convenience of their home or car) and monitor their position in the queue through their mobile phones. They

will be able to view queue movement progress on a real-time basis (i.e. how they move forward in the queue from one position to another, expected waiting time etc.) and also receive notifications when they reach a certain position (e.g. 3rd in-line) in the queue.

When their turn arrives to be served, a staff member will send a notification to the customer through a virtual queueing staff app. Upon receiving this notification, the customer can visit the service desk and be served while maintaining a safe distance.

What is a Mobile Ticket?

A mobile ticket is a virtual ticket which is an alternative to a physical or paper ticket. Customers can obtain mobile tickets using their mobile phones.

It provides customers the flexibility to choose a service of their preference and get in-line, sans the need to get a paper ticket or the help of a staff member. It provides convenience and safety of waiting anywhere and the ability to monitor the queue position and receive notifications avoiding the need to be physically present in a crowded waiting area.

Does Virtual Queuing help social distancing?

Virtual queuing is all about managing the customer journey in a virtual space from the start to end. Customers will be able to maintain

a safe distance with the staff members and other customers. Since customers check-in and wait in-line remotely, they avoid interacting with touchscreens or any other device that require physical interaction. There are several important aspects in the virtual queuing concept which helps maintain social distancing.

Pre-arrival is when an appointment is booked in advance through an online booking system or a phone call. Self check-in means when a QR code is scanned, which is placed outside the service premise or self-arrive for an appointment which was created in advance to check-in while maintaining a safe distance.

Then the person can wait remotely. Customers can wait anywhere and monitor their queue position and progress remotely, receive a notification when they reach a certain position in the queue and when they are called to be served.

Virtual Queuing during Covid-19

Virtual queue management solutions offer great benefits in an environment where Covid-19 related health regulations need to be adhered by service providers (such as social distancing, limiting service floor crowding etc.), yet it is essential for the service provider that the business operations remain efficient and productive.

Some sectors that will benefit from implementing virtual queue management solutions include, Public Administration such as government agencies and public service organisations, Healthcare - hospitals, clinics, Covid-19 test/quarantine centres and other healthcare facilities, Retail, i.e. supermarkets, pharmacies and other essential retail stores and Financial Institutes such as commercial banks.

SLANSHEI congratulates new Education Minister

The Sri Lanka Association for Non State Higher Education Institutions (SLANSHEI), issuing a statement, congratulates Prof. G.L.Peiris, on his appointment as the new Education Minister. “We take this opportunity to congratulate Prof.G.L.Peiris on his appointment as the Minister of Education and your desire and drive to promote higher education opportunities for all youth in this country.”

“SLANSHEI, as the representative body of recognised Non-State Higher education institutions in Sri Lanka, hopes that the Minister will drive and direct the development of the Non-State sector education opportunities created for the betterment of our youth in keeping with the vision of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and his Government. We, as the Non-state sector will support and facilitate the plans of the new Minister, which we are convinced,



will promote the vision of education for all, be it in the State or non-state sector.”

SLANSHEI founder President, CEO/Vice Chancellor Prof. Laith Gamage said SLIIT has worked for the advancement of higher education in Sri Lanka and provided a wide range of relevant and quality education opportunities to a broader cross section

of the Sri Lankan society and his new initiatives have been implemented for the improvement of the non-state sector during his journey. Current President Upul Daranagama, Chairman of Horizon Group and Secretary Prof. Colin N. Peiris, Director, Academic Development and Quality Assurance strengthen the functioning and capacity of higher education institutions and

facilitate cooperation among them for effective service delivery and development at all levels.

“SLANSHEI has taken the lead in supporting the Ministry of Higher Education, Ministry of Finance and its vision to promote the non-state sector higher education in the country through the following programs: interest free student loan scheme and promotion of Sri Lanka as an education hub through Advisory Committee participation at EDB. We hope that under the guidance of the new Minister and the divisions of his ministry, we will support and facilitate about 150,000 students per year, who do not get opportunities in the state sector to read for a degree of their choice in future. This is a long standing concern which SLANSHEI is focusing on and needs to be addressed in future.” “As an organisation with a vision and mission of



Prof. Colin N. Peiris, Director, Academic Development & Quality Assurance



Mr. Upul Daranagama, Chairman of Horizon Group

“providing a forum and other mechanisms for the sharing and exchange of expertise, knowledge, best practices and other resources of non-state private higher education institutions with a view to promoting, developing and enhancing the quality and standard of private higher education and its contri-

bution to the national economy, and a strong membership of 13 recognised non-state sector higher education institutions, we would take this opportunity to extend our continued support to Prof.G.L.Peiris at all times, in achieving the goals of higher education development in our country.”



GENERAL SIR JOHN KOTELAWALA DEFENCE UNIVERSITY




DEGREE PROGRAMMES FOR DAY SCHOLARS 2020/2021 (FULL TIME)

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates to follow the under mentioned Degree Programmes at KDU on Payment / Non Payment Basis

DEGREES OFFERED AT KOTELAWALA DEFENCE UNIVERSITY - RATMALANA		
Degree Programme (Payment Basis)	Duration	A/L Stream
Faculty of Defence & Strategic Studies		
BSc Strategic Studies & International Relations	03 Years	Any Stream
Faculty of Engineering		
BSc (Hons) Engineering	04 Years	Maths
BSc (Hons) Aircraft Maintenance [In collaboration with Sri Lanka Aviation College (SLAC)]	04 Years	Maths / Bio / Engineering Technology
BSc Aircraft Maintenance [In collaboration with Sri Lanka Aviation College (SLAC)] Top-up programme - Conditions apply *	02 Years	Maths / Bio / Engineering Technology
Faculty of Law		
Bachelor of Laws (LLB)	04 Years	Bio/Maths/Commerce or Arts
Faculty of Management, Social Sciences and Humanities		
BSc Management & Technical Sciences	03 Years	Bio or Maths
BSc Logistics Management	03 Years	Bio/ Maths or Commerce
BSc Social Sciences	03 Years	Any Stream
Faculty of Computing		
BSc (Hons) Computer Science	04 Years	Maths
BSc (Hons) Software Engineering	04 Years	Maths
BSc (Hons) Computer Engineering	04 Years	Maths

Degree Programme (Payment / Non Payment Basis)	Duration	A/L Stream
Faculty of Allied Health Sciences		
BSc (Hons) Nursing (Payment / Non Payment Basis)	04 Years	Bio or Maths
BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy	04 Years	Bio or Maths
BSc (Hons) Medical Laboratory Sciences	04 Years	Bio or Maths
BSc (Hons) Radiography	04 Years	Bio or Maths
BSc (Hons) Radiotherapy	04 Years	Bio or Maths
BPharm (Hons)	04 Years	Bio or Maths
DEGREES OFFERED AT KDU SOUTHERN CAMPUS - SOORIYAWEWA		
Degree Programme (Payment Basis)	Duration	A/L Stream
Faculty of Built Environment & Spatial Sciences		
Bachelor of Architecture (B Arch)	05 Years	Bio/ Maths or Arts
BSc (Hons) Surveying Sciences	04 Years	Maths
BSc (Hons) Quantity Surveying	04 Years	Maths
Faculty of Computing		
BSc (Hons) Information Technology	04 Years	Bio/ Maths/Commerce or Arts
BSc (Hons) Information Systems	04 Years	Bio/ Maths/Commerce or Arts

* Those applying for BSc Aircraft Maintenance Degree should have completed the EASA certified Basic Course with License in a reputed Institute.

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Closing Date for Applications : 25th September 2020

Registrar
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Advertorial

Why you should consider a foundation year?

If you're undecided about going to university, or you're a mature student considering a return to education, a foundation year gives you the chance to experience studying before fully committing.

Going to university is a big step. If you've been out of education for a few years, it can be a daunting prospect. For mature students in particular, there may be the added worry of whether university is really for you - will you have anything in common with your fellow students.

The development of the foundation year has opened doors for those who may have previously thought university wasn't an option, whether for academic or personal reasons, from school leavers to busy working parents.

What is a foundation year?

A foundation year offers a supportive environment if you've been out of education for a few years and are nervous about embarking on a university degree. For example, at the University of Bedfordshire, initial sessions focus on career aspirations and opportunities, including a review of your existing transferable skills.

You'll be surprised at how much you have to offer when it comes to studying - something you might not have thought about before. Having a fresh start generally revives ambitions and aspirations and this is reflected in the results of the majority of our mature students who gain high grades and feel fully prepared for their degree-level study.

As an alternative route into uni-

versity, a foundation year can ease you back into the education environment while providing access to a range of undergraduate courses.

Foundation year or foundation degree?

Note that a foundation year is not the same as a foundation degree. A foundation year gives you access onto a degree course, whereas a foundation degree is a standalone qualification equivalent to two years of a three-year degree.

Who should take a foundation year?

A foundation year can be seen as a stepping stone into the world of higher education, particularly if you don't have the right qualifications to go straight onto a degree program. A variety of subjects can be studied on

a foundation year, from social studies and business management to biological science and sports therapy.

Courses are broad enough to offer a good introduction to a subject, but they also provide enough depth for you to gain credible vocational skills from expert tutors.

A foundation year is also ideal if you're unsure whether you want to go to university. You can get an understanding of your field of interest before progressing to a full degree programme. As well as subject knowledge, you will get used to the higher education context and gain the skills needed for higher level study. If you successfully complete the foundation year, you can progress immediately into the first year of a degree.

If you've been out of education for

a number of years, you may be worried you'll be the only person over 25 in a room full of teenagers, but this isn't the case. More mature students are going to university than ever before. In fact, at the University of Bedfordshire, over 50% of the student population is aged 21 or over. This presents you with a fantastic opportunity to mix with people you may not encounter in everyday life.

What are the entry requirements?

If you're considering doing a foundation year, you shouldn't be put off because of a lack of formal qualifications. If you have work experience and passion for your subject area, universities will look at your profile and advise whether they can accept you, or what else you need to do prior

to starting the course.

The foundation year is firmly linked to the degree you'll progress onto. It allows you to meet with your peers in the year above, so you'll know what to expect when you move onto a degree. You're taught by tutors who'll be with you throughout your degree, and you also complete the type of assessments you'll be taking in subsequent years, preparing you for what's to come.

You'll get plenty of support in understanding how the foundation course works and what's needed to reach the required standard. As a foundation year student, you're a university student from the day you register, and will benefit fully from the facilities and opportunities available to all students.

Four major education trends



The education landscape is transforming before our very eyes, where teaching approaches are becoming more student-centered and classroom designs are becoming more flexible in schools to allow for more collaborative learning.

With the rapid growth of the educational technology industry, teaching methods today are also relying more and more on technologies like artificial intelligence and even robots.

In this era of disruptive technologies, what's in store for your school? Here's a look at some key education trends that will shape and influence schools.

Artificial Intelligence Learning
The role of the teacher in schools is slowly changing. Instead of feeding information to students and lecturing from the front of the room, teachers are playing a facilitating role instead - guiding students towards thinking for themselves and carrying out projects and activities for students to work on in groups.

Assisting teachers in this new role is artificial intelligence (AI). The technology is predicted to allow teachers more time to focus on more human-specific teaching skills like emotional intelligence and creativity. AI will take over the time-consuming and monotonous tasks like checking papers for plagiarism or tests.

Hybrid homeschooling

Parents who choose to homeschool their children have plenty of support nowadays thanks to tech-

nology. If they have gaps in their knowledge or are unable to teach a subject effectively, they can use online modules or face-to-face classes in a more traditional schooling environment to supplement their education.

This is known as hybrid homeschooling, and it's predicted to become more popular in years to come. It allows for more flexibility, particularly for parents who want to homeschool their children but are unable in one way or another to do so.

Mike McShane, director of national research at US education reform organisation EdChoice wrote in Forbes: "For many families, the costs and obligations related to homeschooling are simply too burdensome. Some parents don't have the confidence in their own abilities to teach every subject to their children. Others cannot devote themselves to homeschooling full-time. Perhaps most of all, many homeschooling families want their children to socialise with other children to learn how to share, cooperate and get along with others."

Augmented Reality

"Enter hybrid homeschooling, a model where children split their time between homeschool and a more traditional schooling environment. This could be three days at home and two days at school, two days at home and three days at school, part of the day at home and part of the day at schools, or a variety of other options."

Augmented Reality (AR) is be-

coming popular in schools, allowing more three-dimensional experiences that bring abstract concepts to life for students.

This interactive experience adds digital elements by using a camera on a smart phone to a live view, such as snap chat filters.

In classrooms, AR animated content could be a tool to motivate children to study. They can understand topics better if extra data - such as fun facts, historical information or visual 3D models - are added to classroom lessons. Or when they can scan parts of their books, there are texts, audio snippets or videos from teachers that pop up.

Virtual Reality (VR)

Compared to AR, Virtual Reality (VR) is more immersive, where students can be transported to different worlds with the use of VR goggles such as Google Lens.

It is also becoming more widely used in schools, as the industry is seeing major growth with heavy investment around the world, leading to a bigger market and more affordable products in the edtech sector.

With VR, students can experience what they read beyond word descriptions and book illustrations. Tricking the body into thinking it's a new place, VR tools like Google Expeditions allow students to visit cultural sites around the world without ever leaving the classroom or even go back in time to a historical setting, such as the land of the dinosaurs.

Exercise and get outdoors

Easily one of the most frustrating things about exam season is that it seems to occur just as the weather brightens up. Use this to your advantage and go out for a walk, or a run, or head to the gym or swimming pool. As well as keeping you healthy, exercise is known to boost your mood and can help to make you more productive while revising.

Don't (always) listen to others
As the old saying goes: "comparison is the thief of joy". While it is helpful to discuss topics with fellow students and often to revise together, try not to compare other peoples' revision to your own. Chances are you're doing just fine, and listening to other people talk about what they've learnt will only stress you out and may make you feel like you aren't progressing as well as them. Plus, if they themselves are stressed, this can rub off on to you and other people's stress is not what you need right now.

Speak to someone

If the stress gets to a point where it is overwhelming, and is affecting your day-to-day life, try and speak to someone about it. Your university or school should have a service where you can speak to people about your concerns,

and will be able to offer more advice on how to manage it. If that seems like too big a step, open up to a family member or a friend about the pressure you feel. You'll be amazed to know that you aren't alone in feeling like this.

Quick ways to help eliminate exam stress

- Watch a film, a TV show or listen to a podcast or comedian that makes you laugh.
- Drink some herbal tea or a hot chocolate. It's a well known fact that hot drinks are known to soothe the soul (avoid too much caffeine though!).
- A shower or a bath can help relieve stress.
- Cook or bake something. Just the thought of having something delicious to eat can bring you joy. As a bonus side note, try and cook something healthy too. You can't feed your mind well, if you don't feed your body well.
- Get some sleep. The virtues of a good night's sleep during exam season should not be underestimated.
- Keep things in perspective. Yes, exams are important. But you are so much more than your exam results.
- Avoid other stressed people. You know the ones I mean. The ones with cue cards outside of the exam hall, frantically trying to remember key dates and equations. They will do nothing for your stress levels.

Five revision techniques to help you ace exam season

Here are some handy tips that can help make your revision more bearable

After months of attending classes, submitting essays and attempting to read around your subject, exam season finally comes. And with it comes multiple hours of revision, which can be a difficult thing to master.

But fear not. Here is a selection of revision and exam tips to help you get through this tricky time. Read on for some revision tips that go beyond cue cards, highlighting and spider diagrams.

Start early

The earlier you start, the more prepared you will be. Starting early allows you time to learn the material and understand it - and it means you can cope with any factors that may unexpectedly disrupt your revision. Also, "cramming" is just not effective for everyone, and will often only create more stress. Spend a couple of hours figuring out the material you will need to know for each exam and map out a revision timetable that takes into account when each of your exams is.

Make your revision timetable as detailed as possible, writing exactly what you need to do each day, for how long, and make sure you schedule in regular study breaks too. Without regular breaks, you could be headed for stress and burnout, which definitely won't contribute to exam success.

Work out what type of learner you are

Everyone learns in different ways. Some like colour-coded spider diagrams, others will be able to learn simply by reading and copying. Some people like to learn through listening to others speak. Revision can be a highly personal process and it's worth testing out a few different methods before finding an approach that suits you. This will make sure that you are working smarter, not harder.

Along the same lines, figure out when you learn best. This may be early in the morning or late at night - again, each person is different. Plan your revision to utilise the times when you think you are at peak productivity levels.

Create optimum learning environment

There will be loads of people who will tell you that working in a library is more productive than working from home. Others will say that locking yourself in your room is the only way to revise.

This will vary based on how you learn best and, again, it is worth experimenting to find what works for you.

For example, contrary to most of the revision advice out there, I always found that coffee shops were a great place to sit and make revision notes, and I could never work well in my room. But a friend of mine couldn't revise anywhere other than her room and actually found working from her bed effective. Varying your environment can also help to keep your revision interesting too.

Noise is a heavily debated topic. Most revision guides will tell you that music or the TV is too distracting, but this is entirely down to personal preference. One thing that worked wonders for me while making revision notes was playing Disney films in the background. I watched them so many times as a child that I didn't get distracted by the dialogue - and it provided the gentle background noise I needed to help me focus.

If speech or songs with lyrics are too distracting for you, try film scores or instrumental music. For others, pin-drop silence will be the only thing that works. The only way to know for sure is to test this out. Also, as a side note, make sure you wear comfortable clothes and have plenty of water and healthy snacks to hand.

Be strict

No matter how you dress it up, revision isn't the most enjoyable of pastimes and I'm sure there are millions of things you would rather be doing. But you have to be strict with yourself. Eliminate all distractions and stick to your revision timetable as best as you can. Keep your phone away from you, switch off the wi-fi on your laptop if you don't need the internet and make sure you have everything you need before you begin, to stop yourself having to get up.

If you must have your phone near you, download an app that stops you from continuously checking Instagram or Facebook. Forest is a particularly innovative one. It plants a seed when you lock your phone and a tree continues to grow until you quit the app. To make sure your tree keeps growing, don't go on to any other apps on your phone. If this doesn't work for you, there are plenty of other productivity apps that can stop you unnecessarily checking your phone.

Practise, practise, practise

It is important to ensure that all this revision doesn't go to waste and that you are able to apply the knowledge in an exam situation.

Past papers are a revising student's best friend, and if your university or school doesn't provide them, ask a teacher or lecturer to write a couple of questions down for you. The more you do, the more you can work out what the exam board is looking for and you can adapt your revision accordingly. Remember you are likely to fail the first couple, so don't be disheartened. As with anything, practise makes perfect, so keep at it.

Some more unorthodox revision methods

Record yourself reciting key dates, quotes or equations and listen to them as you walk to and from the library/supermarket, while at the gym or when you're cooking dinner. You won't feel like you're revising but you will be amazed at how much you retain.

- Wear a particular perfume or aftershave while studying different modules and then make sure you wear the same one on the day of the exam corresponding to that module. Similarly, have different mints or sweets while revising different modules and then take those into the exam (if allowed). Associating certain smells and tastes with one area of study could help to jog your memory.
- Set up a sports game with people on your course and incorporate exam questions into the rules of the game. For example, during a rounders/baseball game, every time someone runs to a post they have to shout out a fact, quote or figure relating to the subject.
- Read things out loud in different accents or voices. Then when you are trying to recall the facts, you'll remember the accent and then hopefully the fact too.
- Write down your revision notes in different formats. For example, write one subject as a news story, another as a letter to a friend or relative, compose them into haikus or draw them as a comic strip. Be careful not to waste too much time on this though. It doesn't need to be a work of art, just a different way of presenting the information.
- Find a friend who is on a different course to you and teach each other about your courses. The act of having to explain things to help someone else understand something will help to highlight what you yourself have learned.
- Stick Post-it notes everywhere. Literally everywhere. Just being surrounded by your revision notes will mean that something will have to sink in.

How to deal with exam stress?

Exam season can bring on levels of stress and burnout that can hinder your studies. Here are some handy tips on how to manage your anxiety

Exam stress affects most students in varying ways. It is important to manage this stress and find little ways of helping to eliminate the risk of burnout.

For some students, exams can be a breeze; revision is second nature to them and they could ace an exam with their eyes closed. But for others, sweaty palms and heart palpitations are just a part of the territory, and it seems that nothing is more impossible than sitting down and revising. Here are some handy tips that can help to dissipate stress and make sure you can get through exam season.

Take regular breaks and schedule in fun things to look forward to

Even the most intense exam timetables will allow a little time for a study break. This can include 20-minute breaks during your revision day, and longer activities that you can look forward to. Go out for dinner with friends, go to the cinema, attend a gig, anything that you like doing in your spare time that will take your mind off exams. Spending a little time away from the books will leave you feeling more refreshed and relaxed the next time you revise.

What is Time Management?

WORKING SMARTER TO ENHANCE PRODUCTIVITY

"Time management" is the process of organising and planning how to divide your time between specific activities. Good time management enables you to work smarter - not harder - so that you get more done in less time, even when time is tight and pressures are high. Failing to manage your time damages your effectiveness and causes stress.

It seems that there is never enough time in the day. But, since we all get the same 24 hours, why is it that some people achieve so much more with their time than others? The answer lies in good time management.

The highest achievers manage their time exceptionally well. By using the time-management techniques in this section, you can im-

prove your ability to function more effectively - even when time is tight and pressures are high.

Good time management requires an important shift in focus from activities to results: being busy isn't the same as being effective. (Ironically, the opposite is often closer to the truth.)

Spending your day in a frenzy of activity often achieves less, because you're dividing your attention between so many different tasks. Good time management lets you work smarter - not harder - so you get more done in less time.

"Time management" refers to the way that you organise and plan how long you spend on specific activities.

It may seem counter-intuitive to

dedicate precious time to learning about time management, instead of using it to get on with your work, but the benefits are enormous: Greater productivity and efficiency, A better professional reputation, Less stress, Increased opportunities for advancement and Greater opportunities to achieve important life and career goals.

Failing to manage your time effectively can have undesirable consequences: Missed deadlines, Inefficient work flow, Poor work quality, A poor professional reputation and a stalled career and Higher stress levels.

Spending a little time learning about time-management techniques will have huge benefits now - and throughout your career.

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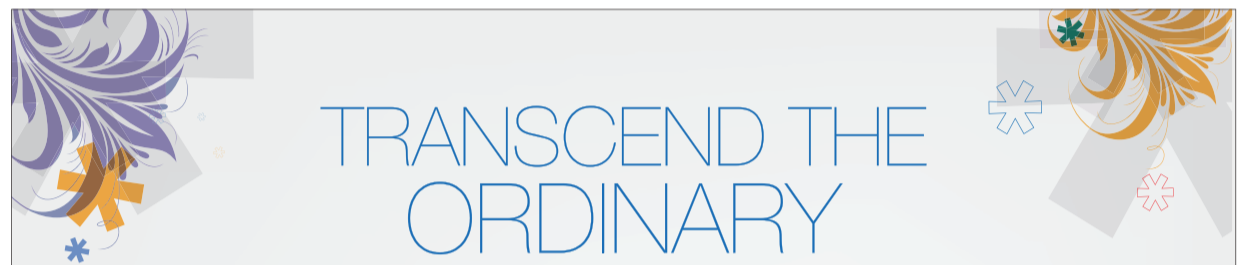
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01.2. Salary Category - JM 1-1
01.3. Salary Scale -

Rs.(42,600 - 10 x 755 - 18 x 1,135 - Rs.70,580/-)

(Government approved allowances are paid in addition to salary)

01.4. Age :

Must be not less than 22 years and not more than 45 years. Maximum age limit is not applicable for internal applicants

(A) Should have passed 06 subjects in GCE (Ordinary Level) Examination with 04 credits at once including

i. Sinhala / Tamil

ii. Mathematics

(B) Should have passed at least three subjects (excluding the General Examination) at the GCE (Advanced Level) Examination.

(Followed a word processing / Typing course recognized by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission or any other similar level of skills)

01.1.2 Internal applicants

(A) Primary Grade of the National Dangerous Drugs Control Board - Non - Technical, Semi - Technical and Technical Service Category Employees with the following 'B', 'C' and 'E' qualifications can apply for this.

(B) Should have passed 06 subjects in GCE (Ordinary Level) Examination with 04 credits at once including

i. Sinhala / Tamil

ii. Mathematics

(Followed a word processing / Typing course recognized by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission or any other similar level of skills)

(C) Must hold permanent appointments in the service and be confirmed in those appointments.

(D) Should have completed 05 years of continuous satisfactory service from a permanent appointment prior to the due date.

Notes: - (I)

A period of training who has served before being permanently appointed to a post or who has served as a condition of permanent appointment for a post will not be counted for the period of five years of qualification mentioned in paragraph "D" above. Temporary / Casual Periods of Service prior to being permanently appointed to a post are not counted for the period of five years of qualification referred to in paragraph "D" above.

02.2 Salary Category - MA 1-1
02.3 Salary Scale -

Rs.(27,910 - 10 x 300 - 7 x 350 - 4 x 495 - 20 x 660 - Rs.48,540/-)

(Government approved allowances are paid in addition to salary)

02.4 Age :

Must be not less than 22 years and not more than 45 years. Maximum age limit is not applicable for internal applicants.

02. Position - Administrative Officer

Service Category - "Junior Manager"

No of Vacancies - 01

02.1. Qualifications
02.1.1. External applicants

Should have a degree in Management / Commerce recognized by the University Grants Commission.

And

Should have 01 year experience in the relevant field after obtaining the above mentioned first degree.

02.1.2. Internal applicants

I. Should have fulfilled the qualifications for the above external applicants.

Or

II. Management Assistant - Should have completed at least 05 years of satisfactory service in a post in the relevant field in Grade II of the Non - Technical Service Category.

Or

III. Management Assistant - Should have completed at least 05 years of satisfactory service in a post in the relevant field in Grade II of the Technical Services Category.

Or

IV. Should have completed 08 years of satisfactory service in a post in the relevant field Enforcement / Operational / Extension Officer Service Category

02.2. Salary Category - JM 1-1
02.3. Salary Scale -

Rs.(42,600 - 10 x 755 - 18 x 1,135 - Rs.70,580/-)

(Government approved allowances are paid in addition to salary)

02.4. Age :

Must be not less than 22 years and not more than 45 years. Maximum age limit is not applicable for internal applicants

03. Position - Management Assistant

Service Category - Management Assistant - Non-Technical

No of Vacancies - 02

03.1. Qualifications
03.1.1. External applicants

(A) Should have passed 06 subjects in GCE (Ordinary Level) Examination with 04 credits at once including

i. Sinhala / Tamil

ii. Mathematics

(B) Should have passed at least three subjects (excluding the General Examination) at the GCE (Advanced Level) Examination.

(Followed a word processing / Typing course recognized by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission or any other similar level of skills)

01.1.2 Internal applicants

(A) Primary Grade of the National Dangerous Drugs Control Board - Non - Technical, Semi - Technical and Technical Service Category Employees with the following 'B', 'C' and 'E' qualifications can apply for this.

(B) Should have passed 06 subjects in GCE (Ordinary Level) Examination with 04 credits at once including

i. Sinhala / Tamil

ii. Mathematics

(Followed a word processing / Typing course recognized by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission or any other similar level of skills)

(C) Must hold permanent appointments in the service and be confirmed in those appointments.

(D) Should have completed 05 years of continuous satisfactory service from a permanent appointment prior to the due date.

Notes: - (I)

A period of training who has served before being permanently appointed to a post or who has served as a condition of permanent appointment for a post will not be counted for the period of five years of qualification mentioned in paragraph "D" above. Temporary / Casual Periods of Service prior to being permanently appointed to a post are not counted for the period of five years of qualification referred to in paragraph "D" above.

02.2 Salary Category - MA 1-1
02.3 Salary Scale -

Rs.(27,910 - 10 x 300 - 7 x 350 - 4 x 495 - 20 x 660 - Rs.48,540/-)

(Government approved allowances are paid in addition to salary)

02.4 Age :

Must be not less than 22 years and not more than 45 years. Maximum age limit is not applicable for internal applicants.

Other :

Every applicant should be a Sri Lankan citizen and should be able to work in any part of the island
Must have excellent character with proper physical and mental fitness.

Eligibility must be completed in all respects by the closing date of applications.

Method of submitting applications

All applicants should submit their applications in English medium only.

Recruitment Methodology

Recruitment will be based on the results of a written competitive examination and / or a structured interview as determined by the Recruitment Authority.

Nature of appointment

Permanent, entitled to Employees Provident Fund and Employees Trust Fund.

Application fee

An application fee of Rs.500/- to be paid by only external applicants to the name of "Chairman, National Dangerous Drugs Control Board" by a **normal money order** from any post office of the island. The payment office should be mentioned as the "Rajagiriya Post Office". The application fee will not be refunded.

Complete your application using both side of A4 paper as per the application format published in www.nddcb.gov.lk
Please write the position applying for on the top left corner of the envelope. Send your application with the copies of relevant certificates by registered post to the **Chairman, National Dangerous Drugs Control Board, 383, Kotte Road, Rajagiriya** to reach on or before **14.09.2020**. Employees employed in Government / Corporations or statutory Boards should submit their applications through the Head of the Institution / Department.

Incompleted applications / applications not attached money order/ application with any other formats and applications received after the closing date will be rejected. Decisions made by the Board regarding recruitment will be the final.

CHAIRMAN

NATIONAL DANGEROUS DRUGS CONTROL BOARD

NO. 383, KOTTE ROAD, RAJAGIRIYA.

Published Date : 30.08.2020



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

VACANCY NOTICE

The role of the Australian High Commission through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) is to advance the interests of Australia and Australians internationally. This involves strengthening Australia's security, enhancing Australia's prosperity, delivering an effective and high quality overseas development cooperation program and helping Australian travellers and Australians overseas.

The Senior Advisor for Private Sector Partnerships is responsible for implementing the Business Partnerships Platform in Sri Lanka, as well as providing high level advice and strategic advice to the Australian High Commission in Colombo.

POSITION	SECTION	CONTRACT PERIOD	PACKAGE	DEADLINE
Senior Advisor Private Sector Partnerships	Policy & Program Section	12 months with possible extension of two years	Negotiable (Not exceed AUD 45,000 per year)	18th Sep 2020 (5:00 PM Colombo Time)

Please review the complete Job Description and application instruction in the following link : <https://ausconnect.dfat.gov.au/opportunities/view/?oid=897>



UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO SCHOOL OF COMPUTING
VACANCIES

The University of Colombo School of Computing (UCSC) a leading Higher Education Institute which provides Undergraduate and Postgraduate education in computing and related fields in Sri Lanka will entertain applications for the following posts from suitably qualified persons up to **06th October 2020**.

1. Senior Lecturer Gr. I/ Senior Lecturer Gr. II/ Lecturer (Probationary)
2. Assistant Librarian
3. Works Engineer (Civil) Gr. III/ Gr. II
4. Information Systems Manager
5. Instructor in Computer Technology Gr. II
6. Programmer Cum System Analyst Gr. II
7. Scientific Assistant Gr. II
8. Systems Engineer Gr. II

Details and application forms could be obtained from the UCSC website.
<http://www.ucsc.cmb.ac.lk/vacancies>

Director
University of Colombo School of Computing
No. 35, Reid Avenue
Colombo 07.
28th August 2020



VACANCY
MANAGER-IT

Here's an excellent opportunity for you to be a part of Sri Lanka Cricket

» Qualifications & Experience required

- Bachelor's Degree from a recognized University in Computer Science, IT or equivalent professional qualification and a Masters Degree in IT with 08 Years' experience in IT/Network or IT security field, out of which 03 years in Senior Executive level.
- Strong team building capabilities, problem solving and leadership skills.

» Scope of Work

- Monitoring, implementation & maintenance of the network software, hardware and infrastructure, such as servers, switches, backup systems, and firewalls.
- Management of the network services, such as email configuration, file management, and security issues.
- Management of network authentication, network shares, network resources, email accounts, and all aspects of server software.
- Providing seamless access and management of all company data and resources while reducing overhead by deploying cost effective hardware.
- Management of network infrastructure and software resources of an entire network that enable network connectivity, communication, operations and management of an enterprise network.
- Management, implementation & maintenance of network infrastructure and connectivity for RPICS, High Performance Center and during cricket tournaments hosted by SLC.
- Monitor & measure the performance of the systems before modification and identify the part of the system that is critical for improving the performance.
- Educating, and updating employees on network connections, new technology and software used in the organization.
- Evaluation & recommendation of technological requirements.
- Planning, designing and conceptualization of the organizational technology intelligence.
- Preparing evaluations, recommendations, assign responsibilities and annual budgets.
- Analyze data processing modules and identify areas of enhancements and improvements.
- Authentication, authorization, and accountability establishes procedures for issuing and revoking accounts. It specifies how users authenticate, password creation and aging requirements, and audit trail maintenance.
- Create security awareness and ensure that all users have a copy of acceptable user policy and also makes sure that IT team are engaged in implementing IT-specific policies.
- Assess the potential threats to IT security and update security program and periodic security assessments to find out whether IT security has already been breached.
- Incident response on security threats, including potential (such as unauthorized port scanning) and actual incidents (where security has been compromised).
- Manage relationships with vendors to which type of data might exchange with them, and what provisions must be in contracts to protect data, and looking at the legal aspect of vendor contracts.
- Monitoring and facilitating the work functions allocated to department staff.
- Management of network infrastructure and software resources of an entire network that enable network connectivity, communication, operations and management of an enterprise network.
- Administration & maintenance of Office365 Cloud Solution.
- Administration & maintenance of appropriate backup sites, systems, and data, as well as keeping them up-to-date and ready to take over within the recovery time that have defined.

If you are a team player with the drive and initiative to perform with minimum supervision and willingness to work in a team oriented environment, you could be the person we are looking for. Attractive and negotiable remuneration packages with other fringe benefits and excellent career prospects await the selected candidates.

Recruitment Age:
• Be below 50 years of age

All applicants should forward their applications to vacancies@srlankacricet.lk or to the following address along with the names of two non-related referees within one week of the advertisement

Senior Manager Human Resources,
Sri Lanka Cricket,
No. 35, Maitland Place, Colombo 07

*Please mention the post applied for on the envelope



A NEW JOURNEY STARTS NOW!

TOYOTSU LANKA (PRIVATE) LIMITED is the latest automobile service provider in Sri Lanka. Our automobility values are deeply rooted to customer experience, service quality, safety and serve innovatively with affordability. As the newest automobility startup, we have the following vacancies at our **Head Quarters - Wattala.**

VACANCIES

CORPORATE / GENERAL AFFAIRS

- Sales Executives
- Customer Relations Executives
- IT Executives
- Receptionist / Front Office
- Maintenance Technicians
- Cashiers

GENERAL SERVICE

- Service Advisors
- Job Controllers
- Technicians (Wheel Alignment)
- Washing Supervisors
- Workshop supervisors
- Technicians
- Stores Assistants
- Credit Officers

BODY & PAINT

- Service Advisors
- Painters
- Paint Mixers
- Job Controllers
- Tinkers
- Car Detailing Technicians

SPARE PARTS

- Local/ Foreign Spare Parts Sourcing Officers
- Warehouse Officers (Spare Parts)
- Drivers

If you consider yourself to have what it takes to be a part of a winning team, we invite you to send your application enclosing the curriculum vitae along with a recently taken colour photograph, including 2 non related referees to: careers@toyotsu.lk indicating the position you are applying for within 7 days of this advertisement

For more details please visit: www.toyotsu.lk

*Selection will be based on the Assessment Centre attribution for both potential and behavioural competencies.

COMMERCIAL BANK OF CEYLON PLC

We, the Most Awarded Bank in Sri Lanka, continue to progress steadily whilst being listed amongst the World's Top 1000 Banks for the 10th consecutive year. With a network of 268 branches and a strong international presence, the Bank is seeking an ambitious, energetic and proven performer to appoint as;

ASSISTANT COMPANY SECRETARY

Job Profile :

- Assist the Company Secretary to manage day to day secretarial functions and duties.
- Handle share transfers and transmissions.
- Take initiatives with regard to Annual General Meeting of the Bank .
- Administrate company secretarial functions in an efficient and effective manner while ensuring compliance with obligations in respect of stock exchange regulations, company law and corporate governance guidelines.
- Handle company secretarial functions of the subsidiary companies of the Bank.

Applicant's Profile :

- Be an Attorney at Law or Associate Member of the Chartered Governance Institute (UK).
- Should be a registered Company Secretary.
- Two (2) years experience in a similar capacity in a recognized institution .
- Possess leadership qualities, commitment to work and an eye for detail.
- Sound communication skills in English Language and computer literacy.
- Excellent planning, organizing and coordinating skills.
- Conversant with SEC, CSE Rules, Banking Act Directions and Companies Act will be essential.
- Preferably below 40 years of age.

Rewards

The successful candidates will be provided with an attractive remuneration package, including fringe benefits, commensurate with benchmarked financial institutions.

Applications with all relevant information should be submitted to reach the under – mentioned within 10 days of this advertisement with the post applied for, marked on the top left corner of the envelope or by an email.

Deputy General Manager – HRM
Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC
No. 21, Sir Razik Fareed Mawatha, Colombo 01
Email : dgm_hrm@combank.net
Web site : www.combank.lk



All applications will be treated with strict confidence. Canvassing in any form will be an immediate disqualification.

AREA SALES MANAGERS

C. W. Mackie PLC, is a leading import/export trading, manufacturing and marketing company in Sri Lanka listed on the Colombo Stock Exchange. Scan Products Division of the Company operates as its manufacturing, marketing and distribution arm of branded FMCG products having a multi-channel distribution network.

The Company was established as a highly trusted entity in the trade, among its consumers/ customers and moving ahead with an aggressive action plan for future growth by expanding its existing product portfolio. Most of the products are reputed global/ local brands.

THE ROLE
The number driven professional we finally select, will handle the assigned area sales team independently to achieve sales targets. He should also be able to formulate sales budgets and forecasts while driving the assigned area sales team strategically to ultimately improve territory performances and be a part of the highly demanded sales team.

JOB PROFILE

- Achieve sales budgets and targets.
- Evaluate field sales progress against set KPIs and take corrective action independently.
- Manage area sales team to distribute Company's range of products in line with agreed policies and strategies.
- Operate distribution network in the most efficient and effective manner in order to optimize the ROI and establish best relationships to achieve area objectives.

CANDIDATE'S PROFILE

- Academic or professional qualifications from a recognized body in sales and marketing.
- Minimum 5 years experience in area Sales Management in a leading FMCG environment.
- Strong interpersonal and leadership skills.
- Sound communication skills in both English and Sinhala languages.
- Computer literacy and effective presentation skills.
- Age below 40 years.
- Ability to travel extensively.

The successful candidates would be provided with an attractive remuneration package on par with industry standards, other fringe benefits and excellent prospects of career advancement.

Applications with detailed CV along with names and contact details of two non-related referees, quoting the position on the top left hand corner of the envelope or, for e-mail in subject line, should reach the under mentioned address/ e-mail, within ten (10) days of this advertisement.

Executive Director
C.W. Mackie PLC
36, D.R. Wijewardana Mawatha, Colombo 10.
E-mail: scan@cwmackie.com

Cook / Caretaker

Wanted

For A Holiday House

in Bandaragama Area

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCES ESSENTIAL

Please call:
077-3136683 / 077-3278583
E-mail: lfemando@savis.lk

Factory at Kaduwela requires

Accounts Assistant cum Administrative Assistant

Understanding of English Language & with Computer Literacy.

Kindly Call 0772779899 for Appointment.

WANTED AN EXPERIENCED LADY CHEF

to work part-time on five weekdays from 6:30am - 8:30am in Mount Lavinia.

PLEASE CONTACT
070 379 0617

VACANCY

Site Supervisor

Male only.
Age 22 -26 Years
1 Year Experience (Trainees also considered)

MN HOMES DEVELOPER PVT LTD
Nawala Road, Rajagiriya.
076 0959263 / 011 - 4343881
mn.homes@gmail.com

VACANCY FOR A ACCOUNTS ASSISTANT

We are a agricultural solution provider in Battaramulla. The applicant should have a minimum of 2 years experience.

Please forward your CV to
e-mail: saminda@merxholdings.com

HOSPITAL VACANCIES

SENIOR NURSES (Female) -
Applications are invited from Senior Nurses having experience in ICU or Maternity (Labour Room) with BSc Nursing or other nursing qualifications.

NURSING ASSISTANTS (Female)
Applications are invited from female personnel for the above post. (No experience required, school leavers can apply) Age 18-27.

Receptionist/Front Office/Call Center Operator (Male/Female)
Applications are invited from male/female with or without experience, (school leavers also can apply) for the above post, age 18-27.

Attractive salary packages, free hostel facility, OT, food & other benefits.
Please apply or call

Royal Hospital (Pvt) Ltd.
62, W.A. Silva MW, Wellawatta, Colombo 06.
Tel - 2584212, Fax: 2597698,
E-mail: hr@royalhospitals.com

MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

Strategic Cities Development Programme (SCDP)

(The World Bank Funded Programme)

VACANCIES - PROJECT DIRECTOR 01

Strategic Cities Development Programme is an urban development initiative set up under the Ministry of Urban Development and Housing with the objective of **improving the urban infrastructure services, mobility, traffic & transport facilities, upgrading of public urban spaces and institutional capacity development of the stakeholders** in Galle, Kandy and Jaffna enabling such cities to effectively manage assets developed through the investment of the programme. The project is financed by a loan facility from the World Bank.

Applications are invited from qualified and experienced citizens of Sri Lanka to fill the Post of Project Director.

PS level 1, 5th band as per the Management Circular No. 01/2019.
(1 or 2 or 3 below)

- 1) A successfully completed Bachelor's Degree in the relevant field, which is recognized by the University Grants Commission
or
A qualification recognized by the University Grants Commission as an equivalent qualification to the degree in the relevant field
or
An Associate Membership / A similar professional qualification obtained from a recognized professional Institute in the relevant field
and
At least 16 years post qualifying experience at Managerial Level, out of which 08 years should be in the Senior Managerial Level.
- 2) A successfully completed Bachelor's Degree in the relevant field, which is recognized by the University Grants Commission
or
A qualification recognized by the University Grants Commission as an equivalent qualification to the degree in the relevant field
or
An Associate Membership / A similar professional qualification obtained from a recognized professional Institute in the relevant field
and
Corporate/Chartered Membership or a similar professional qualification obtained from a recognized professional Institute in the relevant field or A Postgraduate Degree in the relevant field
with
At least 14 years post qualifying experience in Managerial Level, out of which 07 years should be in the Senior Managerial Level.
- 3) A successfully completed Bachelor's Degree in the relevant field, which is recognized by the University Grants Commission
or
A qualification recognized by the University Grants Commission as an equivalent qualification to the degree in the relevant field
and
A Postgraduate Degree in the relevant field
with
Corporate/Chartered Membership or a similar professional qualification obtained from a recognized professional Institute in the relevant field
with
At least 12 years post qualifying experience in Managerial Level, out of which 06 years should be in the Senior Managerial Level.

Salary scale and general conditions:
Salaries are based on the Management Services Circular No. 01/2019 of 15.03.2019 and other relevant Management Services Circulars. Applicants should be citizens of Sri Lanka and should not be more than 64 years of age.

Terms and Conditions of Service:
Government servants will be recruited on accordance with clause 2.3.3 of the Management Service Circular Number 01/2019 dated 15th March 2019 and persons outside the government service will be recruited on contract basis. The appointments will be on contract basis and for a period of one year.

Method of Selection:
Shortlisted applicants based on the qualifications and experience will be called for an interview.

Applications:
Candidates are requested to prepare the application in A4 size paper stating full particulars of qualifications and experience and other relevant information, including telephone number and email address. Application should be sent by Registered Post to reach the following address on or before **15th September 2020**. The post applied for should be marked on the top left-hand corner of the envelope. Applicants from the Public/Corporate sector organizations should channel their applications through the respective Heads of Organizations with an advance copy directly to the address given below.

Secretary
Ministry of Urban Development and Housing
17th Floor,
Suhurupaya, Battaramulla.

Technical Support Engineer

The Technical Support Engineer, an IT team member is responsible for managing the resolution of application and system issues that arise across the business. The position demands an ability to manage multiple high-level tasks under pressure.

Duties & responsibilities:

- Identifying and resolving technical issues
- Maintaining and updating technical documents and procedures
- Supporting developer and tester teams
- Gathering information from support cases and improving and growing the internal knowledge base
- Tracking support cases and keeping a good overview and prioritize tasks at hand to achieve highest customer satisfaction
- Taking part in internal knowledge sessions, learning something new every day, and sharing knowledge with others
- Being a customer advocate and pushing internal teams whenever necessary for providing great customer service

Skill requirements:

- Educated and holding a degree level qualification (preferably in an IT discipline)
- ITIL qualification preferred but not essential
- Experience in help desk/desktop support
- Experience using Help Desk ticketing systems
- Previous experience in Monitoring tools
- Experience in both hardware and software troubleshooting
- Microsoft Office: Word, Excel, PowerPoint
- Ability to work with both Technical and Business Users
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Willing to learn new technologies.

Beneficial skills:

- Development Skills – Net code or other frontend frameworks
- Database Skills – MySQL
- Cloud infrastructures – Microsoft Azure or Amazon AWS
- Operating Systems – Windows or Linux/Unix (Ubuntu/CentOS)

Company offers:

- Career opportunities, individual approach
- Competitive salary (reviewed yearly based on your performance)
- Comfortable working environment
- Trainings, courses, and exams
- Participation in local and international company events

If you're interested in the above role, send your CV as soon as possible, as we're looking forward to hiring the right candidate early.

Please send your latest CV to jobs@tharuprocessing.com with the subject line "Technical Support Engineer".

Our client is a manufacturing facility approved by the Board of Investment, with an extensive portfolio of esteemed clients. To ensure their continued growth and success, they wish to recruit a motivated and commercially astute individual for the following position.

Factory Engineer

The selected candidate's role is vital to the efficiency, development and progress of the manufacturing process.

Key Job Functions

- Responsible for all the maintenance activities of machinery, equipment and factory buildings; ensuring industrial machinery and equipment run smoothly and reliably.
- Achieving electrical engineering operational objectives by contributing electrical engineering information and recommendations to strategic plans and reviews; preparing and completing action plans.
- Draw up preventive maintenance programmes in order to gain maximum efficiency and minimize breakdowns.
- Carry out studies and implement continuous improvement to enhance efficiency of machinery.
- Schedule and undertake periodic maintenance on all electrical equipment, components and installations.
- Ensure there is continuous cover for the machinery and equipment in case of breakdowns.
- Ensure smooth functioning of electronic systems including PLC systems.
- Maintaining a safe and healthy work environment by establishing, following, and enforcing standards and procedures, complying with codes and legal regulations.

Qualifications and Experience

- Should possess a BSc. degree in Electrical or Mechanical Engineering from a recognized university.
- A minimum of 5 years of experience preferably in maintenance engineering in a manufacturing setup with exposure to Electronic Engineering would be a definite advantage.
- Age below 45 years.

This position offers an excellent career opportunity for development in a pleasant working environment with a competitive salary package and with long term potential.

Please forward your complete resume with contact details of two non-related referees to mslr@sitnet.lk within 10 days of this advertisement quoting MSL Ref. No.7507 in the subject column.

MSL Management Systems (Pvt) Ltd.
No: 08 Tickell Road, Colombo 08.
mslr@sitnet.lk
www.bposrilanka.com

VACANCY

Mikro Industries (pvt) Ltd is a reputed metal can manufacturing company requires a dynamic person to join our company for below post

Assistant Account

- Fully qualified in AAT/CMA
- Age below 45
- Knowledge of QB Accounting Package is an added advantage
- Salary Negotiable

Please submit your application with updated CV to below email or postal address on or before **5th September 2020**.

Mikro Industries (pvt) Ltd
Batapotha Temple Road, Madelgamuwa, Gampaha.
Call : 077 7 811 501 | Email : info@mikro.lk

VACANCIES

Gajashakthi Security Service (Pvt) Ltd
A leading Security Service Company in Sri Lanka.
We have the following vacancies:

PROJECT MANAGER MEP

(Mechanical / Electrical / Plumbing)

Qualifications:

- Minimum qualification of a Diploma.
- Experience 10 years & above.
- Should be capable of Planning, Execution and Performance - monitoring of CCTV camera system.
- Auto-CAD capability.
- Required to serve in any part of the country.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXECUTIVE

Key Responsibilities:

- Office Administration / Correspondence
- Management of office work and records maintenance.

Qualifications:

- 05 years of minimum experience in the same field.
- Age below 50 years.
- Working knowledge of MS Office packages.
- Good verbal/written English language skills.
- Ability to work for long hours.
- Priority for candidate living close to Colombo.

Salary: Negotiable.
Apply with CV / Resume & Certificates to:
Manager - Human Resources
Gajashakthi Security Service (Pvt) Ltd,
101, Elvitigala Mw, Colombo 08.
Tele: 0773207435.
E-mail : nuwan@gajashakthiholdings.com

Marriage
♥ *Proposals*
in the
Sunday Observer
Is the best way to fulfil your Future Dreams

WANTED
HOME VISITING
TUITION
FEMALE TEACHERS

➤ Mediums : English
➤ Subject : English/Science/Maths & Sinhala
➤ Grade : 5
➤ Location : Diyagama, Homagama.
➤ Contact No. : 0777842969

Contact Us Soon!

VACANCIES

Project Manager

Requirements

- BSc. Engineering or equal qualifications
- Minimum 03 years' experience
- Past experience in Road Projects with a proven track record is a must
- Highly organized, with the ability to plan ahead and multi-task in order to meet deadlines and keep projects under budget.

Quantity Surveyor

Requirements

- BSc. Engineering or equal qualifications
- Minimum 03 years' experience (Road Projects)
- Past experience in Road Projects with a proven track record is a must

The above positions offer an attractive, remuneration package together with other fringe benefits.

Please forward your application with details of two non-related referees to saptaramd@gmail.com within 07 days of this advertisement.

0112752600/1 / 0776874323 / 0716900880

WANTED BUILDING CONTRACTOR

For the Modification of an Existing three storey building into a four storey rentable apartment complex at Longdon Place, Colombo 07. Including demolition of some parts of the existing building and new pile foundation, slabs and finishing works.

Tender documents can be inspected free of charge at No. 130/A/2, Horana Road, Kesbawa during office hours by appointment by contacting 0113634186 and purchased on a non-refundable fee of Rs. 3,000.00. A mandatory pre-bid meeting / site will be conducted at the site Sep. 8, 2020 8.00 a.m.

Tenders will close on 15th Sep. at 2.00 p.m. at 86-2/1, Chatham St., Colombo 01. Further information can be collected from architectchameera@gmail.com 0777222658.

Required for a long-established SME located near Nugegoda

ACCOUNTANT

The selected candidate should be able to lead the Accounts Team and provide financial information to the Board of Directors by researching and analyzing accounting data & preparing reports.

- Minimum 15 years of experience in Accounting
- Fully or partly qualified as a Chartered Accountant or a similar qualification
- High level of computer literacy, especially in ERP
- Well-versed in English & Sinhala, with good communication & interpersonal skills
- A good team player, able to work independently

Work: Monday – Friday / Saturday half-day

Salary and allowances commensurate with qualifications and experience

Email CV to : hrdep1010@gmail.com



TRINITY COLLEGE, KANDY

POST OF SENIOR BOARDING HOUSE MASTER

Trinity College seeks to appoint a suitable person to head the College Boarding. The ideal candidate would have had experience in similar capacity and be able to win the confidence of the senior students by providing them with guidance, counseling and pastoral care while ensuring compliance with regulations and maintaining disciplinary standards.

The Senior Boarding House Master is expected to reside in the family accommodation provided and supervise all aspects of Boarding life, including academic support and extra-curricular activities.

Interested candidates are invited to submit applications at the earliest. The College reserves the right to make an appointment as soon as a suitable candidate is identified.

Applications to be sent by email only to hr@trinitycollege.lk

www.trinitycollege.lk



AMERICAN EMBASSY, COLOMBO

Voucher Examiner (Female/Male)

We encourage both women and men to apply for this position. The United States Embassy seeks a diverse workforce with equal opportunity for all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, or sexual orientation.

This position is responsible for reviewing and examining a full range of standard to difficult and complex vouchers involving the purchase of goods and services, building and maintenance contract, housing leases, utilities and other miscellaneous expenses. Voucher Examiner is also providing customer service support and technical support and, s/he maintains up to date records of processed payment vouchers, keeps track of payment information.

The work schedule for this position is: Full Time - 40 hours per week.

The monthly gross salary for this position will be Rs. 111,819/-

Qualifications Required:

- 1. Education** - Completion of two years of post-secondary (G.C.E A/L) studies in Finance, Accounting or Business Management is required.
- 2. Prior Work Experience** - Three (03) years progressively responsible experience in Accounting, Budgeting or general office work is required
- 3. Language Proficiency** - Level IV (Fluency) reading, writing, and speaking English is required. *(This will be tested).* Level IV (Fluency) reading, writing, and speaking Sinhala/Tamil is required.
- 4. Skills and Abilities** - Ability to make sophisticated judgments in assigning correct accounting classification codes and analyzing interrelationships of accounts impacted by various transactions. Must be skilled in use of calculating tools to obtain required results such as ratios and percentages to be able to detect incorrect information. Must be able to understand and follow complex oral instructions and written guidance. Ability to draft simple and straightforward memoranda and correspondence.

Required Documents:

To apply for this position applicants **must electronically submit copies of the documents listed below** along with the electronic application, to be considered for employment. Failure to do so may result in a determination that the applicant is not eligible and qualified.

- Relevant Educational Certificates
- Relevant Service/Work Experience Certificates
- Proof of citizenship (National Identity Card/Passport and/or Work Permit)

How to Apply:

Please visit our website <https://lk.usembassy.gov/embassy/jobs/> to submit your applications through Electronic Recruitment Application system [ERA]. Before you continue with the application process, please carefully read the instructions available on our website.

PAPER OR E-MAILED APPLICATIONS ARE NOT ACCEPTED

Your application should reach us on or before September 11, 2020. Please note, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

UNION CHEMICALS LANKA PLC

VACANCY

PLANT MANAGER

Union Chemicals Lanka PLC, Ekala manufacturing plant, is seeking eligible and qualified applicants for **Plant Manager** Position. Candidates must fulfill the following requirements.

QUALIFICATIONS : BSc Chemical Engineering Degree with minimum of 03 years' experience in a Chemical Manufacturing Plant.

OR

NDT Chemical Engineering with 10 years' experience


AGE : Below 50 Years

SALARY AND OTHER BENEFITS : Negotiable

APPLICATION CONDITIONS : Within 10 days to the following address




Secretary,
Union Chemicals Lanka PLC,
4th Floor, Sarathi Building
No: 50, Hyde Park Corner,
Colombo - 02
Email : inosha@ucl.lk



The World Of
Hayleys
Since 1878

Expanding the frontiers of our country, our people and our company



JOIN OUR WORLD TODAY!



NOW HIRING

RESTAURANT & BAR MANAGER

- ◆ Diploma or degree in Hospitality Management from a recognized institution or university.
- ◆ 3+ years of restaurant or management experience is preferred.
- ◆ Strong understanding of business management & accounting principles.
- ◆ Exceptional communication and interpersonal skills able to maintain friendly repo with customers.
- ◆ Effectively delegate responsibilities and maximize resources.
- ◆ The Selected Candidate must have a good knowledge about Sports (Football, Basketball, Racing, etc)
- ◆ Knowledge on betting systems and horse racing is an added advantage.
- ◆ Ability to walk, stand and occasionally carry heavy items in a fast paced environment.
- ◆ Extensive working knowledge of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.
- ◆ Knowledge of local and state regulations related to alcoholic service and health code compliance.
- ◆ Age between 30 - 40 years old

The remuneration package will be attractive, negotiable and commensurate with the pre requisites applicable to a managerial position in the company.

Please forward your complete resume with contact details and two non - related referees to careers@sumathi.com within 10 days of this advertisement quoting.

The Manager - Human Resources
Great wall Restaurants Pvt Ltd
No.491, Galle Road, Colombo 03. Contact No. 011352352

Hayleys Group

Hayleys Group is amongst Sri Lanka's largest, and most respected diversified conglomerates with a turnover in excess of USD 1 Billion. To explore the World of Hayleys, visit us at: www.hayleys.com.

Hayleys Fabric PLC

Hayleys Fabric PLC, a Subsidiary of Hayleys PLC, situated at Neboda, Horana, is engaged in the manufacture of fabric. This fabric is used by the leading garment makers in Sri Lanka for the manufacture of garments for world renowned retail brands. We are a company listed in the Colombo Stock Exchange and also is the pioneer in weft knit fabric manufacture in Sri Lanka.

Manager – Printing

Hayleys Fabric seeks an experienced Printing Manager for its Production Facility at Narthupana Estate, Neboda (Off Horana).

Job Responsibilities:




- Manage Printing Colour Section by selecting the right colour solutions for all Print routes (Reactive/ Discharge/ Disperse/ Acid / Pigments).
- Assess the right colour recipe formulations for Rotary Bulk printing operation.
- Ability to provide print colour solutions to meet world class quality standards & tests requirements.

Candidate Profile:

- Ideal candidate should have at least 10–15 years of experience.
- A University Degree, preferably in Textile engineering or Science or an equal academic qualification.
- Possess good communication and time management skills.
- Possess excellent people management skills and the ability to work in a team to achieve the company KPIs.
- Possess an excellent knowledge in Colour Chemistry and Print Process Routes (Steamer/HT/Washing Range & Final Finishing).

If you think you have what it takes to be successful in this challenging role, please apply via email to careers@hayleysfabric.com indicating the **position applied for on the subject line of the email**. The closing date for applications will be **15th September 2020**. Pay and benefits of this above position will be competitive and the rewards are performance driven. Hayleys is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

To find out more about our career opportunities, log on to:

 [hayleys-fabric-plc](https://www.linkedin.com/company/hayleys-fabric-plc)  [thehayleysgroup](https://www.instagram.com/thehayleysgroup)  [hayleysfabricck](https://www.facebook.com/hayleysfabricck) www.hayleys.com/careers/



UNIVERSITY OF SRI JAYEWARDENEPURA

VACANCIES

The University of Sri Jayewardenepura invites applications from prospective candidates for vacancies as indicated below.

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

❖ POST OF SENIOR PROFESSOR / PROFESSOR

● Department of Sociology

POST OF SENIOR PROFESSOR

The application should be accomplished with the following in terms of the University Grants Commission Circular 05/2015 dated 28.05.2015

- Curriculum Vitae
- A self-assessment of his/her contribution to the Teaching & Academic Development Research & Creative Works Dissemination of knowledge and Contribution to University and National Development after becoming a professor

POST OF PROFESSOR

The application should be accomplished with the following in terms of the University Grants Commission Circular No. 04/2014 of 01.04.2014 and Establishment Circular letter 04/2010 dated 19.03.2010 and university Grants Circular No. 916 of 30.09.2009

- The Curriculum Vitae
- A Self-assessment of career specifying the contribution to Teaching & Academic Development Research & Creative Work, Dissemination of knowledge and University National Development as per marking scheme
- Three copies of Publications, Research Papers and Other Relevant Documents
- Titles of five (05) outstanding research papers (Publications) (Above circulars are available on www.ugc.ac.lk web site)

● POST OF SENIOR LECTURER (GRADE I) / SENIOR LECTURER (GRADE II) / LECTURER (PROBATIONARY)

● Department of Sociology

Qualifications:

Honours Degree in Sociology with a first or second class upper division and with experience and courses Included in their degree in any of the field of Social Work, Community Participation, Law, Criminology, Anthropology, Social Statistics, GIS, SPSS, Political Science and Urban Planning.

● Department of Economics

Qualifications:

B.A. (Special/ Honours) Degree in Economics Specialized in the Field of Econometrics, Financial/ Monetary Economics, International Economics, Computational Economics, Public Economics & Policy Analysis with First or Second Class Upper Division.

Preference will be given to those who have Postgraduate Qualifications in above mentioned areas.

Faculty of Medical Sciences

❖ POST OF SENIOR LECTURER (GRADE I) / SENIOR LECTURER (GRADE II) / LECTURER (PROBATIONARY)

● Department of Anatomy

Qualifications for Senior Lecturer (Grade I) -

MBBS with First or Second Class Honors and PGIM Board Certification in Eye Surgery, Orthopedic Surgery, Plastic Surgery, Genitio-Urinary Surgery or with a PhD in Anatomy and 11 Years Experience.

Qualifications for Senior Lecturer (Grade II) -

MBBS with First or Second Class Honors and PGIM Board Certification in Eye Surgery, Orthopedic Surgery, Plastic Surgery, Genitio-Urinary Surgery or with a PhD in Anatomy and 06 Years Experience.

Qualifications for Lecturer -

MBBS with First or Second Class Honors.

Faculty of Applied Sciences

❖ POST OF SENIOR LECTURER (GRADE I) / SENIOR LECTURER (GRADE II) / LECTURER (PROBATIONARY)

● Department of Food Science and Technology

Area of Specialty : Food Processing and Value Addition

Qualifications:

BSc. (Special/ Honours) Degree in Food Science and Technology with First or Second Class Upper Division;

OR

BSc. Degree in Biological Sciences with First or Second Class Upper Division offering Chemistry as a subject;

Preference will be given to those who have PhD. Degree in Food Science and Technology with experience in following areas;

- Teaching/ guiding practical lessons at University level
- Food industry experience
- Multidisciplinary research and development experiences

Area of Specialty: Food Engineering

Qualification:

BSc. (Special/ Honours) Degree in Food Science and Technology with First or Second Class Upper Division;

OR

BSc. (Honours) Degree in Agriculture OR Agriculture based disciplines, with the specialization in Food Science and Technology OR with the specialization in Agricultural Engineering/ BSc. (Honours) Degree in Mechanical Engineering with First or Second Class Upper Division;

Preference will be given to those who have PhD. Degree in Food Engineering, Food Process Engineering with experience in following areas;

- Teaching in the relevant field at University level
- Designing and commissioning of food processing devices
- Food industry experience

Area of Specialty: Food Quality, Safety and Environmental Management

Qualifications:

BSc. (Special/ Honours) Degree in Food Science and Technology with First or Second Class Upper Division;

Preference will be given to those who have PhD. Degree in Food Science and Technology with experience in following areas;

- Teaching in the relevant field at University level
- Involvement in total quality management systems in food sector
- Multidisciplinary research and development experiences

● Department of Mathematics

Qualification:

BSc. (Special/ Honours) Degree in Mathematics with First or Second Class Upper Division.

Preference will be given to those who have Postgraduate Qualifications related to Category Theory, Cryptography, Combinatorics, Measure Theory and Topology.

● Management Science Unit

First Degree in Management Studies and Postgraduate Qualifications of M.Phil. or PhD. in Management Studies or related areas.

Preference will be given to those who have done studies or researches in the areas of Financial Management, Strategic Management, Operational Management, OB and HRM.

Faculty of Management Studies & Commerce

❖ POST OF SENIOR LECTURER (GRADE I) / SENIOR LECTURER (GRADE II) / LECTURER (PROBATIONARY)

● Business Communication Unit

Qualifications:

B.A. Special Degree in English Language with a First or Second Class Upper Division. Preference will be given to the candidates who have teaching experience in English Language.

❖ POST OF SENIOR LECTURER (GRADE I) / SENIOR LECTURER (GRADE II) / LECTURER (PROBATIONARY) IN LAW

● Legal Studies Unit

Qualifications:

Candidates should possess LLB degree with first or second class upper division. Preference will be given to candidates with Masters in Law or Related Field. Attorney-at-Law is an added qualification.

Faculty of Technology

❖ POST OF SENIOR LECTURER (GRADE I) / SENIOR LECTURER (GRADE II) / LECTURER (PROBATIONARY)

● Department of Science for Technology

Area of Specialty: Physics, Mechanics, Theory of Electricity, Properties of Materials

Qualifications:

BSc. (Special/ Honours) Degree in Physics with First or Second Class Upper Division. Preference will be given to those who have postgraduate qualifications in Physics.

Faculty of Engineering

❖ POST OF MEDICAL OFFICER

Qualifications:

Medical Degree of a recognized University with at least 03 years' experience as a Medical practitioner.

❖ POST OF WORKSHOP ENGINEER (GRADE III)

Qualifications:

- Should possess a BSc. Engineering Degree specializing in Mechanical/ Production Engineering from a recognized University/ HEI OR
- Should possess a National Diploma in Technology specializing in Mechanical. Production Engineering or equivalent qualification, with at least seven (07) years of experience in a Mechanical Workshop of a recognized establishment. Note: The in-plant training period shall not be counted for the period of experience.

Approximate Gross Salary Rs.229,039/-

Gross Salary:

- Senior Professor** U-AC 5(1)
Rs.139175 11x2925 - 171350 p.m. (01.01.2020)
Approximate Gross Salary Rs. 361,918/-
- Professor** U-AC 5(11)
Rs.117350 13x2700 - 152450 p.m. (01.01.2020)
Approximate Gross Salary Rs. 301,080/-
- Senior Lecturer Grade I** U-AC 3(1)
Rs.91310 7x2170 - 106500 p.m. (01.01.2020)
Approximate Gross Salary Rs.229,039/-
- Senior Lecturer Grade II** U-AC 3(11)
Rs.79360 11x1630 97290 p.m. (01.01.2020)
Approximate Gross Salary Rs. 200,286/ =
- Lecturer (Probationary) - U-AC 3 (IV)**
Rs.54600 - 10x1335 - 67950 p.m. (01.01.2020)
Approximate Gross Salary Rs.123,075/-
- Medical Officer - U-MO I (II)**
Rs.55,350 - 10x1,335, 1x1,630 - 70,330 p.m. (01.01.2020)
Approximate Gross Salary Rs.90,007/-
- Workshop Engineer Grade III** U-EX I (II)
Rs.50,625 - 3x1,125 - 54,000 (EB) 55,335; 12x1,335 - 71,355 p.m. (01.01.2020)
Approximate Gross Salary Rs.90,331/-

The other allowances determined by the University Grants Commission will be paid in addition to the above salary.

Benefits: Senior Professor/ Professor/ Senior Lecturer Grade I/ Senior Lecturer Grade II/ Lecturer (Probationary)/ Medical Officer

- Selected candidates will contribute 10% from their monthly salary to the Universities' Provident Fund while the University will make a contribution of 15% of their salary of which 8% will be credited to Universities Pension Fund and 7% to the Universities Provident Fund, In addition they will become contributors to the Employees' Trust Fund which the University will contribute an amount equivalent to 3% of the Salary.
- Gratuity payment in accordance with the provisions of the payment of Gratuity Act 12 of 1983.
- Senior Lecturer Grade II Senior Assistant Librarian Grade II and above and Medical Officer are eligible for one year of Sabbatical Leave with full pay or two years without pay on completion of seven years of service. Further those proceeding abroad during the Sabbatical Leave Period are eligible to receive full air passage for self and spouse.

Benefits: Workshop Engineer (Grade III)

- Selected candidates will contribute 10% from their monthly salary to the Universities' Provident Fund while the University will make a contribution of 15% of their salary of which 8% will be credited to Universities Pension Fund and 7% to the Universities Provident Fund. In addition they will become contributors to the Employees' Trust Fund which the University will contribute an amount equivalent to 3% of the Salary.
- Gratuity payment in accordance with the provisions of the payment of Gratuity Act 12 of 1983.

APPLICATIONS & PARTICULARS

Application forms and further particulars including qualifications could be downloaded from the University website www.sjp.ac.lk.

Duly completed applications (downloaded from the Web Site should be forwarded under registered cover indicating the post applied for on the top left hand corner of the envelope to reach the Deputy Registrar/ Academic establishments Division, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Gangodawila, Nugegoda on or before 21.09.2020

Applicants from University System / Government Departments / Corporations/ Statutory Boards should channel their applications through the Heads of their respective Institutions.

The University reserves the right to shortlist the candidates. Applications which do not conform to the requirements, incomplete applications, applications not in the relevant format (not downloaded from the Web Site) and applications received after the closing date will be rejected without intimation.

**Registrar,
University of Sri Jayewardenepura,
Gangodawila,
Nugegoda.**

Classic Venture (Pvt) Ltd, is an organization engaged in providing quality reliable and trustworthy security consultation & related services to leading business establishments in Sri Lanka.

ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE FINANCE

We are looking for a young energetic female with following qualifications to work at our Head Office at Park Road Colombo 05.

- Age below 30 years
- Pleasant Personality
- Excellent command of English
- Computer literacy and knowledge in Quick Books Package

Salary Negotiable

Please send your CV on or before 5th of September 2020 to the below address or by e-mail

Director

Classic Venture (Pvt) Ltd

No. 196, Park Road, Colombo 05.

Tel : 0753 632 000 / E-mail : susil@classicventure.com

Royal International School Kegalle / Warakapola Academic / Non Academic Vacancies

We are looking for energetic and vibrant individuals with the perfect blend of core competencies to join us for following vacancies.

Two Additional Senior Principals

(Matured Graduate with minimum 07 years experience) For Kegalle and Warakapola.

Teachers for Primary and Junior sections

Subjects: English / Sinhala / Science / Mathematics / French / IT/Art/ Dancing / Music and PE.

Experienced Teachers/Trainees for

Pre - Primary School.

Non - Academic

Experienced Junior Accountants and Junior Clerks for Kegalle and Warakapola.

Experienced Senior Managers for Kegalle and Warakapola.

All applications should be fluent in English Salary negotiable. Apply to Director with in 07 Days to

No: 652, Kandy Road, Meepitiya, Kegalle.
E-mail: royalinternationalkg@gmail.com

PASALKA BUILDERS & DECORATORS (PVT) LTD

We are looking for young, dynamic, and self-motivated personnel for our projects at Colombo and outstation.

SITE ENGINEER

B.Sc.(Civil. Eng.) With a minimum of 5 years post qualifying experience in building construction.

TECHNICAL OFFICER

NCT or equivalent with a minimum of 5 years post qualification experience

SITE SUPERVISOR

Minimum 5 years of experience in supervising the site work.

STORE KEEPER

Good educational background with GCE A/L & a minimum of 5 years experience in a similar capacity.

ACCOUNT ASSISTANT

Have passed GCE A/L in commerce and part qualification in AAT/CA or equivalent. Age below 35. Knowledge on QB. Applicants in Battaramulla area is encouraged to apply.

The above positions carry an attractive remuneration for the ideal candidate with other benefits depending on the qualifications & experience.

Email your CV to pasalkabuild@sitnet.lk together with 2 non related referees within 7 days of this advertisement.

Pasalka Builders & Decorators (Pvt) Ltd

1032, Pannipitiya Road, Battaramulla.
Tel: 0112864211.

KOLON GLOBAL CORPORATION

VACANCIES (Sub-Contractors)

SYSTEM REHABILITATION FOR NRW REDUCTION IN EAST PART OF THE COLOMBO CITY

Kolon Global Corporation, a Korea based company invited applications from eligible contractors for following Sub-contract works of the above projects in East Colombo NRW Reduction Project.

1. SUB - CONTRACTOR FOR HOUSE (SERVICE) CONNECTION

Work Scope : Connecting from Distribution line to each house (HDPE material)

2. SUB - CONTRACTOR FOR SMALL STRUCTURE

Work Scope : Chamber casting at site(in-situ) / Raising existing chamber / Thrust block

- Company profile with relevant experience shall be submitted with application
- Apply within 7 days (Email applications are only accepted).

E-Mail : hansamalkolon@gmail.com
pintoms58@gmail.com
induniikolon@gmail.com

The Project Manager,
Kolon Global Corporation
No.69/1, Ward Place, Colombo - 7.
Tel : +94 11 406 3950

www.oadz.lk

it's what you want

VACANCIES

ACCOUNTS CLERK CUM DATA ENTRY

- ◆ A/L Commerce
- ◆ AAT / CIMA part qualified
- ◆ Ability to work in a system
- ◆ Experience 2 to 3 years
- ◆ Close proximity to Gampaha.

CEO, Akra Bakers (Pvt) Ltd.
516/2, Misnewagoda Road,
Agriya, Gampaha.
Email: ceo@akra.lk

SAFETY OFFICER (MALE)

Safety Officer for a Construction Site
He should have

- A Diploma or Certificate in Construction Safety & Occupational Health
- GCE (A/L)
- More than 5 Years Experience in Construction Field

INDO EAST ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION (LANKA) (PRIVATE) LTD.
133A, Attampolawatta Road, Hendala, Wattala
Phone No: 0112 932745/ 0777 766306
Fax No: 0112 937176
E-mail : indoeast@sitnet.lk

SELYAS Holdings (Pvt) Ltd.

IMMEDIATE VACANCY

A well established steel distribution company looking ;

ACCOUNTS EXECUTIVE

- ▶ individuals with party qualified chartered or AAT with 02 years experience.
- ▶ Candidate should be computer literate and good in English.

Proximity to Wattala, Mahabage will be an added advantage.

Salary negotiable.

Please forward your resume with contact details of two non-related referees ;

The Director
SELYAS HOLDINGS (PVT) LTD
No. 710/2, Negombo Road, Matthumagala, Ragama.
(Opposite to Laksproy Factory Mahabage)
Tel : 0112 967 666 / 0777 531 121 / 0112 967 999
E-mail : selyasofiz2017@gmail.com

Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited

We are looking for highly motivated individuals with right attitudes to fill the following vacancy

POST OF HEAD OF ELECTRONICS & AIR NAVIGATION ENGINEERING

- Qualifications** : a) Bachelor's Degree in Electronics & Electrical/ Telecommunication Engineering or Electrical & Information Engineering with Honours, recognized by the UGC.
AND
b) Corporate Membership of an Institution recognized by the Institute of Engineers Sri Lanka in the field of Electronics and Electrical/ Telecommunication Engineering or Electrical and Information Engineering.
- Experience** : Minimum of fifteen (15) years post qualifying experience in relevant field out of which ten (10) years should be in a Managerial level post.
- Age** : Should be below 50 years on the closing date for applications
- Salary** : Negotiable
- Fringe Benefits** : The Selected candidate will be entitled to;
 - A Company maintained vehicle
 - EPF employer contribution -12%, employee contribution -10%
 - Gratuity calculation - one months salary
 - Holiday bungalow facility
 - 24 hour insurance coverage
 - Health Insurance Scheme
 - Staff Loan Scheme
 - Annual Bonus and Festival Advance
 - Leave encashment
 - Excellent work environment

General

The above post is in the Senior Management cadre of the Company and the selected candidate would lead the Electronics and Air Navigation Engineering Division.

If you are interested and possess the relevant qualifications and experience, please refer our Website www.airport.lk > **CORPORATE > CAREERS** for job scope and key responsibilities and send in your resume prepared according to the specimen application given in the same Website with copies of the relevant certificates to the following address on or before **September 11, 2020 only by Registered post**. Please indicate the post applied for on the Top Left Hand Corner of the Envelope.

Please note that the applications without copies of the relevant certificates and forwarded in other modes and not in accordance with the specimen given on our Website will be rejected.

Please note that only the short listed candidates will be notified.

CHAIRMAN
AIRPORT & AVIATION SERVICES (SRI LANKA) LIMITED
BANDARANAIKE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
KATUNAYAKE

Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited

We are looking for a highly motivated individual with right attitudes to fill the following vacancy

JAFFNA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
Post of Assistant Operations Manager

- Qualifications** : Should possess a Degree from a University recognized by UGC.
- Experience** : Should possess a minimum of Four (04) years' post qualifying Executive experience in Ground Handling in reputed Organizations.
 - You will be working in a 24-hour, highly demanding and challenging environment and you should ensure the safe and efficient operation of the Airport on a daily basis. This includes supporting staff and making sure that all staff is able to provide polite, prompt and correct information to passengers, know airport policies and procedures and that passengers and luggage are moved through the airport in an efficient and timely manner. Scheduling appropriate number of staff, ensuring that all ticketing and security systems are in excellent working condition and trouble shooting any problems are highly sought after skills.
 - Experience in the air transport and / or the aviation, sector, ability to speak foreign languages and possessing a First or Second Class Honors Degree would be added advantages.
 - Ability to speak and write fluently in English and Tamil Languages
- Age** : Should be below 35 years on the closing date for applications
- Salary** : **The remuneration package and fringe benefits offered for above position will be attractive.**
- Method of Selection** : By a written test and an interview

General

The selected candidates will have to perform duties at any Airport in any part of the Island as and when necessary.

If you are interested and possess the relevant qualifications and experience, please refer our Website www.airport.lk > **CORPORATE > CAREERS** for job scope and key responsibilities and send in your resume prepared according to the specimen application given in the same Website with copies of the relevant certificates to the following address on or before **September 11, 2020 only by Registered post**. Please indicate the post applied for on the Top Left Hand Corner of the Envelope.

Please note that the applications without copies of the relevant certificates and forwarded in other modes and not in accordance with the specimen given on our Website will be rejected.

Please note that only the short listed candidates will be notified.

CHAIRMAN
AIRPORT & AVIATION SERVICES (SRI LANKA) LIMITED
BANDARANAIKE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
KATUNAYAKE

International Construction Consortium (Pvt) Ltd

Being a leading Multidisciplinary, CS2 Grade, ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001 certified construction company, ICC takes pride in stepping into the 5th decade of our success story with award winning, internationally acclaimed projects.

We are now seeking a self-motivated professional, who enjoys working in a challenging environment to join our team of professionals in the position mentioned below.

CONDOMINIUM MANAGER

The selected candidate is responsible for the entire operation of the condominium property including but not limited to maintenance of the property in a safe and attractive manner, handling and responding for requests, concerns and conflicts of residents/ guest, finance management, attending to security matters etc. **The selected candidate will be stationed at Galle.**

- Working experience in premises management
- Excellent communication skills in English, both written and spoken
- Minimum of 5 years working experience in a similar capacity will be an added advantage
- Experience in hospitality industry will be an advantage.
- Age between 35 - 50 years

Attractive remuneration packages and excellent career development opportunities within the organization based on performance await the right candidates.

Applicants should forward their Curriculum Vitae and contact telephone numbers with names of two non-related referees and their contact telephone numbers, within 07 days of this advertisement to the following address.

Please indicate the post applied for on the top left hand corner of the envelope or the subject line of the e-mail.

Manager - Human Resources
International Construction Consortium (Pvt.) Ltd.
70, S. De S. Jayasinghe Mawatha, Kohuwala, Nugegoda.
Tel: 0114 400600
E-mail : cv@icc-construct.com www.icc-construct.com

Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited

We are a State Owned Enterprise (SOE) registered as a Private Company under the Companies Act No.07 of 2007.

We are looking for a highly motivated individual with right attitudes to fill the vacancy of the

Company Secretary (on part time)
at the Airport & Aviation Services (SL) Limited

Services will be required at ;

- Regular and Special Board Meetings of the Board of Directors
- Audit and Management Committee meetings
- Events the Common Seal is placed on documents

Eligibility criteria;

- An Attorney at Law
- An Associate/Fellow Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants
- An Associate/Fellow Member of Chartered Institute of Management Accountants of UK
- An Associate/Fellow Member of Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators of UK

Registered at the Registrar of Companies to function as a Company Secretary

- 06 years experience as Board Secretary/Company Secretary to the Board of Directors in a reputed organization.
- Good understanding in Corporate Governance with strict confidentiality compliance, fluency in English and conversant in Microsoft Office packages with high level computer literacy.
- Age above 35 years and preferably below 45 years as at closing date of applications.

Salary : The salary will not be less than Rs.150,000/- per month.

If you are interested and possess the relevant qualifications and experience, please forward your resume to the following address on or before **11th September 2020.**

CHAIRMAN
AIRPORT & AVIATION SERVICES (SRI LANKA) LIMITED
BANDARANAIKE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT,
KATUNAYAKE.



Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited
"Make Happy Journeys"

AN INVITATION TO EX-SERVICEMAN TO BE AN AVIATION SECURITY AVSEC PROFESSIONAL PROFESSIONAL AIRPORT FIRE FIGHTER

We are looking for energetic Ex-serviceman, who possess required qualifications to undergo training in Aviation Security (AVSEC) and in Airport Fire & Rescue Services, with the aim of paving a path for you to become a professional in the field. On successful completion of training, they will be absorbed to the permanent cadre.

For more information and applications visit our web site: <http://www.airport.lk>Corporate>careers>

Completed applications with the copies of the relevant certificates should be forwarded by **Registered Post only** to the following address **on or before September 11, 2020.**

**CHAIRMAN
AIRPORT & AVIATION SERVICES (SRI LANKA) LIMITED
BANDARANAIKE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
KATUNAYAKE**

Are you ready to take the Challenge? Join the S&D Team

S & D is a diversified; highly customer Oriented Company that develops and delivers innovative products with tailor made technical guidance achieving quality and sustainable/ economical solutions.

We have our own liaison offices in Bangladesh, Maldives, India, Pakistan, Indonesia, Vietnam, Dubai, Egypt, Spain, Australia & Singapore.

DEBT & CREDIT CONTROLLER

We are looking for an outstanding and result oriented professional with high levels of integrity, competence and confidence to join our dynamic team

THE IDEAL CANDIDATES SHOULD:

- Passed G.C.E (A/L) with good results
- Preferably minimum five years' experience in similar capacity
- Experience in working with targets & deadlines
- Ability work under pressure
- Working knowledge in MS Office & data bases
- Excellent communication & interpersonal skills
- Apt in negotiating & persuading
- Ability to work with minimum supervision

✦ An attractive remuneration package in line with the market and experience along with other kind of benefits will be allowed to selected candidate

✦ The above vacancy exists at our head office, Boralesgamuwa

If you are confident that you fit into the job profile and meets the eligibility requirements mentioned above, please apply within 14 days of this advertisement with your complete CV nominating two non-referees. Also, indicate the position applied for, on the top left corner of envelop or in the subject line of the e-mail

S AND D CHEMICALS (PVT) LTD
Manager-Administration
Address: No.36,
Old Kesbewa road,
Rathnapitiya,
Boralesgamuwa.
E-Mail: hr@sdchemicals.com

VACANCY

ELECTRICAL ENGINEER

We are looking for an energetic and dynamic person possessing the following qualifications and experience to fill the above vacancy.

Qualifications and Requirements:

- B.Sc. Degree in Electrical Engineering from a recognized university with five years' experience in the maintenance of heavy machinery or NDT or equivalent in Electrical Engineering with seven years' experience in the maintenance of heavy machinery with
- Experience in generators, mini-substations and uninterrupted power supply would be an added qualification
- Thorough knowledge of high capacity DC & AC motors, motor drives & other electrical controls and equipment
- Experience in printing machinery or electro-mechanical environment would be an added qualification
- Willing to work long hours, weekends and report for duty during night time, if necessary.

Job Responsibilities:

- Ensure electrical supply without interruptions due to failures in the company power feeding network.
- To keep all the machines at ANCL in good & healthy working condition and minimize breakdowns.
- Carry out all installation, maintenance & troubleshooting of the electro-mechanical controls of the presses and commercial printing equipment
- Repair and maintenance of the branch office electrical equipment.

Age : Below 35 years

An attractive remuneration package awaits the right candidate.

If you are interested, please send your CV within seven days with names and contact details of two non-related referees to the undermentioned address stating the position on the top left-hand corner of the envelope or e-mail to the undermentioned e-mail address.

LAKE HOUSE
Head of Human Capital
The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited
No.35, D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha, Colombo 10.
dgm.hc@lakehouse.lk

Musaeus College - Colombo 07

Vacancies

Musaeus College is the leading Government approved private school for girls in Colombo.

We are looking for experienced and dedicated **females** with a passion for teaching, who possess relevant academic or professional qualifications from a recognized Institution for the following vacancies.

- ❖ **Counsellor**
Masters in Counselling with experience as a Counselor in an educational institution
- ❖ **Lab Assistant - IT Labs**
GCE A/L & Diploma in IT, experience as a Computer Lab Assistant
- ❖ **Assistant Teacher - Mathematics - (Cambridge and Edexcel Syllabus)**
Degree from a recognized University

An attractive remuneration package awaits the right candidate.

Please send your CV within 10 days of this advertisement to "The Principal, Musaeus College, No. 58, Rosmead Place, Colombo 07 or by email to vacancies@musaeus.lk (Please state the position applied for on the top left corner of the envelope / subject line of the e-mail).

VACANCY

We are the certified recognize Company an ISO 9001:2015, ISO 22000:2018, ISO 14001:2015, ISO 45001:2018, ISO 50001:2011, SLS and reputed Establishment which is engaged in manufacturing and distributing of High Quality Food Products(FMCG) in Island-wide & world-wide, looking for a most suitable personnel for the following post, right candidates should be required for the Company at Dodangoda, Kalutara.

SALES CO-ORDINATOR (MALE) – SINHALA/TAMIL

- Male in age 25 – 35 with pleasant personality
- Applicant should have Degree or professional qualifications related to the Marketing field.
- G.C.E. A/L and G.C.E. O/L with credit passes in Mathematics, Sinhala & English.
- Good Presentation Skill
- Sound computer knowledge is very essential
- A Good Team player with positive attitude.
- Driving license should be important.
- Preferred in Kalutara District.

Salary Rs. 70,000(TOTAL PACKAGE)

Please send your CV with contact Phone Numbers and recently taken photograph to reach the following address within 7 days. Please indicate the post applied for on the top left hand corner of the envelope.

The Human Resources Manager
Wijaya Products (Pvt) Ltd.
Dodangoda, Kalutara,
T.P. 034-2280092/93 Fax: 034-2280285
Email: wijayaproducts@sitnet.lk / hr@spiceswijaya.com

VACANCY

PROOF READERS
(TAMIL/ENGLISH)

The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited (ANCL) widely known as Lake House, the home and heart of print media in Sri Lanka, invites young and energetic individuals in Sri Lanka who possess the following qualifications and requirements.

Qualifications :

- Passed G.C.E. (O/L) Examination with Credit pass for each language (Tamil/English).

Requirements :

- Well conversant in each language (Tamil/English).
- 3 years experience in proof reading in a private/government sector printing organization will be an added advantage.
- Should have sharp eyesight sufficient to trace printing errors.

Age : Must be below 40 years

Attractive remuneration package will commensurate for the right candidates. The selected candidates will be employed initially on contract basis for a period of one year and their contract period may be extended based on performance.

Please email your complete resume to dgm.hc@lakehouse.lk indicating the position applied for in the subject line of the email or forward your resume by stating the position applied for on top left-hand corner of the envelope within seven days of this advertisement.

LAKE HOUSE
Head of Human Capital
The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited
No.35, D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha, Colombo 10.
dgm.hc@lakehouse.lk

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- ☑ www.dinamina.lk
- ☑ www.dailynews.lk

CONTACT
011 2429326
Email: webmarketing@lakehouse.lk

* Conditions apply

IMMEDIATE VACANCIES

Sales Representatives
 Areas: Galle – Matara – Colombo – Ambilipitiya
 Company will need a deposit which will be discussed during the interview

Female Secretary
 Need a female secretary for Maharagama office.
 Below 35 years
 Must be fluent in English.
 Submit your cv to pemnath@gmail.com

INGCO Power Tools & Hand Tools
 KDI International
 No: 100 1/1, Pamankada Road, Colombo 06.
 0777 236201

William Angliss Institute

VACANCY
CULINARY/COOKERY LECTURERS

William Angliss Institute @ SLIIT is a Sri Lanka's largest private specialist training centre for Hospitality, Food Studies, Events and Tourism based in the SLIIT campus in Malabe.

Our facilities at the Institute include the largest training kitchen in the country, a model accommodation suite and the state of the art equipment and practical space, including a functioning restaurant. The courses are designed with the industry needs in mind and work to ensure that our graduates are industry "job ready" from the day.

We are looking for self-motivated, energetic and qualified individuals with the perfect blend of industry experience to join our academic team.

Proven track record of industry experience with required knowledge and understanding of academic curriculum and Excellent communication in English (written & verbal)

Your application must be forwarded with names of two non-related referees to humanresources@cahm.lk within 14 days of this advertisement.

William Angliss Institute @ SLIIT, New Kandy Road, Malabe.
 Hotline: 0112 40 77 80 - 2 | Web: www.cahm.lk

JOB OPPORTUNITIES
HOVAEL CONSTRUCTION (PVT) LTD

We are CS 2 Graded Company, looking for the following qualified and experienced persons to be part of our team

<p>Senior Project Managers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BSc (Civil) or equivalent with IESL corporate membership With 10 years' experience of which 05 years in Road Projects High fluency in written & Spoken English 	<p>Technical Officers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NCT (Civil) or equivalent [NVQ -Level 4] With 05 years' experience of which 02 years in Road Constructions
<p>Project Managers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BSc (Civil) or equivalent With 08 years' experience of which 05 years in Road Projects High fluency in written & Spoken English 	<p>Measurement Assistants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NCT (Q/S) Previous experience as a Measurement Assistant in Road Projects
<p>Site Engineers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BSc (Civil) or equivalent With 03 years' experience of which 02 years' in Road Projects 	<p>Supervisors (Civil)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> With 10 Years' experience of which 05 in Road Constructions
<p>Quantity Surveyors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BSc (QS) or equivalent With 04 years' experience of which 02 years in Road Projects 	<p>Administrative Officers/ Transport Officers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proficiency in MS Office Packages Over 05 years' experience of which 03 years in Construction Projects.
<p>Surveyors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BSc (Surveying) or equivalent With 05 years' experience of which 03 years in Road Projects 	<p>Store Keepers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 03 years' experience with relevant qualifications Working experience in construction projects Ability to work in a computerized environment
<p>Assistant Surveyors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NCT (Civil) or equivalent With 03 years' experience of which 02 years in Road Projects 	<p>Accounts Assistant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AAT Qualified or similar qualification Knowledge in MS Excel.
<p>Auto Cad Draughtsman</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NCED or equivalent With 04 years' experience of which 02 years in Road Projects 	<p>Data Entry Operators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GCE (A/L) Excellent data entry speed with accuracy Competency in MS Office packages

ATTRACTIVE REMUNERATION PACKAGE IN LINE WITH EXPERIENCE & QUALIFICATIONS AND ACCOMMODATION WILL BE PROVIDED

If you are keen to build your career with us, please send in your resume to pradmin@hovael.com including the position applied for on the subject line or post it to the **Manager -Human Resources, Hovael Construction (Pvt) Ltd, No. 245/47, Old Avissawella Road, Orugodawatte** within 10 days of this advertisement.

VACANCY

TEAM NATION Sri Lanka Cricket

ASSISTANT MAINTENANCE ENGINEER

Here's an excellent opportunity for you to be a part of Sri Lanka Cricket

» **Principle Responsibilities**

- Monitoring maintenance/servicing of MEP equipment including periodic site visits and overall supervision.
- Coordinating Consultant, Project Manager, Service providers and Contractors for the MEP work.
- Coordinating with the service provider and monitoring carrying out of periodic maintenance of MEP systems.
- Document Controlling and maintaining records.
- Supporting to the Engineering Staff.
- Overall responsibility of the MEP systems.
- Conducting and supervision of in-house repairing, maintenance and development works.

» **Qualification and Experience**

- NDT (Electrical/Mechanical), HNDE (Electrical/Mechanical) or City & Guilds (Electrical/Mechanical) with Minimum 5 years of experience.
- Experience in MEP related designing, Preparation of Estimates and Tendering.
- Experience in Electronic and Computer systems would be an added advantage.
- Excellent skills in Microsoft Excel, SolidWorks, SketchUp & AutoCAD.

» **Competencies**

- High level interpersonal, written, verbal and communication and influencing skills.
- Self-motivated with the ability to work independently or as part of a team.
- Ability to work under pressure and prepared to work long hours.
- Ability to travel any part of the Country.
- Sound knowledge in handling the maintenance of Air Conditioning Systems, Flood Lights, Fire Detection and Protection system MATV, ELV, PABX, Electrical, Plumbing and other MEP related systems.

If you are a team player with the drive and initiative to perform with minimum supervision and willingness to work in a team oriented environment, you could be the person we are looking for. Attractive and negotiable remuneration packages with other fringe benefits and excellent career prospects await the selected candidates.

Recruitment Age:

- Be below 35 years of age

All applicants should forward their applications to vacancies@srilankacricket.lk or to the following address along with the names of two non-related referees within one week of the advertisement

Senior Manager Human Resources,
 Sri Lanka Cricket,
 No. 35, Maitland Place,
 Colombo 07

*Please mention the post applied for on the envelope

VACANCY

TEAM NATION Sri Lanka Cricket

ASSISTANT CIVIL ENGINEER

Here's an excellent opportunity for you to be a part of Sri Lanka Cricket

» **Principle Responsibilities**

- Monitoring activities in the field including periodic site visits and overall supervision and work including representing the SLC at all project Meetings.
- Monitor activities in the field including site visits and be responsible for overall supervision and management of work including representing the SLC at all project meeting as necessary.
- Providing periodic reports at agreed intervals for the SLC Management on Project Progress including, performance of Consultants and Contractors.
- Verifying the Contractor's work done and measurements.
- Coordinating Consultant, Project Manager and Contractors for the construction work.
- Conducting and supervision of in house development works.

» **Qualification and Experience**

- NDT (Civil), HNDE (Civil) or City & Guilds (Civil) with Minimum 3 years of experience.
- Experience in Building Construction Projects.
- Experience in Ground Construction would be an added advantage.
- Experience in pre contract and post contract would be an added advantage.
- Excellent skills in Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Projects, & AutoCAD.

» **Competencies**

- Exceptional planning, coordination and organizational skills.
- High level interpersonal, written, verbal and communication and influencing skills.
- Self-motivated with the ability to work independently or as part of a team.
- Should have the Managerial & Leadership qualities.
- Skills in planning tools and software.
- Ability to travel any part of the Country.

If you are a team player with the drive and initiative to perform with minimum supervision and willingness to work in a team oriented environment, you could be the person we are looking for. Attractive and negotiable remuneration packages with other fringe benefits and excellent career prospects await the selected candidates.

Recruitment Age:

- Be below 35 years of age

All applicants should forward their applications to vacancies@srilankacricket.lk or to the following address along with the names of two non-related referees within one week of the advertisement

Senior Manager Human Resources,
 Sri Lanka Cricket,
 No. 35, Maitland Place,
 Colombo 07

*Please mention the post applied for on the envelope

POST OF JNR. EXECUTIVE MICROBIOLOGY

Role Profile

Primary responsibility for this position is to provide accurate and reliable microbiological analysis of raw material and finished products and ensure that the end products exceed customer expectation.

Job Qualification

BSc. or Diploma in Microbiology / Food Science from a recognized University / Institute.

Experience in working in a GMP quality-controlled food/beverage or cosmetic laboratory will be an added advantage.

Responsibility / Essential Duties

Should have the ability to work independently as well as be a strong team contributor.

Should be responsible for receiving samples for microbiological analysis / labeling / preparation / test / counting and recording of data analysis of test samples and any other test requisitions as directed.

Support the department in ensuring continuous test operation, good performance, maintaining and housekeeping of laboratory equipment and facilities.

Possess excellent written and verbal communication skills.

Salary - Negotiable.

Apply or send your Curriculum Vitae C/o Sunday Observer within 10 days of this advertisement.

**O-10024, C/o Sunday Observer,
Lake House, Colombo 10.**

VACANCIES

We are a fast growing engineering company with a rapid growth handling industrial type machinery, Weighbridge Systems, Construction Machinery, Material Testing Equipment, Roadmarking Projects. We require highly dynamic individuals for the below post

Material Testing Laboratory Assistant Engineers - (Male)

- Bachelor's Degree in mechanical or physical engineering field from recognized university or any other institute.
- Academic & Professional qualification would be an advantage
- Oral and written communication in English.
- Minimum two year work experience in Material Testing Environment / calibration laboratory practice).
- Handling & maintenance of ISO / SLAB documentation & auditing process etc.
- Age below 35 years.
- Salary is negotiable.
- Valid riding/driving license is essential.

Sales Engineers (Male)

- NOT/ HNDE or any other qualification (Technical Diploma) equivalent in the field of Engineering.
- Oral and written communication in English.
- Minimum three year work experience in construction industries (Material Testing Equipment/ Construction Machinery & weighing instrument).
- Age below 35 years.
- Salary is negotiable.
- Valid riding/driving license is essential.

Please forward your application with up-to-date CV along with the names & contact details of two non-related referees within two weeks of this advertisement to, E-mail : levlin@levlingroup.lk / maresh@levlingroup.lk

HR & Administration Department,
LEVLIN HOLDINGS (PVT) LTD.
No. 597/2, Afranigalya Road, Malabe.
Tel - 911 392991-4

Visa Consultant
Student Counselor
English Teacher
(With or without experience in Teaching IELTS, Duolingo English Test, Age 20 to 45)
Receptionists
Smart & Young with out without experience
CALL: 0777 761 346
6A, Parakumba Place, Colombo 6.
Email: flexinstitute04@gmail.com

VACANCY
Warehouse Supervisor
Vacancy
for a well reputed Logistics Company in Kelaniya.
Computer literacy and English knowledge are compulsory.
071-9966150

TEACHERS VACANCIES

One of leading International School at Colombo seeking teachers for the following subjects. We are on the lookout for the rightly talented, energetic and charismatic teaching professionals with a strong command of English language who can get the curriculum content blended to different learners. (AGE LIMIT 25 Above)

Only For Secondary - English language, English Literature, Mathematics, Science, Business Studies, History, Art and Sinhala. Drop your CV to our e-mail.

Please specify the name, Subject Name Applied, Experience, Expected Salary and the Location as the e-mail Subject. E.g.: Mohan, Science, 4 Years, 25K, Maradana

READWAY INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
236, Kolonnawa Road, Dematagoda, Colombo-09.
e-mail: readwayinternational@gmail.com
Tel: 011-2669797

TEA SMALLHOLDER FACTORIES PLC
(Managing Agents - John Keells Teas (Pvt) Limited)

Tea Factory Superintendent

Tea Smallholder Factories PLC wishes to recruit an energetic individual having at least five years managerial experience in the Bought Leaf Processing business in Low Country, to manage one of its units.

Must have a proven track record, a thorough knowledge on present tea manufacturing processes and be conversant with the cultivation practices in the low country. Ability to liaise with smallholder growers in a highly competitive environment and effectively taking part in extension services is a pre-requisite.

Salary negotiable.

Applications should be forwarded within 7 days to :

nishika.tsfl@keells.com

VACANCY FOR AN OFFICE EXECUTIVE

WE SEEK A DYNAMIC, AMBITIOUS PERSON FOR THE POST OF OFFICE EXECUTIVE IN OUR GLOVE MANUFACTURING ORGANIZATION SITUATED AT NAGODA, KANDANA.

THE CANDIDATE SHOULD BE WITHIN THE AGE OF 25-35 YEARS WHO COULD TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND CHALLENGES TO FOCUS ON THE DAY TO DAY DUTIES ON SHIPPING AND DOCUMENTATION. (WITH OR WITHOUT EXPERIENCE IS ACCEPTABLE).

THE CORRECT APPLICANT SHOULD BE FLUENT IN ENGLISH (SPOKEN & WRITING) THE CHOSEN CANDIDATE WILL BE OFFERED ATTRACTIVE REMUNERATIONS AND OTHER FRINGE BENEFITS.

Please forward your CV within 7 days of this advertisement to :

The Chairman
KUSANGANKA (PVT) LTD.,
ANIYAKANDA ESTATE, NAGODA,
KANDANA.
Email - kusanglanka@kusangco.com

VACANCY

DTP OPERATORS

(SINHALA/TAMIL/ENGLISH)

The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited (ANCL) widely known as Lake House, the home and heart of print media in Sri Lanka, invites young and energetic individuals in Sri Lanka who possess the following qualifications and requirements.

Qualifications :

- Passed G.C.E. O/L Examination in six subjects with 3 Credit passes including Sinhala/Tamil/English Language.
- Competency in Computer work with knowledge and experience in InDesign, Adobe Illustrator, Microsoft Word and Quark Xpress software packages.
- Typing speed - 30 w.p.m. in Sinhala / 25 w.p.m. in Tamil / 35 w.p.m. in English.

Age : Below 40 years

Attractive remuneration package will commensurate for the right candidates. The selected candidates will be employed initially on contract basis for a period of one year and their contract period may be extended based on performance.

Please email your complete resume to dgm.hc@lakehouse.lk indicating the position applied for in the subject line of the email or forward your resume by stating the position applied for on top left-hand corner of the envelope within seven days of this advertisement.



Head of Human Capital
The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited
No.35, D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha, Colombo 10.
dgm.hc@lakehouse.lk

ANTE LECO METERING COMPANY (PRIVATE) LIMITED

Employment Opportunity (Contract Basis)

ANTE LECO Metering Company (Private) Limited is a subsidiary of Lanka Electricity Company seeking a qualified DESIGN ENGINEER.

Qualifications	4 years B.Sc. Engineering degree specialized in Electrical / Electrical and Electronic Engineering obtained from a recognized university of Sri Lanka.
Age	Below 35 years as at 14.09.2020

A suitable candidate will be recruited after an interview process on contract basis for one year and he/she will be absorbed into permanent cadre upon satisfactory performance in first year.

Please forward your detailed CV with copies of certificates to reach the undersigned on or before **14th September 2020** by registered post. The post applied for should be clearly stated on the application and on the top left hand corner of the envelope.

Factory Manager
Ante Leco Metering Company (Private) Limited
Gonapala Road,
Gammanpila,
Bandaragama.
038 2291484

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PARLIAMENT OF SRI LANKA VACANCIES

Applications are invited from citizens of Sri Lanka who are physically sound and of excellent moral character for below mentioned posts on the Staff of the Secretary-General of Parliament.

1. Parliamentary Interpreter
2. Housekeeping Assistant

Applications prepared in accordance with the specimen given in the gazette notification published on August 28, 2020 should be sent under registered cover to reach the "Secretary-General of Parliament, Parliament of Sri Lanka, Sri Jayewardenepura Kotte" on or before September 11, 2020. Post you are applying for should be indicated on the top left-hand corner of the envelope. This notice is accessible via www.parliament.lk

Secretary-General of Parliament

Parliament of Sri Lanka,
Sri Jayewardenepura Kotte.
August 30, 2020

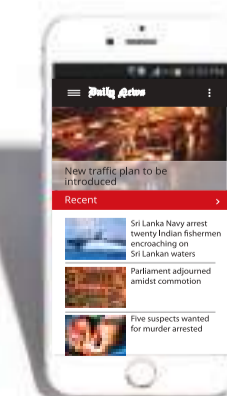
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VACANCY



MEP SKILLED LABOURER

Here's an excellent opportunity for you to be a part of Sri Lanka Cricket

- Knowledge in Air Conditioning Systems, Flood Lights, Fire Detection and Protection system MATV, ELV, PABX, Electrical, Plumbing and other MEP related works

If you are a team player with the drive and initiative to perform with minimum supervision and willingness to work in a team oriented environment, you could be the person we are looking for. Attractive and negotiable remuneration packages with other fringe benefits and excellent career prospects await the selected candidates.

Recruitment Age:

- Be below 35 years of age

All applicants should forward their applications to vacancies@sri.lankacricicket.lk or to the following address along with the names of two non-related referees within one week of the advertisement

Senior Manager Human Resources,
Sri Lanka Cricket,
No. 35, Maitland Place,
Colombo 07

*Please mention the post applied for on the envelope

MAG
saves lives builds futures

Invitation To Tender (ITT) for Purchase of Laptops & Desktop Computers.

The Mines Advisory Group (MAG) is an international organisation with field offices in Sri Lanka, setting new standards for humanitarian mine clearance, advocacy and innovative approaches to logistics management. Our risk education programs, community liaison, and flexible multi-skilled mine action teams make a real difference on the ground in communities afflicted by mines and unexploded bombs in Sri Lanka.

MAG invites sealed tenders / bids from companies / firms who are having business registration & authorized partner for supply of laptops and desktops computers. Companies / firms must be submitted using the Standard MAG invitation to Bid (ITT) Form. The format and instructions should be strictly observed as per the ITT.

Please Note:-

- This ITT gives rise to no contractual obligation between MAG and any Tenderers.
- MAG will not be liable for any costs or expenses directly or indirectly associated with participating in this tender process.
- MAG will not be liable to any Tenderer where a Tenderer is not invited to participate in any subsequent process following completion of this Tender process.
- MAG reserves the right to make associated changes with the tender schedule and related tender documents.

MAG's intended timeline for this procedure is as follows:
The ITT tender dossier package will be made available for **FREE OF CHARGE** for collection from 31.08.2020 to 11.09.2020 between 09:00AM to 04:00PM. (Closed on public holidays & weekends) at the address below. Final day of tender submission will be on or before 11.09.2020 at 04.00 pm. Only one authorized officer is permitted to collect ITT documentation.

Colombo	Vavuniya
Logistics Manager Mines Advisory Group (MAG) 30A, Pamankada Lane, Colombo 6	Logistics Manager Mines Advisory Group (MAG) Central Operating Base, 242, Mannar Road, Nellukulam, Vavuniya
For questions, please contact our official email: tendersrilanka@maginternational.org	

MAG looks forward to your involvement in this innovative new project. MAG actively promotes transparent processes in all its procurement activities and readily encourages all qualified Sri Lankan companies to participate in this competition.

 **Central Environmental Authority**

Registration of Technical Consultancy Firms/ Laboratories

The Central Environmental Authority being the apex institution for Environmental Pollution Control & Management has commenced the registration and annual updating of Technical Consultancy Firms and Laboratories for the year 2021/2022.

The sole purpose of this venture is to facilitate industrial community through technical assistance and guidance in environmental pollution control, which comes under the purview of the Central Environmental Authority.
The applications are invited from firms' individuals who have competency in following areas.

- Air, Water, Noise, Vibration and Odour Pollution Control
- Measurement & Analyse Water quality, Air quality, Noise, Vibration and Soil
- Feasibility Study on Industrial Siting

Applications and details required for registration could be obtained from:

Director /Environmental Pollution Control
Environmental Pollution Control Unit
Central Environmental Authority
104, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha
Battaramulla
or
Website: - www.cca.lk

*Submit your Application to
Director /Environmental Pollution Control on or before 30.09.2020*

Telephone: 01127877278/ 0117877277
0112873453 / 0112873447

Director General
Central Environmental Authority

Fax : 0112872605
Email : buddika@cca.lk

Luxury Office Space

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6350 Sq ft. Fully Carpeted / Fire Protected
with 100 Tables & seatings,
3 Boardrooms, Central AC, Elevators,
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Net working available
Highly recommended as a A grade office
situated at Narahenpita Colombo 5.
Call : 077 9839839 / 076 0106202

**SALE OF TABLE SALT PLANT
MACHINE IN HAMBANTHOTA**

A used 2 metric tonne capacity table salt production machine, manufactured in India is available for sale.

Interested parties can inspect the machine by contacting Lahiru on 076 3068195, it is currently located at :

**LAUGFS Salt & Chemicals Ltd.
Sisilasagama, Mirijjawila
Hambantota**

If you wish to obtain the technical specifications of the machine please send in an email to :
chamara.manamperi@laugfs.lk

Please note that the minimum offer should be over Rs. 7.5 million. Direct your offers for purchase with contact information in sealed quotations by 2.30p.m. on the 9th of September 2020 to the following address.

**Director,
Supply Chain
LAUGFS Holdings
101, Maya Avenue
Colombo 06**

Successful bidders will be contacted directly.

INVITATION FOR BIDS

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

**BID FOR DESIGN, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION
OF ELEVATOR SYSTEM FOR BLOCK 3 OF
DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX
AT AKUREGODA**

CONTRACT NO: DHQC/LIFT 03/2020

- The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC) on behalf of the Ministry of Defence invites competitive sealed Bids from eligible and qualified Bidders for Design, Supply and Installation of Elevator System for Block 3 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla and as described below and estimated to cost LKR 130 Million (excluding VAT).
The work consists of Design, Supply and Installation of Elevator System for Block 3 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda.
- The Construction period is 270 Days.**
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
- To be eligible for the contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted. Bidders shall have Construction Industry Development Authority Grading EMI in the Specialty of Electrical and Mechanical Services (EM) Under Sub-Specialty Elevators, Escalators and Travellators (EET).
- Minimum Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award shall be:

Qualifications	Minimum Qualifications Requirements
(i) Average annual turnover value of works successfully performed in last five years (Elevators, Escalators, Travellators)	LKR 173 million per year
(ii) Experience in Design, Supply and Installation within last five years. (2015,2016,2017,2018,2019)	At least 68 Nr. Elevators in proposed make within last 5 years, out of which at least 3Nr. Elevator installation projects shall be of not less than LKR 20 million.
(iii) The minimum amount of liquid assets and /or credit facilities (after setting apart for other contractual commitments) and exclusive of any advance payment which may be made under this Contract	not less than LKR 43 million
(iv) Ability to provide the maintenance services by the Bidder himself or by an authorized agent nominated by the Bidder in Sri Lanka for the supplied system during its service period	Compulsory

- Interested bidders may obtain further information from **The Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatte, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka** and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the above address from 31/08/2020 until 22/09/2020 from 09.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs. during a working day.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents (except Volume 1A) in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to **The Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatte, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka** from 31/08/2020 until 22/09/2020 from 09.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs. during a working day upon payment of a non-refundable fee of LKR 25,000.00 (Sri Lankan Rupees Twenty Five Thousand). The method of payment will be by Cash.
- A pre bid meeting will be held at 11.00 hrs. on 09/09/2020 and a site visit will be held on **same day** after the pre bid meeting at the Project Management Unit of Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
- Bids shall be delivered to the address below or shall be deposited in the Bid box placed at the address below at or before 10.00 hrs. on 23/09/2020. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- Bids shall be valid up to 22/12/2020 (91 Days from the date of closing of Bids).
- All bids shall be accompanied by a "Bid-Security", of **Sri Lankan Rupees One Million Nine Hundred Fifty Thousand (LKR 1,950,000.00)** obtained from a bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, in the form of an unconditional and on demand bond and shall be valid up to 19/01/2021 (119 Days after opening the Bids). Beneficiary of the Bid Security shall be Secretary, Ministry of Defence.
- Bidders are strongly advised to present the Registration Certificate under the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987 (when relevant), before purchasing the Bidding Document from Defence Headquarters Complex Project.
- Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to the Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, the Name and the NIC/Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the tender opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

The address referred to above is:

**The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee (PPC),
C/o The Director, Project Management Unit,
Defence Headquarters Complex Project,
Akuregoda Road,
Pelawatte, Battaramulla,
Sri Lanka.**

**Tel : 0094-011-4209885
Fax : 0094-011-4209885**

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT PLC

**INVITATION TO SUBMIT EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR
THE PURCHASE OF SHARES OF KOLADENIYA
HYDROPOWER (PVT) LTD**

KOLADENIYA HYDROPOWER PLANT - 1200 kW

Introduction

Property Development PLC (PDL), a subsidiary of Bank of Ceylon, is listed on the Main Board of the Colombo Stock Exchange and is the sole shareholder of Koladeniya Hydropower (Pvt) Ltd (KHP). KHP owns the Koladeniya Hydropower Plant of 1200 kW capacity located at Koladeniya Village, Udabulathgama, Agara Oya, Ginigathhena.

PDL has been requested to dispose the shares held by PDL in KHP in line with the Bank of Ceylon operational policy. The necessary approvals from the relevant authorities have been obtained.

The Power Plant was commissioned on 25 April 2012 and the Standardised Power Purchase Agreement (3 tier) ends on 24 April 2032.

Objective

PDL wishes to invite eligible bidders to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) for the purchase of 21,700,000 Ordinary Shares held by PDL in KHP. The stated capital of KHP is LKR 217,000,000 and the proposed transaction therefore envisages sale of a 100% shareholding in KHP.

Eligibility Criteria

PDL has decided to adopt a two-stage bidding process and intends to pre-qualify suitable applicants during the end of the first stage which is the pre-qualification stage, and the pre-qualified applicants will then be eligible for participation in the second stage which is the bid stage.

In order to be eligible for the purposes hereof, a bidder may be a company incorporated in Sri Lanka or overseas, a registered partnership, a citizen of Sri Lanka or overseas resident in Sri Lanka or overseas, legal entities such as co-operative societies, or societies.

Each bidder is required to provide documentary evidence acceptable to PDL on its Financial Strength and ability to purchase the said shares.

Procedure for submitting Expression of Interest (EOI)

An EOI should be submitted as per the instructions enumerated in the "Invitation to Submit Expression of Interest" document, which is available for collection at or before 3.00 pm on 06 October 2020 from the Manager (HR & Admin.), Property Development PLC, Floor 19, BOC Headquarters Building, BOC Square, No. 01, Bank of Ceylon Mawatha, Colombo 01, Sri Lanka. This document may also be obtained on or before the 06th day of October 2020 via e-mail by a request made to the Manager (HR & Admin.) at the address pdhrm@sltnet.lk with copies to pdceo@sltnet.lk and propertydevplc@outlook.com.

Each EOI must be deposited in the Tender Box provided for such purpose at the office of the Manager (Human Resources & Administration) - PDL, at the address given below or dispatched by courier to reach the following address by **3.00 pm on or before 07 October 2020.**

**Manager (Human Resources & Administration)
Property Development PLC
Floor 19, BOC Headquarters Building, BOC Square
No. 01, Bank of Ceylon Mawatha, Colombo 01, Sri Lanka.**

COLOMBO DOCKYARD PLC PURCHASE OF DUST MASK & SURGICAL MASK

Sealed tenders are invited from reputed suppliers / manufacturers to provide Dust Mask & Surgical Mask for the period of 06 Months to the CDPLC.

Details are as follows.

S/No	Item Description	Monthly Consumption (Approx.)
1	Cotton Dust Masks	25,000 Nos.
2	Surgical Mask	25,000 Nos.

Note: Availability of quality certificates according to the rules and regulations in Sri Lanka is an additional qualification for the supply of Dust & Surgical masks.

* Applicable Tender Fee - Cash (Non Refundable) - Rs. 1,000.00

* Tender Forms

Can be obtained after pay above deposit in cash could be made with the Accountant at Dockyard General Engineering Services (Pvt) Ltd, No. 223, Jayantha Mallimarachchi Mawatha, Colombo 14 from 02.09.2020 to 08.09.2020 (Between 09.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. on week days and Saturday from 09.00 a.m. to 12.00 only).

Offers should be dropped in to the tender box made available at the above address indicating reference number SMCD/T/17/2020 on the top left hand corner of the envelope, on or before 4.00 P.M on 08.09.2020

Offers received after the closing time and by post shall not be accepted

For further information, please contact:

General Manager (Supply Chain Management)
Colombo Dockyard PLC
Graving Docks, Port of Colombo, Colombo 15.
Tel : 011-2429000



Road Passenger Transport Authority North Central Province

Invitation of Quotations for the leasing-out of the Toilet Systems and Bathroom Systems situated in the bus stand grounds stated below, in the Anuradhapura District - 2020/2021

Quotations will be received from citizens residing in the North Central Province, to lease-out and operate the toilet and bathroom systems situated in the following bus stand grounds, belonging to the North Central Provincial Road Passenger Transport Authority, for the year 2020/2021.

S/No.	Place	Quotation calling matter	Minimum Bid - Rupees -
01	Anuradhapura Long Distance Services Bus Stand	Leasing-out of the Toilet and Bathroom System	600,000.00
02	Anuradhapura New Bus Stand	Leasing-out Toilet System	400,000.00
03	Anuradhapura Old Bus Stand	Leasing-out Toilet System	700,000.00
04	Kekirawa Bus Stand	Leasing-out Toilet System	800,000.00
05	Aralaganwila Bus Stand	Leasing-out Toilet System	100,000.00

- (1) Tender applications and detailed leaflets can be obtained from 31.08.2021 up to 3.00 p.m. on 15.09.2020, by calling over at the Head Office of the Road Passenger Transport Authority at Anuradhapura Vidyalaya Mawatha, Anuradhapura.
- (2) A non-refundable Tender Fee of Rs. 2000.00 should be paid to obtain Tender Forms.
- (3) Acceptance of quotations will be closed at 2.30 p.m. on 16.09.2020 and completed Tenders could either be sent by registered post addressed to Road Passenger Transport Authority, Vidyalaya Mawatha, Anuradhapura or placed in the Tender Box kept for the purpose, to receive before the above deadline.
- (4) Further details can be obtained by calling on Tel No. 025-2227956.

Chairman,
Road Passenger Transport Authority,
North Central Province.

Mini Hydro Power Project 800 Kw

Wanted a local or foreign investor for project approved by the government.

077-1195200
070-4380202

RICHARD PIERIS FINANCE LTD PROPERTIES FOR SALE

COLOMBO 03 - Single storey house in 6.27 P land at School Lane
KOTTAWA - Nine bedroom house in 18.58 P land at the heart of Kottawa town with all amenities.
RAJAGIRIYA - 8 P land at Diyawanna Residencies in highly residential area near the lake
KUNDASALE - 207.9 P land at Wirapitiya about 400 meters from Kandy-Digana main road
CHILAW - 2730 square feet two storey building in 22.5 P land at Wattakkaiya very close to the town. Ideal for an office or store room
* 23 P land at Bundarawatta, Kakkapaliya facing Colombo-Chilaw main road
NARAMMALA - COCONUT LAND
5 A 3 R 25 P coconut land at Katupotha in Kandegastara village
CONTACT - 0719 640 037 / 0115 900 600

INVITATION FOR BIDS

(AMENDMENT TO INVITATION FOR BIDS PUBLISHED ON 19.07.2020)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

BID FOR DESIGN, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF MECHANICAL VENTILATION AND AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEM FOR BLOCKS 01 & 02 OF DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA

CONTRACT NO: DHQC/MVAC/1&2/2020

1. The Chairman, Standing Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee (SCAPC) of the Ministry of Defence on behalf of Secretary, Ministry of Defence now invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified Bidders for Design, Supply and Installation of Mechanical Ventilation And Air Conditioning System For Blocks 01 & 02 of Proposed Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla and as described below and estimated to cost LKR 1400 Million (excluding VAT).

The work consists of Design, Supply and Installation of Mechanical Ventilation and Air Conditioning System for Blocks 01 & 02 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda.

2. The Construction period is 300 Days.
3. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
4. To be eligible for the contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted. Bidders shall have Construction Industry Development Authority Grading EM1 in the Specialty of Electrical and Mechanical Services (EM) Under Sub-Specialty Mechanical Ventilation and Air Conditioning (MVAC). The bidder or his proposed sub-contractor or his joint venture partner shall have Construction Industry Development Authority Grading EM 1 in the specialty of Extra Low Voltage Services category.
5. Minimum Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award shall be,

Qualifications	Minimum Qualification Requirements
(i) Average annual turnover value of MVAC works of any five years successfully performed in last 10 years.	LKR 700 million per year.
(ii) Experience in Design, Supply and Installation within last 10 years. (2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 & 2019).	At least 5 Nr. Mechanical Ventilation and Air Conditioning Systems successfully completed within last 10 years. Minimum value of one number of such systems shall not be less than LKR 100 million. The bidder or his proposed sub-contractor or his joint venture partner shall have successfully completed at least five installations of Building Automation Systems (BAS) value of at least LKR 10 million and among those projects, Two projects value shall not be less than LKR 25 million each.
(iii) The minimum amount of liquid assets and /or credit facilities (after setting apart for other contractual commitments) and exclusive of any advance payment which may be made under this Contract.	Not less than LKR 350 million.
(iv) Ability to provide the maintenance services by the Bidder himself or by an authorized agent nominated by the Bidder in Sri Lanka for the supplied system during its service period.	Compulsory.

6. Interested bidders may obtain further information from The Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the above address from 20/07/2020 until 16/09/2020 from 09.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs. during a working day.
7. A complete set of Bidding Documents (except Volume 1A) in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to Accountant (Procurement), Ministry of Defence, No. 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 03, Sri Lanka from 20/07/2020 until 16/09/2020 from 09.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs. during a working day upon payment of a non-refundable fee of LKR 100,000.00 (Sri Lankan Rupees One Hundred Thousand). The method of payment will be by cash.
8. Bids shall be delivered to the address below or shall be deposited in the Bid box placed at the address below at or before 11.00 hrs. on 17/09/2020. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
9. Bids shall be valid from 17/09/2020 to 10/03/2021 (175 Days from the date of closing of Bids).
10. All bids shall be accompanied by a "Bid-Security", of Sri Lankan Rupees Twenty One Million (LKR 21,000,000.00) obtained from a bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, in the form of an unconditional and on demand bond and shall be valid from 17/09/2020 to 07/04/2021 (203 Days after opening the Bids). Beneficiary of the Bid Security shall be Secretary, Ministry of Defence.
11. Bidders are strongly advised to present the registration certificate under the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987 (when relevant), before purchasing the Bidding Document from Defence Headquarters Complex Project.
12. Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to the Director General (Accounts & Finance) Ministry of Defence, the Name and the NIC/Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

The address referred to above is:

The Chairman,
Standing Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee (SCAPC)
Ministry of Defence,
No. 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha,
Colombo 03, Sri Lanka.

Tel : 0094-011-2390719
Fax : 0094-011-2390720



NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK

INVITATION FOR BIDS

NSB/MPC/NCB/HRD/SEC/2020

Bidding for Providing Security Services for the National Savings Bank

The Chairman Ministry Procurement Committee on behalf of the National Savings Bank, No.255, Galle Road, Colombo 03, now invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified bidders to provide Security Services on outsourced basis for all branches and Head Office of the Bank for the categories mentioned below.

Description of the Procurement	Bidders shall submit their Bid/s for one lot or more or all five lots. A Bidder who submits for more than one lot shall separately submit the bidding forms in Section III (Bidder Information, Bid Security, Bid Submission Form, Price Schedule) for each lot as specified in the bidding documents.																																		
Nature of Procurement	Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding																																		
Requisite categories of security services as per lots	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Lot No.</th> <th colspan="4">Number of Personnel Required</th> </tr> <tr> <th>SO</th> <th>JSO</th> <th>LSO</th> <th>Gunman</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Lot 01 (Western 01 & Western 02)</td> <td>-</td> <td>35</td> <td>4</td> <td>177</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lot 02 (Northern & Eastern)</td> <td>-</td> <td>42</td> <td>-</td> <td>77</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lot 03 (North Western & Central)</td> <td>-</td> <td>16</td> <td>1</td> <td>157</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lot 04 (Sabaragamuwa & Southern)</td> <td>-</td> <td>7</td> <td>1</td> <td>158</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lot 05 (Head Office)</td> <td>12</td> <td>07</td> <td>09</td> <td>38</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Lot No.	Number of Personnel Required				SO	JSO	LSO	Gunman	Lot 01 (Western 01 & Western 02)	-	35	4	177	Lot 02 (Northern & Eastern)	-	42	-	77	Lot 03 (North Western & Central)	-	16	1	157	Lot 04 (Sabaragamuwa & Southern)	-	7	1	158	Lot 05 (Head Office)	12	07	09	38
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Lot 05 (Head Office)	12	07	09	38																															
Applicable Non-Refundable Tender Fee	Rs. 25,000/=																																		
Bid Validity Period	Valid for a minimum period of 180 calendar days (till 21/03/2021) from the date of opening the Bids.																																		
Last Date & Time of Issuing Bid Documents	22/09/2020 at 10.00 a.m.																																		
Date & Time of Closing Tender	22/09/2020 at 2.00 p.m.																																		
Mandatory Pre-Qualifications (with documentary evidence)																																			

- Registered with the Ministry of Defence as a Security Service Provider with Fire Arms.
- Registered in Sri Lanka under the Business Registration or incorporated under the Companies Act.
- The Bidder should have been providing security services at least for a total completed period of five years since 2010 (continuously or on staggered basis) to Govt./Private/Public sector institutions while assigning at least 100 security personnel to any single institute.
- Out of the above five years, providing security services to Banks for a total completed period of two years (continuously or on staggered basis) while assigning at least 75 security personnel to any single Bank.
- Financial Stability - Minimum average turnover Rs.100 Million over last three consecutive financial years (i.e. year 2017, 2018, 2019), based on the audited financial statements.
- Minimum average work force of 200 security personnel over last five years.

The Bidder will be disqualified from further evaluation if any of the above mandatory pre-qualifications is not fulfilled.

In addition to the above Mandatory Pre-Qualifications, a minimum salary of Rs.13,500/- should be considered for EPF deduction and the Bidder should further satisfy the criteria mentioned in the bidding document as well.

Intended Service Period	365 Days (01 year) from the date of contract.
Further Information and inspecting documents	Asst. General Manager (HRD), National Savings Bank, 255, Galle Road, Colombo 03. (Telephone 011-2575425, email agm.hrd@nsb.lk) till 17/09/2020 between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on working days.
Collecting of Bid Documents	A complete set of bidding documents in English language may be obtained on submission of a written request made on a company letterhead (original) to Asst. General Manager (HRD) of National Savings Bank between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on working days from 31/08/2020 till 10.00 a.m. on 22/09/2020.
Bid Delivery	Bids addressed to The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee, National Savings Bank, 255, Galle Road, Colombo 03 shall be deposited in the tender box available at the Supplies Division on or before 2.00 p.m. on 22/09/2020. Late bids shall be rejected.
Pre-Bid Meeting	10th September 2020 at 10.00 a.m. at Head Office, National Savings Bank, 255, Galle Road, Colombo 03
Bid Opening	Bids will be opened soon after the closing of bids, at the Supplies Division in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives who are nominated to be present.

The National Savings Bank reserves the right of rejecting/cancelling any or all Bids and the right of accepting any portion of a bid without adducing any reasons.

The Chairman - Ministry Procurement Committee,
National Savings Bank,
No. 255, Galle Road,
Colombo 3.



PROCUREMENT NOTICE - GLOBAL

**MINISTRY PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE,
MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee of The Ministry of Health, will receive sealed bids for Supply of following items to the Department of Health Services.

Bid Number	Closing Date & Time	Item Description	Date of Issuing of Bid Documents	Non refundable Bid Fee per set (LKR)
DHS/M/S/WW/3/21	14.10.2020 at 11.00 a.m.	Dural Graft Matrix, absorbable, various sizes	31.08.2020	60,000.00 + Taxes

Bids should be prepared as per the particulars given in the Bidding Documents available to prospective Bidders on working days between 0930 hours and 1500 hours from above dates at the Head Office, No. 75, Sir Baron Jayatillake Mawatha, Colombo 1. These could be purchased on cash payment of a **non-refundable Bidding document fee per set as mentioned above**. Offers received without enclosing original payment receipt are liable to be rejected.

"Wherever necessary potential bidder / bidders should get registered in terms of the Public Contract Act No. 3 of 1987 before collecting the Bidding Documents and also should get the contract registered after the tender is awarded".

All Bids should be accompanied by a Bid Bond as specified in the Bidding Document.

Sealed Bids may be sent by post under registered cover or may be personally deposited in the box available for this purpose at Internal Audit Department in the Mezzanine Floor of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation at No. 75, Sir Baron Jayatillake Mawatha, Colombo 1, Sri Lanka.

Bids will be closed at the Head Office of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation on the dates and time mentioned above and will be opened immediately thereafter.

Bidders or their authorized Representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of Bids.

Bidding documents are being sent to Sri Lanka missions abroad and foreign missions in Sri Lanka.

**CHAIRMAN - MINISTRY PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE,
MINISTRY OF HEALTH,
C/o STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA
75, SIR BARON JAYATHILLAKE MAWATHA,
COLOMBO 01,
SRI LANKA.**

Tel/Fax : 00 94-11-2335008
E-MAIL : dgmsurgical@spc.lk



**TENDER NOTICE
STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA**

Invitation for Bids - Hiring of Motor Cars

Tender No : AD/TR/Hiring of Vehicles/111/2020

Closing on :15.09.2020 @ 11.00 a.m.

State Pharmaceuticals Corporation will receive sealed quotations for hiring of Motor Cars (800 cc - 1000 cc) in good condition for the use of Product Information Representatives at Marketing Division.

Vehicle is for the single use on self driving basis and monthly usage is approximately 2600 km. Supply of vehicle should be under following conditions.

1. Vehicle should not be older than 05 years since its manufacture.
2. Vehicle should be with a full insurance coverage (certified copies of revenue licence, Insurance & registration should be attached to the offer)
3. Supplier is responsible for monthly service & maintenance, Corporation will bear the maintenance cost less than Rs.1,000/=.
4. Supplier should provide supplementary vehicle if it takes more than three days for the repair.
5. Corporation will bear the cost of fuel.
6. Tenderer should give three months' notice if the contract ceases before the expiry.
7. If the tenderer is not the registered owner, the letter of authorization from the vehicle-owner & owner's certified NIC copy should be attached to the offer.
8. Should attach the original receipt obtained from SPC cashier for **non-refundable fee of Rs. 5,000/= with each and every Bid**.
9. Selected bidders should enter into an agreement with the Corporation.

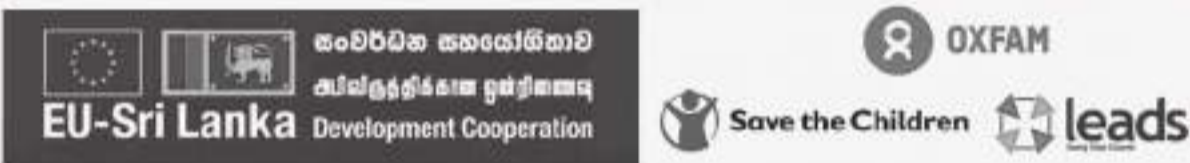
The tender should be indicated as per the format given below ;

01	Name of the Tenderer	
02	Contact details of the Tenderer (Address, Telephone Nos. etc...)	
03	Description of the vehicle	
04	Make/ Model of the vehicle Year of Manufacture (After 2015)	
05	Registration No.	
06	Registered Owner's Name	
07	Vehicle in good condition with AC (Y/N)	
08	Auto Transmission (Y/N)	
09	Average Mileage per Liter (not less than 12 Km)	
10	Monthly Rental (Rs.)	
11	Rate for additional KM (Rs.)	

Tenders should be submitted in duplicate, under sealed cover, addressed to the under mentioned address and should be sent through registered post or place in the tender box kept in the ground floor of the above address to reach at or before 11.00 a.m. on 15.09.2020. Envelopes containing the complete tender document should be marked on the top left hand corner with **"AD/TR/Hiring of Vehicles/111/2020, 15.09.2020 @ 11.00 a.m."**

Tenders will be opened immediately after closing of tenders on 15.09.2020 at 11.00 a.m. Tenderers or their authorized representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of tenders.

**The Chairman - Departmental Procurement Committee,
State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka,
75, Sir Baron Jayatillake Mawatha,
Colombo 1.
Telephone Nos. 011 2320356 - 9**



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS/Quotation

**EGSD Project in Uva and Central Provinces,
Sri Lanka**

Save the Children International in Sri Lanka is inviting submissions for the below services to be provided for Badulla, Monaragala and Nuwara Eliya districts, under the EGSD project in Uva and Central provinces:

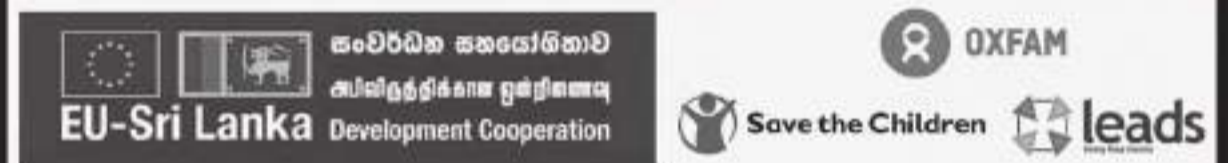
Professional Services (for next 2 years)

1. Skills & Job Fairs
2. Career Guidance forums
3. Training of Trainers on Career Guidance & Personality Development
4. Develop handbooks on Career Guidance
5. Create awareness for youth to visit education and information centers

Enhancing Gender inclusive Socio-economic Development (EGSD) project is funded by the European Union. The project aims to contribute to the increase of income levels and the reduction of poverty and inequality among rural and estate communities. This is part of EU's assistance to the Sri Lankan government in order to address the underpinning issues for persisting poverty and other vulnerabilities of the population in the two provinces. This is jointly implemented by Save the Children, Oxfam and LEADS.

Interested individuals or organizations can contact Supply Chain Manager at tenders.srilanka@savethechildren.org to express your interest and obtain the detailed Terms of Reference for the aforementioned on or before **5th September 2020**

Save the Children
18, Sinsapa Road, Colombo 6
011 255 5336



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS/Quotation

**EGSD Project in Uva and Central Provinces,
Sri Lanka**

Save the Children International in Sri Lanka is inviting submissions for the below services to be provided for Badulla, Monaragala and Nuwara Eliya districts, under the EGSD project in Uva and Central provinces:

Computer Hardware/equipment (for next 2 years)

1. Multimedia screens & projectors
2. Laptops Computers
3. Laptop security cables
4. Printers (Deskjet & LaserJet)

Enhancing Gender inclusive Socio-economic Development (EGSD) project is funded by the European Union. The project aims to contribute to the increase of income levels and the reduction of poverty and inequality among rural and estate communities. This is part of EU's assistance to the Sri Lankan government in order to address the underpinning issues for persisting poverty and other vulnerabilities of the population in the two provinces. This is jointly implemented by Save the Children, Oxfam and LEADS.

Interested individuals or organizations can contact Supply Chain Manager at tenders.srilanka@savethechildren.org to express your interest and obtain the detailed Terms of Reference for the aforementioned on or before **5th September 2020**

Save the Children
18, Sinsapa Road, Colombo 6
011 255 5336



Request for Proposals

MID-TERM REVIEW OF ENHANCING GENDER INCLUSIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (EGSD) IN UVA AND CENTRAL PROVINCES OF SRI LANKA

OXFAM is calling for expression of Interest (EOI) from qualified and experienced consultancy firms/ individuals who are competent in conducting a survey for the above purpose.

Oxfam has been working in Sri Lanka for over three decades supporting the country through the continuous delivery of humanitarian and development programs. Following the evolution of the country's development curve, Oxfam's programme focus has shifted towards economic development, DRR and resilience, and gender equality programs. The underlining themes of all our work are good governance, gender equity and equality, climate change and access to rights.

The Enhancing Gender Inclusive Socio-Economic Development In Uva and Central Provinces (EGSD) project works in the Central (Nuwara Eliya) and Uva (Monaragala and Badulla) provinces and intends to contribute to increasing income levels and reducing poverty and inequality among rural and the estate communities in these the Central and Uva provinces, Sri Lanka. Oxfam, Save the Children International and LEADS jointly implement this project.

Detailed Terms of Reference (ToR, including the qualifications of prospective consultant / contractor) can be accessed at: <https://oxfam.box.com/v/MidtermToR-EGSD>

Those with strong experience in carrying out similar work, preferably in the aforementioned areas, are invited to submit their proposals (Technical and Financial proposals in separate envelope) in a sealed envelope in accordance with the ToR, on or before 5.00pm on 11th September, 2020. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

Procurement Department,
OXFAM,
15, Manthri Place
Colombo 05
Tel 2585955 / 6

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UNFPA Request for Quotation

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is the lead UN agency addressing that expands the possibilities for women and young people to lead healthy sexual and reproductive lives.

RFQ N° UNFPA/LKA/RFQ/2020/09

Delivery of training on results-based culture and adaptive management for UNFPA Sri Lanka Staff.

This Request for Quotation is open to all legally-constituted companies that can provide the requested services and have legal capacity to perform in Sri Lanka, or through an authorized representative. To view the detailed RFQ please visit the following website:

<https://srilanka.unfpa.org/en/>

Kindly note that upon successful selection, you will be required to submit your company profile and a copy of your company registration for review purposes.



PROCUREMENT NOTICE

STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA

The Chairman, Procurement Committee of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, Colombo 01 invites sealed quotations from registered and previous sources for following items and bids will be closed at the respective times on the dates given below and will be opened immediately thereafter.

(E. mail /Fax offers as well as FOB offers are not acceptable)

Sealed Bids may be sent by post under registered cover or may be personally deposited in the box available for this purpose at Internal Audit Department in the Mezzanine Floor of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation at No. 75, Sir Baron Jayatillake Mawatha, Colombo 1, Sri Lanka.

Bidders or their authorised representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of Bids.

SURGICAL SPECIAL ITEMS

Tender No.	Closing Date	Closing Time	Item	Quantity
DHS/RSS/RQ/60/20	09.09.2020	2.00 pm	Pathogen Inactivation Kit (Intercept Blood System) for CERUS Illuminator.	250 Kit
DHS/RSS/RQ/61/20	09.09.2020	2.00 pm	Surgical Consumables	Please refer SPC website www.spc.lk
DHS/RSS/RQ/62/20	09.09.2020	2.00 pm	Surgical Consumables	Please refer SPC website www.spc.lk
DHS/RSS/RQ/63/20	11.09.2020	2.00 pm	Cardioplegia Delivery Set, paediatric, ratio 4:1, size 16Fr	700 Nos.
DHS/RSS/RQ/64/20	11.09.2020	2.00 pm	Surgical Non - Consumables	Please refer SPC website www.spc.lk
DHS/RSS/RQ/65/20	16.09.2020	2.00 pm	Surgical Consumables	Please refer SPC website www.spc.lk
DHS/RSS/RQ/202/19	09.09.2020	2.00 pm	The condom should be made of natural rubber latex.	290,000 Nos.
DHS/RSS/RQ/203/19	11.09.2020	2.00 pm	Laryngeal Stent, Montgomery type or similar, adult size, sterile.	75 Nos.

SURGICAL ANNUAL ITEMS

TENDER NO/ BID REFERENCE	CLOSING DATE	CLOSING TIME	ITEM	QTY
DHS/RS/RQ/62/20	08.09.2020	2.00 P.M.	Oxygen Flow Meter and Regulator with Gauge and non-disposable, transparent, sterilizable Humidifier	640 Nos.
DHS/RS/RQ/64/20	11.09.2020	2.00 P.M.	UGI Endoscopic, ERCP Billiary cytology brush	40 Nos.

LAB ITEMS

TENDER NO/BID REFERENCE	CLOSING DATE	CLOSING TIME	ITEM	QTY
DHS/RL/103MHR/19	10.09.2020	2.30 P.M.	04/41221301 -Collection swab with media for Herpes simplex virus	1,000 Nos.
DHS/RL/52NK/20	10.09.2020	2.30 P.M.	59000225 -Barium Enema disposable Kit, for double contrast studies, comprising approximate 2500cc bag with 400g of Barium. The Kit should contain bag, enema tube, enema tube clamp, enema tip, retention cuff, inflator for the retention cuff, inflator tube, inflator clamp, air insufflator, air insufflator tube (all components should be included in a single pack)	1,000 Packs
DHS/RL/54CPW/20	14.09.2020	2.30 P.M.	14/42868101 -Hantavirus antibody - Indirect immunofluorescence 15/42868102-Hantavirus - Anti Hanta Virus IgM antibody ICT	11 kits 2,000 strips
DHS/RL/53SM/20	10.09.2020	2.30 P.M.	Lab Items	Please refer SPC web site www.spc.lk

Bids should be prepared as per particulars given in the Bidding Documents available at the Head Office of State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, No.75, Sir Baron Jayatillake Mawatha, Colombo 1.

Wherever necessary potential bidder/bidders should get registered in terms of the Public Contract Act No.3 of 1987 before collecting the Bid Documents and also should get the contract registered after the award.

**CHAIRMAN -PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE
STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA
75, SIR BARON JAYATILLAKE MAWATHA
COLOMBO 1
SRI LANKA.**

**FAX : 00 94-11- 2335008/2344082
TELEPHONE : 00 94-11- 2335008/2326227/2335374
E-MAIL : dgmsurgical@spc.lk**



TENDER NOTICE

STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA

The State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, Colombo 01 invites quotations from registered and previous sources for following items for open market sales and tenders will be closed at 1.15 p.m. on the dates given below. (E.mail /Fax offers as well as FOB offers are not acceptable)

Item	Quantity	Tender No.	Closing on
Chorionic Gonadotrophin for Injection BP 5000iu in a vial OR Chorionic Gonadotrophin Powder for Solution for Injection USP 5000 Units in 1vial of drug and 1 ampoule of 1-2ml.0.9% Sodium Chloride Inj. Individually packed	15,000 Vials	RES/10/09/A/2020	10.09.2020
Chloramphenicol Sodium Succinate for Injection BP/USP 500mg. Packed in a carton.	3,000 Vials	RES/10/09/B/2020	10.09.2020
Atenolol Tablets BP/USP 25mg In 14 x 10 Tablets (Blister)	36,000 Packs	RES/14/09/A/2020	14.09.2020
Gentamicin Eye Drops BP 0.3% w/v OR Gentamicin Sulfate Ophthalmic Solution USP 0.3% w/v in 5ml dropper bottle. Packed Individually.	125,000 Bottles	RES/14/09/B/2020	14.09.2020
Celecoxib Capsules 200mg In 10 x 10 Capsules (Blister)	36,000 Packs	RES/14/09/C/2020	14.09.2020
Urethral Drainage Catheter Foley, Size : 16FG x 40cm x 30ml -Balloon Packed individually	9,000 Nos	RES/14/09/D/2020	14.09.2020
Urethral Drainage Catheter Foley Size : 20FG x 40cm x 30ml - Balloon Size Packed individually	2,400 Nos	RES/14/09/E/2020	14.09.2020
Urethral Drainage Catheter Foley Two way with 30ml - Balloon Size : 18FG x 40cm Packed individually.	7,200 Nos	RES/14/09/F/2020	14.09.2020
Clobetasol Ointment BP/Clobetasol Propionate Ointment USP 0.05% w/w in 15g tube. Packed in a carton	60,000 Tubes	RES/14/09/G/2020	14.09.2020
Theophylline Extended Release Tablet 125mg in 500 Tablets	6,000 Packs	RES/14/09/H/2020	14.09.2020
Olanzapine Tablets 5mg In 10 x 10 Tablets (Blister)	24,000 Packs	RES/14/09/I/2020	14.09.2020
Miconazole Cream BP/Miconazole Nitrate Cream USP 2% w/v in 15g tube Packed in a carton.	210,000 Tubes	RES/14/09/J/2020	14.09.2020
Meloxicam Tablets BP 7.5mg In 10 x 10 Tablets (Blister)	84,000 Packs	RES/16/09/A/2020	16.09.2020
Sodium Citrate, Sodium Lauryl Sulphate and Glycerin Enema in 20ml plastic bottle Packed in a carton.	7,200 Bottles	RES/16/09/B/2020	16.09.2020
Open-Wove Bandage BP (1988) Type 2 (White)Finished Width : 2.5 inches or 6.25cm Unstretched Length : 5 yards or 4.5m or Ceylon Standard 172 : 1999 (For bandage cloth) In 12 Rolls	12,000 Packs	RES/16/09/C/2020	16.09.2020
Metformin Slow Release Tablets 500mg In 10 x 10 Tablets (Blister)	120,000 Packs	RES/16/09/D/2020	16.09.2020
Co-Trimoxazole Tablets BP 480mg OR Sulfamethoxazole and Trimethoprim Tablets USP 480mg in 1000 Tablets	4,000 Packs	RES/16/09/E/2020	16.09.2020
Gastro Resistant Aspirin Tablets BP 100mg OR Aspirin Delayed Release Tablets USP 100mg in 10 x 30 Tablets (Blister)	9,000 Packs	RES/16/09/F/2020	16.09.2020
Chlordiazepoxide Tablets BP/USP 5mg In 500 Tablets	4,000 Packs	RES/16/09/G/2020	16.09.2020
Telmisartan Tablets 20mg In 3 x 10 Tablets (Blister)	36,000 Packs	RES/16/09/H/2020	16.09.2020
Absorbent Cotton Gauze Type 13 BP 1988 OR Absorbent Cotton Gauze SLS 395 : 1985 (Add 87 :1987)Finished Width 36 inches or 91cm unstretched Length 6 yards or 5.5m Packed individually	24,000 Rolls	RES/16/09/I/2020	16.09.2020
Cervical Collar, Soft, Large Packed individually.	1,200 Nos	RES/16/09/J/2020	16.09.2020
Absorbent Cotton BP OR Purified Cotton USP OR Absorbent Cotton SLS 285 : 1998 (1 st Revision) in 500g	12,000 Packs	RES/16/09/K/2020	16.09.2020

These tenders are administered by the provisions of the "Public Contract Act No. 3 of 1987" and therefore, in the event bidder is to retain an Agent, Sub-Agent, Representative, Nominee for and on behalf of tenderer shall register himself and such Public Contract in accordance with the section 10 of the Public Contract Act and produce such valid certificate of registration in the course of any transaction relating to the tender or Act at any stage in the duration of the tender.

Tenders will be closed at the office of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation at 1.15 p.m. on the dates indicated against each tender and will be opened immediately thereafter. Tenderers or their authorized representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of Tender.

**The Chairman - Procurement Committee
State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka
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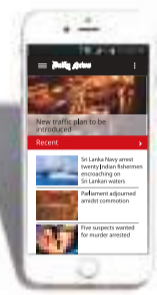
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Invitation for Bids

Western Provincial Department of Health Services

Invitation of Bids for Canteen Services – 2020/2021

Applications are invited by the Chairman, Procurement Committee of Base Hospital, Homagama for maintaining the Canteen service of the Homagama Base Hospital for a period of one year from qualified bidders.

- Interested bidders may obtain bid documents from this office between 9.30 a.m. and 2.00 p.m. on working days from 31.08.2020 until 21.09.2020 on submission of the National Identity Card along with the receipt obtained upon payment of a non refundable application fee of Rs. 500.00 as bid document fee to the Accountant of the Base Hospital, Homagama.
- Bids, mentioning “Canteen Service of the Base Hospital, Homagama for year 2020/2021” on the left hand top corner of the envelope containing the bid, may either be sent by registered cover addressed to “Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee, Base Hospital, Homagama” or deposited in the bid box kept at the room of the Accountant, Base Hospital, Homagama to receive at or before 10.00 a.m. on 21.09.2020.
- Bids should be submitted in duplicate marked as “Original” and “Duplicate” in separate covers and should be submitted in a single cover enclosing both covers.
- Bids will be opened immediately after closing of bids at the same place and the bidder or his authorized representative will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of bids.
- Bid documents may be inspected free of charge at the Homagama Base Hospital.
- Bid documents will not be issued to those who have defaulted the government contract conditions and are blacklisted.
- Procurement Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any bid in full or part thereof.

**Chairman
Regional Procurement Committee
Base Hospital
Homagama**

**Tel. Nos : 011-2855200, 011-2098824, 0112-894780, 011-2098825
Fax: 011-2857844**

University of Sri Jayewardenepura



Invitation for Bids

Provision of Security Service for Zone A

Contract No. USJP/EIS/SEC/Z-A 2020/2021

- The Chairman, DPC on behalf of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for provision of Security Service - Zone A for the University of Sri Jayewardenepura.
- The intended service period is 365 Days.
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding.
- Bidders who have licence from the Ministry of Defence and compliance to the Minimum wage given by the Government such as National Minimum Wage of Workers Act No. 3 of 2016 & Budgetary Relief Allowance of workers Act No. 4 of 2016. Employees Provident Fund, Employees Trust Fund, Gratuity Act, Wages Board Ordinance, Shop and Office Act, Workman Compensation Act are eligible to bid for the provision of Security Service for the University of Sri Jayewardenepura.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Assistant Registrar, Establishments (Information & Services), University of Sri Jayewardenepura - Tel 011-2802856 and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from **31st August 2020 to 21st September 2020** between 9.00 hrs. & 14.30 hrs. on any working day.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rupees Three Thousand Five Hundred (Rs, 3,500.00) on working days from **31st August 2020 to 21st September 2020** between 0900 hrs. & 1430 hrs. The method of payment will be in cash to the University Shroff counter.
- A Pre-Bid meeting will be held at **10.30 a.m. on 10th September, 2020 at the Main Boardroom of the Administrative Building, University of Sri Jayewardenepura and it is compulsory. Only the Bidders who participate at this meeting could submit Bids for this purpose.**
- Bids will be closed at **10.30 a.m. on 22nd September 2020** at Main Boardroom of the Administrative Building, University of Sri Jayewardenepura.
- The Contract Number, Description and the opening date should be marked on the top left-hand corner of the envelope. Sealed bids should be submitted to reach the Assistant Registrar - Establishments (Information & Services), University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Gangodawila, Nugegoda by registered post or deposited in the “Tender Box” available at the aforesaid address at or before **10.30 a.m.** (tender closing time) on **22nd September, 2020** (tender closing date). All late bids will be rejected and returned to the bidder unopened. Proofs of posting will not be accepted in case of any delay. Bids will be opened immediately after the closure of the bid submission time. Bidders or their authorized representatives (one representative for each bidder) may participate at the bid opening.
- Final decision will be made by the Department Procurement Committee.
- Bids shall be valid until 13th January 2021.
- Each Bid shall be accompanied by a Bid Security for an amount given in bidding data.

The addresses referred to above are;

For inspection of Bidding Documents, submission of application for Bidding Documents and Delivery of Bidding Documents:

Assistant Registrar,
Establishments (Information & Services Division),
University of Sri Jayewardenepura,
Gangodawila,
Nugegoda.

For Bid opening:

Main Boardroom of the Administrative Building,
University of Sri Jayewardenepura,
Gangodawila,
Nugegoda.

**Chairman/DPC,
University of Sri Jayewardenepura.
26.08.2020**



MINISTRY OF TOURISM

SRI LANKA CONVENTION BUREAU (SLCB)

Invitation of Bids for Sale of Used Car

The Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee of Sri Lanka Convention Bureau invites sealed proposals from the interested bidders on disposal of a used car.

Vehicle No.	Category	Model	Year of Manufacture	Non-refundable Fee (Rs)	Bid Security Deposit (Rs)
WP KJ -XXXX	NISSAN	SUNNY EX SALOON Car	2010	500/=	10,000/=

- The prospective bidders will have to collect the Bid Application from the Procurement Unit at the Sri Lanka Convention Bureau. The vehicle could be inspected on weekdays (Government working days) till **18th September 2020 from 9.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.** at the SLCB office premises.
- A Complete set of Bid Applications in English language shall be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written request to the Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee, Sri Lanka Convention Bureau, 4th Floor, Hotel School Building, No.78, Galle Road, Colombo 03 and upon payment of a **non-refundable fee of LKR. 500.00** on working days **from 9.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.** up to the date of Bid closing.
- Sealed bids with the duplicate dispatched either by registered post or hand delivered to Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee, Sri Lanka Convention Bureau, 4th Floor, Hotel School Building, No.78, Galle Road, Colombo 03 on or before **2.00 p.m. on 21st September 2020**. It should be marked as “Disposal of a used NISSAN SUNNY EX SALOON Car (WP KJ -XXXX).” at the left-hand corner of the envelope. Bids will be opened soon after closing time at the Procurement Division Sri Lanka Convention Bureau in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend. Late bids will be rejected.
- Bids will be valid up to 49 days from the date of closing of bids.
- Bids will be submitted accompanied by **Refundable Guarantee** for a value of **Sri Lankan Rupees Ten Thousand (LKR 10,000.00)** and should be paid in cash to Finance Division (SLCB).
- The Awarded Bidder should pay 25% of the Bid Price to reserve the vehicle at the receipt of acceptance. And remaining 75% amount will be settled within 7 days of the receipt of acceptance. If the Bidder fails to settle the whole amount within 7 days the paid 25% payment and the Refundable deposit will be considered as non-refundable.
- The Departmental Procurement Committee's Decision will be the final decision. Further, SLCB has the right to accept or reject any bid without adducing any reasons.

**Chairman
Departmental Procurement Committee
Sri Lanka Convention Bureau,
Procurement Division.**

Contact No. 0114865050 Ext: 19

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

Ministry of Defence

Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda - Supply of Set Retarding / High Range Water Reducing / Super Plasticizing Admixtures (40644 Ltr) for Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda

Contract (Bid) Number: DHOC/PROC/2020/YARD/20-A

- The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC) on behalf of the Ministry of Defence invites competitive sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for **Supply of Set Retarding/High Range Water Reducing/Super Plasticizing Admixtures - 40644 Ltr for Construction of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda.**
- The Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla from 31st August 2020 until 21st September 2020 from 0900 hrs to 1600hrs** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Three Thousand Five Hundred Sri Lankan Rupees (LKR 3,500.00)**. The method of payment will be in Cash/Bank draft in favour of **Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project.**
- Bids shall be valid up to 21st December 2020 (91 days from the date of Bid Opening both days inclusive).
- To be eligible for contract award;
 - Bidder shall have been registered as a business entity in Sri Lanka for at least Three (3) years.
 - Bidder shall pay Testing charges when the Technical evaluation process proceeds.
 - Sealed and labelled 11 Ltr. of sample should be submitted at the time of tender opening.

Bidders who do not comply with this mandatory qualification criterion shall be considered as non-responsive.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents may be collected by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the address: **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.**
- Duly completed Bids shall be delivered to: **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** on or before **1000hrs on 21st September 2020**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person at **Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.**
- All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid-Security of **Sri Lankan Rupee One Hundred Fifty Thousand Three Hundred Eighty Two point Eighty (LKR 150,382.80)** obtained from a reputed commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. This Bid Security shall be in the form of an unconditional and on demand guarantee acceptable to Purchaser.(150 days from the date of Bid Opening, both days inclusive).
- Bidders are strongly advised to present the registration certificate under the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987 (when relevant), before collecting the Bidding Document from The Chairman, **Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.**
- A pre bid meeting will be held at **1100 hrs on 14th September 2020** at Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda, Palawatta, Battaramulla.
- Bidders are advised to inform in writing to the The Chairman, **Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla**, the name and the NIC/ Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

**The Chairman,
Regional Procurement Committee (RPC),
Defence Headquarters Complex Project,
Akuregoda Road,
Pelawatta,
Battaramulla.**

Tel: 0094-011-2787047

Fax: 0094-011-4209885

E-mail: dhqcproc2015@gmail.com



Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

SRI LANKAN-GERMAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH is a global service provider in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development with more than 18,000 employees. GIZ supports the German Government and public and private sector clients in around 130 countries in achieving their objectives in international cooperation. The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) is our main commissioning party, but we also work with the private sector, fostering successful interaction between development policy and foreign trade. GIZ has been working in Sri Lanka on behalf of the BMZ since 1956.

GIZ Sri Lanka on behalf of the GIZ-VTSL Project invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified companies to: Execute Establishment based cooperative training in Hospitality sector in Northern part of Sri Lanka; to improve (i) practical skills required for housekeepers and restaurant waiters, and the (ii) communication skills in colloquial English. The initiative focuses on two target groups, including (i) In-company trainer/hoteliers, and (ii) Trainees (housekeepers and waiters).

Task:

- Develop and execute a rapid survey to assess the skills needed by hotel staff responsible for implementing the practical-oriented training.
- Develop a training course for all in-company trainer.
- Implement a training course for all in-company trainer.
- Develop and implement a rapid survey to assess the skills needed for housekeepers and restaurant waiters.
- Develop and coordinate the implementation of two practical skills-oriented training courses, i.e. one for housekeepers and another for restaurant waiters.
- Develop and execute a rapid assessment for testing the colloquial English skill of trainees.
- Develop and execute a colloquial English training course for up to 40 trainees in parallel to the two hospitality training courses.

1. Services required

- Consult with the participating hoteliers aiming to get a comprehensive understanding of the technical and teaching skills required by hotel staff responsible for implementing the practical-oriented training.
- Based on the findings of the technical assessment #1 for training plan development, develop a proposal covering up to 10 days of training and consult with the participating hotel management.
- Based on the training course design and provide suitable implementation support for a ToT course (up to 10 days of training) with trainee-centered learning methods applicable in establishment-based training environment.
- Consult with the participating hoteliers aiming to get a comprehensive understanding of practical skills needs for housekeepers and restaurant waiters.
- Based on the findings of the technical assessment #1 for training course development, develop two proposals with detailed and measurable learning outcomes.
- Execution of each training course to ensure that all stakeholder coordinate successfully and achieve the agreed learning outcomes.
- Develop and execute an examination-relevant theory training according to relevant NVQ level 3 module descriptors for all trainees.
- Assess the colloquial English language skills of the target group. The language assessment shall be used to group trainees according to their skill level.
- Provide the findings in a report which will serve as the basis for developing an in-company training course for colloquial English required by the target groups.
- Provide a proposal for a colloquial English training course considering the trainees' existing language skills. Total course duration shall be 72 hours, two classes a week for up to 24 weeks. One learning session should last at minimum 1.5 hours

To be eligible for contract award, Bidders should have; resources personals with below qualifications (for key positions, please refer ToR for detailed information).

Project Management:

- Education/training: University qualification (German 'Diplom' / BSc/MSc) in hospitality or any other relevant field.
- Specific professional experience: 10 years in project management and backstopping
- Leadership/management experience: 6 years of management/leadership experience as project team leader or manager in a company
- Regional experience: 5 years of experience in projects in Sri Lanka, of which 2 years in projects in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka, ideally in Jaffna.
- Development Cooperation (DC) experience: Desirable and an added value - Language (2.1.2): Good business language skills in English and Tamil
- Development Cooperation (DC) experience: Desirable and an added value

Technical Experts Hospitality

- Education/training: University qualification (German 'Diplom' / BSc/MSc) in hospitality.
- General professional experience: 10 years of professional experience in the hospitality training.
- Language: Very good business language skills in English

Technical Experts English

- Education/training: University qualification (German 'Diplom' / BSc/MSc) in hospitality
- General professional experience: 5 years of professional experience in teaching English as a second language
- Specific professional experience:
 - 3 years of experience in developing custom-made English language training interventions in the hospitality sector;
 - 3 years of experience in using student-centered and activity-based teaching methodologies with a focus on the communicative approach of foreign language methodology, and
 - 3 years of experience in analyzing and developing colloquial English skills and develop training plans for improvement.

Professional companies who are interested in bidding could, obtain the detailed bid documents via LK_Quotation@giz.de from 31st August - 04th September 2020.

All bid documents must - mention in the email header as follows: Tender no: "83361753 to Execute Establishment based cooperative training in Hospitality sector in Northern part of Sri Lanka"

Proposals need to be submitted to the GIZ country office Tender box on or before 17.09.2020 at 4.30 p.m.

INVITATION FOR BIDS

PEOPLE'S BANK

Construction of Proposed Bank Branch Building for People's Bank at Galkiriyagama

CONTRACT NO. 34/2020

- The **Chief Manager (Engineering Services), Engineering Services Department People's Bank, No.75, Sir Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mawatha, Colombo 02**, invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Construction of proposed Branch Office Building for the People's Bank at Galkiriyagama, as described below and estimated to cost approximately **Rs. 17.00 million (Excluding VAT)**.


The proposed building is a single storeyed building having total floor area of approximately 2340 sq.ft. which comprises of reinforced concrete structure, Brick masonry walls, Tempered glass partitions and doors, Aluminium doors and windows, Floor, Walls and Ceiling finishes and Building services such as Plumbing, Electrical etc.

The proposed building will be constructed in People's Bank land block at Galkiriyagama in Anuradhapura District.

The construction period is 210 days.
- Bidding will be conducted through **National Competitive Bidding** Procedure.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful Bidder **shall not have been blacklisted and shall meet the following requirements;**

Registered with the Institute for Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA) for Grade C5 or above in the field of Building Construction.
- Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:
 - Average annual turnover of construction work performed in the last 5 years shall be at least Sri Lankan Rupees **40 Million (Rs. 40,000,000.00)**.
 - Experience in successfully completion as main contractor of one construction project of similar nature and complexity with a project value at least **Rs. 25 Million** and completed within **07 months**, or a higher project value completed within a proportionate time period, during last five years.
 - The minimum amount of liquid assets and/or project specify revolving line of credit facilities (after setting apart for other contractual commitments) and exclusive of any advance payments which may be made under this Contract shall be not less than **Rs. 5.0 million**.
- Interested Bidders may obtain further information from **Chief Manager (Engineering Services), Engineering Services Department, 6th Floor, People's Bank Head Office Building, No. 75, Sir Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mawatha, Colombo 02 (Tel. 0112481513, Fax. 0112341591)** and inspect the bidding documents during normal working hours from **09.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. from 02.09.2020 until 22.09.2020**.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested Bidders on submission of a written application to the **Chief Manager (Engineering Services)** at the above address from **02.09.2020 until 22.09.2020 from 09.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rupees Five Thousand (**Rs. 5,000.00**) only. The method of payment will be in cash.
- Sealed bids in duplicate shall be marked "**Proposed Branch Office Building for People's Bank at Galkiriyagama**" on the top left hand corner and deposited in the Tender Box available at the office of the **Chief Manager (Engineering Services), Engineering Services Department, 6th Floor, People's Bank Head Office Building at No.75, Sir Chittampalam A Gardiner Mawatha, Colombo 02** or sent by registered post addressed to the **Chief Manager (Engineering Services), Engineering Services Department** of the above address to reach him at or before **3.00 p.m. on 23.09.2020**. Late bids shall be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- Bids shall be valid up to **23.12.2020**.
- All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security of **Sri Lankan Rs. One Hundred and Seventy Thousand only (Rs. 170,000.00)** obtained only from a reputed commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka other than People's Bank. Bid Security shall be valid up to **20.01.2021**.
- Pre-bid meeting will be held at **10.00 a.m. on 11.09.2020 at the Engineering Services Department, 6th Floor, People's Bank, Head Office, Colombo 02**.

Chief Manager (Engineering Services), Engineering Services Department, 6th Floor, People's Bank Head Office Building, No.75, Sir Chittampalam A Gardiner Mawatha, Colombo 02.



www.peoplesbank.lk

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UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Lab Equipment and Machineries / Computers / Tablet PCs / Laptops

Chairman, Department Procurement Committee (Major / Minor), University of Colombo, Colombo 03 invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for Supply and Delivery of above goods and services. Interested and eligible bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents from places indicated in Column 04 of the below table from 9.00 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. free of charge or by visiting the university website : <http://www.cmb.ac.lk> to inspect the document.

A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written request upon payment of a non-refundable fee indicated in Column 05 of the below table for each set of bid documents during office hours (9.00 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. on any working day) till the day prior to the bid closing date. Non-refundable fee can be paid to the University of Colombo Main Collection Account of the People's Bank at Thimbirigasyaya Branch using the reference number 505170600013 from any branch of People's Bank.

Bids shall be deposited in the "Tender Box" available in the Registrar's Office of the University of Colombo or sent under registered cover to be received before the deadline to reach **"The Office of the Registrar, College House, University of Colombo, No. 94, Cumarathunga Munidasa Mawatha, Colombo- 03"**. Bids will be opened immediately after the bid closing time and date as indicated in Column 02, in the presence of Bidders and their authorized representatives. Late Bids will be rejected.

DPC - Department Procurement Committee

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Bid Number / Item Description	Bid Closing Date & Time	Procurement Committee	Place of the Purchase of Bid Documents / T.P. Numbers	Non-Refundable Fee (Rs.)	Value of Bid Security (Rs.)	Source of Funding	Cost Estimate (Rs.)
SAB/FS/NCB/2020/01 Supply, Installation, Commissioning & Training of 01 No. FTIR Spectrophotometer for Dept. of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, University of Colombo.	17.09.2020 Time : 2.30 p.m.	DPC	Accounts Branch, Faculty of Science University of Colombo Senior Assistant Bursar T.P. 0112500474	Rs. 2,000/=	Rs. 55,000/=	Chemistry Department Development Funds	Rs. 5,500,000/=

**The Chairman
Department Procurement Committee
University of Colombo
94, Cumarathunga Munidasa Mawatha, Colombo - 03.**

For classified advertisements and for replies

received in response to advertisements published under Lake House box numbers

Please Contact → **MANAGER FRONT OFFICE** → Hotline: 1949





General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

The University Hospital of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University is a full-fledged hospital complex with a 50 rooms hotel and a cafeteria constructed as a hotel cum patient relative accommodation to promote medical tourism. This facility is a unique feature which is not found in any of the hospitals in the country.

The General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) invites eligible bidders to express their interests to carry out management and operation of this facility at the University Hospital.

Bidders who have a proven track record of minimum 3 years' experience in providing hotel management services and a professional staff and adequate financial capacity are eligible to submit a comprehensive proposal.

Interested parties may obtain the Terms of Reference in this connection from the University Hospital, Kotelawala Defence University or from the official website of KDU in order to draft a proposal for competitive bidding.

The EOI shall be submitted to KDU in a sealed cover marked "EOI to select a hotel management service provider for the hotel/Patient relative accommodation" at the following address on or before 14 September 2020.

VICE CHANCELLOR
GENERAL SIR JOHN KOTELAWALA DEFENCE UNIVERSITY
KANDAWALA ROAD
RATHMALANA
Tel: 0112635268
Email: kdudefence@kdu.ac.lk
Web: <http://www.kdu.ac.lk/ocls/tender-notice>

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Ministry of Defence

Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda

Supply of Cable Trays for Block 03 and Block 04 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda.

Contract (Bid) Number : DHQC/CSLAN 03 & 04/2020

- The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC) of the Defence Headquarters Complex Project on behalf of the Ministry of Defence invites (National) competitive sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Supply of Cable Trays for Block 03 and Block 04 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee, C/o The Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla, from **0900 hrs to 1500 hrs** on any working day between **31st August 2020 and 21st September 2020**. Tel: 0094-011-4209885, Fax: 0094-011-4209885, E-mail: pmudhqc@gmail.com
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) Procedure under Standard Bidding Document of NPA/Goods/SBD 01 and Government Procurement Guidelines.
- To be eligible for Contract award;
Bidder shall be a registered business entity in Sri Lanka and be a manufacturer or an accredited agent in Sri Lanka for the supply of Cable Tray systems.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below: The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee, C/o The Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla and upon payment of a non-refundable fee Rupees Twelve Thousand and Five Hundred (Rs. 12,500.00). The method of payment shall be by cash.
- A pre bid meeting will be held at **1000 hrs on 09th September 2020** at the Defense Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
- Duly completed Bids shall be delivered to: The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla, on or before **1000 hrs. on 22nd September 2020**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person at Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
- All bids must be accompanied by a Bid-Security of **SLR 1,000,000.00** in the form of unconditional and on demand Guarantee obtained from a reputed commercial bank or surety acceptable to Purchaser operating in Sri Lanka which shall be valid up to **21st January 2021** (121 days after the closing of bids including both days).
- Bidders are strongly advised to present the registration certificate under the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987 (when relevant), before purchasing the Bidding Document.
- Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to the The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), C/o The Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla, the name and the NIC/ Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid Opening.

**The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee,
Defence Headquarters Complex Project,
Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta,
Battaramulla.**

Tel : 0094- 011 - 4209885
Fax : 0094 - 011 - 4209885
E-mail : pmudhqc@gmail.com



PROCUREMENT NOTICE - GLOBAL

MINISTRY PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE, MINISTRY OF HEALTH

The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee of The Ministry of Health will receive sealed bids for supply of following items to the Department of Health Services for year 2021.

Bid Number	Closing Date & Time	Item Description	Date of issue of Bidding Documents from	Non-refundable Bid Fee
DHS/P/M/WW/10/21	12.10.2020 at 11.00 a.m.	1,500,000 Vials of Meropenem Trihydrate BP/USP equivalent to 1g of anhydrous Meropenam as sterile dry white powder with sterile diluent for reconstitution. Packing- Individually packed	31.08.2020	Rs. 60,000/= + Taxes
DHS/P/M/WW/11/21	12.10.2020 at 11.00 a.m.	1,070,000 PF syringes of Epoetin Injection 4,000IU-5,000IU Pre-filled syringe	31.08.2020	Rs. 60,000/= + Taxes
DHS/P/M/WW/12/21	12.10.2020 at 11.00 a.m.	46,000,000 Tablets of Co-amoxiclav Tablets 625mg	31.08.2020	Rs. 60,000/= + Taxes
DHS/P/M/WW/13/21	13.10.2020 at 11.00 a.m.	375,000,000 Tablets of Aspirin enteric coated tablets BP 75mg blister pack Each Gastro-resistant tablet to contain 75mg of Aspirin BP or Aspirin delayed-release tablets USP 75mg blister pack Each tablet to contain 75mg of Aspirin USP	31.08.2020	Rs. 60,000/= + Taxes

Bids should be prepared as per the particulars given in the Bidding Documents available to prospective bidders on working days between 0930 hours and 1500 hours from above date at the Head Office of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, No.75, Sir Baron Jayatilake Mawatha, Colombo 1. These could be purchased on cash payment of a non-refundable Bid Fee per set as mentioned above. Offers received without enclosing original payment receipt are liable to be rejected.

Wherever necessary potential bidder/bidders should get registered in terms of the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987 before collecting the Bidding Documents and also should get the contract registered after the tender is awarded.

All Bids should be accompanied by a Bid Bond as specified in the Bidding Documents.

Sealed Bids may be sent by post under registered cover or may be personally deposited in the box available for this purpose at Internal Audit Department in Mezzanine Floor of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation at No. 75, Sir Baron Jayatilake Mawatha, Colombo 1, Sri Lanka.

Bids will be closed at the Head office of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation on the dates and time mentioned above and will be opened immediately thereafter. Bidders or their authorised representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of Bids.

Bidding Documents are being sent to Sri Lanka missions abroad and foreign missions in Sri Lanka.

**CHAIRMAN - MINISTRY PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH
C/O STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA
75, SIR BARON JAYATILAKE MAWATHA
COLOMBO 1
SRI LANKA.**

FAX : 00 94-11- 2344082
TELEPHONE : 00 94-11- 2326227/94-11-2335374
E-MAIL : pharma.manager@spc.lk



Institute of Technology, University of Moratuwa, Diyagama, Homagama

Procurement Notice

INVITATION FOR BIDS FOR CLEANING, JANITORIAL & GARDEN MAINTENANCE SERVICES OF THE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY - 2020/2021

- The Chairperson, Department Procurement Committee (Major), Institute of Technology, University of Moratuwa, Diyagama, Homagama, invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for providing following Services in the Institute Premises at Diyagama, Homagama for the period mentioned below.
 - Providing **Cleaning and Janitorial Service** for 03 Zones - 06.10.2020-05.10.2021
 - Providing **Road Cleaning & Garden Maintenance Service** - 05.12.2020 - 04.12.2021
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- Alternative Bids shall not be accepted.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall be a registered company in Sri Lanka under the Business registration regulation having minimum of three years' experience in the field of providing Cleaning Services, Garden Maintenance Service at the time of the submission of the bid and at least one similar project with a contract value of not less than Rs. 2.5 million.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from Assistant Registrar /General Administration and bidding documents may be inspected free of charge at the General Administration Division ITUM. Bid documents should be obtained separately for both services. Contact number is 0112124011
- Interested bidders are requested to inspect the premises prior to purchasing of bidding documents, during normal working days between 09:00 hrs and 15:00 hrs up to the deadline for closing of bids.
- A complete set of bidding documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application on a business Letterhead to the Assistant Registrar - General Administration (ITUM) between 09:00hrs and 15:00hrs on normal working days from **31st August 2020 up to 21st September 2020** upon payment of a non-refundable tender fee of Rs. 2,000/=
- Bids shall be delivered in duplicate by registered post to the address given below or deposited in the tender box kept in the Office of Assistant Registrar / ITUM Diyagama, Homagama **on or before 2.00pm on 22nd September 2020**. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened at 2.15pm on 22nd September 2020 in the presence of the bidders authorized representatives who choose to attend.
- All Bids shall be accompanied by a bid security mentioned in the bidding data for each zone and garden maintenance service in the form given in the bidding document. Bid security shall be valid up to **21st December 2020**.
- Pre Bid meeting is scheduled to be held on 16th September 2020 at 9.00 a.m. at the ITUM
- Bids shall be valid up to 07th December 2020.

**The Chairman
Department Procurement Committee (Major)
Institute of Technology,
University of Moratuwa,
Diyagama, Homagama.**

30.08.2020



Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

ACCELERATING HIGHER EDUCATION EXPANSION AND DEVELOPMENT (AHEAD) PROJECT

Bid for the Supply and Installation of Laboratory Equipment & Office Equipment for the Faculty of Medicine

The Chairman, University Procurement Committee (DPC) on behalf of the AHEAD Project, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified Bidders for supplying equipment under the following categories.

Tender Name & Number	Items
AHEAD/SUSL/FOM/2020/01	Laboratory Equipment
AHEAD/SUSL/FOM/2020/02	Office Equipment

Note : Equipment list and specifications can be downloaded from the University Website (www.sab.ac.lk → Notices)

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure.
- Interested eligible and qualified Bidders may obtain further information from Deputy Director / Procurement, OTS Office, AHEAD Project, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka and inspect the Bidding Documents at the OTS Office, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, Belihuloya, from **31st August 2020 to 21st September 2020 from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. on working days.**
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English Language may be purchased by interested Bidders on submission of a written application to the address below (mentioned in 5th Paragraph) from **31st August 2020 until 21st September 2020 from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. during working days** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Rs. 3,500/=** by cash to the Shroff of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka.
- Completed Bids should be forwarded in two copies as original and duplicate. The original and the duplicate should be enclosed separately and marked as 'original' and 'duplicate' respectively in sealed envelopes. Then both envelopes re-enclosed in one sealed envelope marked and indicate the Bid Number on top left-hand corner of the envelope.
- Bids must be delivered or sent under registered post addressed to the **Chairman, University Procurement Committee, OTS Office (AHEAD Project), Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, Belihuloya, 70140** to reach at or before **2.00 p.m. on 22nd September 2020**. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidder or his/her representative who chooses to attend in person immediately after closing Bids on **22nd September 2020**.
- The decision of the University Procurement Committee shall be final and University reserves the right to reject any tender without giving any reasons. The University may at its discretion, increase or decrease the quantity to be purchased.
- Further information could be obtained from the Deputy Director / Procurement, OTS Office, (AHEAD Project), Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka. Telephone No. **045-2280005**.

**Chairman,
Procurement Committee,
Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka,
Belihuloya 70140.**

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

PURCHASE OF 02 NOS. NEW STATIONARY CONCRETE PUMPS DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA

CONTRACT NO : DHQC/PROC/2020/MACHINERY/07

The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC) on behalf of the Ministry of Defence now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified Bidders for **Purchase of 02 Nos. New Stationary Concrete Pumps for all Blocks of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda** as described below and estimated to cost **LKR 40 Million** (excluding VAT).

The goods consist of Purchase of 02 Nos. New Stationary Concrete Pumps for Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda.

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- To be eligible for the contract award, the successful bidder **shall not have been blacklisted and shall have a valid Business Registration in Sri Lanka**. Documentary evidence, supporting the Bidder's experience and track record shall be established with the Bid.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same address from **31st August 2020 until 22nd September 2020 from 0900 hrs to 1600 hrs during working days.**
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** from **31st August 2020 until 22nd September 2020 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Three Thousand Five Hundred Sri Lankan Rupees (LKR 3,500.00)**. The method of payment will be in Cash/ Bank draft in favour of **Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project.**
- Bids shall be valid from **23rd September 2020 to 21st December 2020** both days inclusive (90 days).
- All bids shall be accompanied by a **Bid Security of Four Hundred Thousand Rupees (LKR 400,000.00)** shall be issued by a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. This Bid Security shall be in the form of an unconditional, on demand bond and shall be valid up to the date of Bid Opening from **23rd September 2020 to 20th January 2021** at both days inclusive (120 days).
- Pre Bid Meeting will be held at **1030 hrs on 10th September 2020** at Project Management Unit of Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
- Bids shall be delivered to the address below or shall be deposited in the tender box placed at the below address at or before **1000 hrs on 23rd September 2020**. **Late bids will be rejected**. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- Bidders are strongly advised to present the Registration Certificate under the Public Contracts Act No. 3 of 1987 when relevant, before purchasing the Bidding Documents from Defence Headquarters Complex Project.
- Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to the Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, the name and the NIC / Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the Bid opening.

The address(es) referred to above item (08) is;

**The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee (PPC),
Defence Headquarters Complex Project,
Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta,
Battaramulla.**

**Tel : 0094-011-2787047
Fax : 0094-011-4209885
E-mail : dhqcproc2015@gmail.com**

NOTICE

We are pleased to announce that

New Zealand Dairy Farm at Ambewela

will be open to visitors
from 1st September 2020 onwards.

We welcome you to visit and enjoy the Scenic Beauty, Green Pastures and the Sri Lanka's most productive Ayrshire & Friesian Cows, Saanen, Jamunapari and Boer Goats and Californian Giant Rabbits.

(Management of Lanka Milk Foods (CWE) PLC)



FOR SALE

Company owned and maintained 'one owner' vehicles for sale. Written offers and inquiries regarding inspection should be directed to the **Transport Manager, Distilleries Company of Sri Lanka PLC, No. 110, Norris Canal Road, Colombo 10**, during working hours, on weekdays.

Vehicle No.	Make
48-8570	Isuzu NPR 66 (Full Body Lorry)
42-0743	TATA 1210SE (Full Body Lorry)
KW-6103	Toyota Prius Car - 2013
KW-6104	Toyota Prius Car - 2013

Contact: **Roshanth Perera** Telephone: **2687801 / 2695295-7**
Transport Manager 5507000

VEHICLES FOR SALE

KADAWATHA VEHICLE YARD			
THREE WHEELER			
AAL-80XX	YW-04XX	QX-04XX	
MOTOR CYCLE			
BHG-71XX	BHG-62XX		
HORANA VEHICLE YARD			
THREE WHEELER			
AAN-11XX	AAM-11XX		
MOTOR CYCLE			
BEW-37XX	BHB-40XX	BHL-85XX	BGJ-70XX
BGU-88XX	BHG-33XX		
MOTOR CAR			
JM-71XX - KIA PICANTO			
KULIYAPITIYA VEHICLE YARD			
THREE WHEELER			
YW-69XX			
MOTOR CYCLE			
BGU-94XX			
ANURADHAPURA VEHICLE YARD			
MOTOR CYCLE			
BHD-38XX	BHF-05XX	BFH-53XX	BGQ-47XX
MOTOR CAB			
PY-39XX - CAB MAHINDRA			
NITTABUWA VEHICLE YARD			
THREE WHEELER			
AAP-99XX			
MOTOR CYCLE			
BGE-81XX	BEW-48XX		
MOTOR CAR			
13 SRI 70XX - MITSUBISHI MOTOR CAR			

VEHICLE INSPECTION

Kadawatha Vehicle Yard,
No. 125/F, Ragama Road, Kadawatha.
Horana Vehicle Yard,
No. 186, Angurawathota Road, Horana.
Anuradhapura Vehicle Yard,
Cinai 05, Kurunegala Road, Rathmale, Shrawasthapura.
Kuliyapitiya Vehicle Yard,
No. 259, Madampe Road, Kuliyapitiya.
Nittambuwa Yard,
No. 655, Jayasooriya Mawatha, Nittambuwa.

31st August & 02nd, 03rd, 04th September 2020 between 10.00 am and 04.00 pm at the above address. Tenders will close at 04.00 pm on 04th September 2020

Tender forms could be obtained from Anuradhapura, Mahara, Kuliyapitiya, Nittambuwa & Horana CDB Branches. Non-refundable payment of Rs.250.00

Successful bidders will be informed by telephone, and within 7 days from such notification the full amount must be paid as well as vehicle must be removed from our premises. Company reserves the right to withdraw any vehicle from the sale without assigning any reason for it. Bidders have to accept the vehicle in the present condition it is, and it is the relevant bidder's responsibility to settle any outstanding payments with regards to revenue license and other government taxes.

* The Company reserves the right to withdraw any vehicle from the sale without prior notice.

UNISONS CAPITAL LEASING LTD
No:99, Dharmapala Mawatha, Colombo 07.
Tel: 011-2431668

WANTED OFFICE PREMISES

- Minimum 5000 Sq. Ft covered area with sufficient parking for 15 vehicles.
- For outright purchase or lease.
- Colombo 5, 6, Nugegoda, Kirulapone and bordering suburbs preferred.
- Should be easily accessible by public transport.

Please send details by email to: hrdep1010@gmail.com.

Call: 0773493417 (Monday - Friday during office hours only)

Divisional Secretariat, Moratuwa

Sale of Foreign Liquor Tavern Rents - 2021

The above mentioned Foreign Liquor Tavern will be sold by tenders at the Divisional Secretariat, Moratuwa on the following date and time.

- Foreign Liquor Tavern - at 10.30 a.m. on 18.09.2020
- The Tavern Rent which cannot be sold on the above mentioned date, will be resold at 10.30 a.m. on 13.11.2020.
- For all the particulars, please see the Government Gazette No. 2189 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka dated 14.08.2020.

**B.A.D. Chinthaka,
Divisional Secretary,
Moratuwa.**

Divisional Secretariat,
Moratuwa.



INVITATION TO BID

SUPPLY OF TISSUE CULTURED BANANA PLANTS

Sanasa International (Pvt.) Ltd., EFECs Project invites quotations for the supply of the following items;

	Item/s	Quantity
1	Cavendish Banana Plants	9240
2	Kappal (Kolikuttu) Banana Plants	13860
	The plants to be transported to following Districts:	
	Jaffna	
	Kilinochchi	
	Mannar	
	Mullaitivu	
	Vavuniya	

Further information and specifications are included in our Bidding Document which can be obtained by sending an email to info@sefec.lk

Bids shall be delivered to the following address;

**Sanasa International (Pvt.) Ltd,
7/7, Pragathipura Road,
Madiwela, Kotte
Tel. 0114363207**

Or emailed to: info@sefec.lk

Closing date for bids will be 4.00 p.m. on Monday 7th September 2020

SALE OF SCRAP ITEMS (2020-2021)

The following scrap items are for sale (throughout the year)

- Empty Barrels
- Scrap Iron
- Steel Sheet Off Cuts
- Copper Off Cuts
- Wooden Pallets
- Polythene
- Cardboard

The successful Bidder will have to remove the items from the factory premises on a twice a week basis.

Quotations will be received by the undersigned till 4.30 p.m. on 11th September 2020.

CONTACT :

**COMMERCIAL MANAGER
REGNIS (LANKA) PLC
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SRI LANKA NAVY



PROCUREMENT NOTICE

INVITATION OF BIDS FROM MANUFACTURERS/SUPPLIERS/IMPORTERS/CONTRACTORS FOR THE SUPPLY OF CLOTHING MATERIAL TO SRI LANKA NAVY

1. The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee of the Sri Lanka Navy (SLN), invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders to supply one or more clothing material/items which are indicated in Para 02 below.
 - (a). Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure.
 - (b). A complete set of bidding document in English Language shall be purchased by the prospective interested bidders on submission of a written application to Director Naval Victualing & Clothing office at Naval Headquarters, Colombo 01 during working days between **10.00 a.m to 02.00 p.m** from **01st September 2020 to 29th September 2020** upon payment of non-refundable fee indicated in para 02 below in cash for each procurement file.
 - (c). The validity of the bids should be **150 days** with effect from date of opening the tender.
 - (d). Selected suppliers should deliver all the clothing materials/items ordered by SL Navy to Transit Stores at SLNS "Mahasen", Welisara, Ragama.
2. The details of the clothing materials/ items required for year 2020 as indicated below and required quantities of each item are indicated in the bidding document.

Procurement Identification No.	Type of material/ item	Last date of issuing bidding document	Bid Closing Date & Time	Non-Refundable Tender deposit (Rs.)
CB/A/29/2020	Material Cloth Light Blue	29.09.2020	30.09.2020 10.00 a.m	Rs. 8,000.00
CB/A/30/2020	Material Cloth Dark Blue	29.09.2020	30.09.2020 10.00 a.m	Rs. 8,000.00
CB/A/31/2020	Material Cloth White Synthetic	29.09.2020	30.09.2020 10.00 a.m	Rs. 4,500.00
CB/A/32/2020	Material Cloth Bed Sheet Light Blue	29.09.2020	30.09.2020 10.00 a.m	Rs. 18,000.00
CB/A/33/2020	Bath Towel White (SLN Printed)	29.09.2020	30.09.2020 10.00 a.m	Rs. 4,500.00
CB/A/34/2020	Material Cloth SKY Blue	29.09.2020	30.09.2020 10.00 a.m	Rs. 1,500.00
CB/A/35/2020	Material Cloth White Drill	29.09.2020	30.09.2020 10.00 a.m	Rs. 3,000.00
CB/A/36/2020	Material Cloth Blue Drill	29.09.2020	30.09.2020 10.00 a.m	Rs. 13,000.00
CB/A/37/2020	Material Cloth Digital Camouflage	29.09.2020	30.09.2020 10.00 a.m	Rs. 1,500.00
CB/A/38/2020	Material Cloth Black Drill	29.09.2020	30.09.2020 10.00 a.m	Rs. 2,000.00
CB/A/39/2020	Material Cloth Trouser Inner Pocket Bag (Poplin White)	29.09.2020	30.09.2020 10.00 a.m	Rs. 4,500.00
CB/B/40/2020	Socks Black	29.09.2020	30.09.2020 10.00 a.m	Rs. 4,000.00
CB/B/41/2020	Socks White	29.09.2020	30.09.2020 10.00 a.m	Rs. 1,500.00
CB/B/42/2020	Socks Blue Thick	29.09.2020	30.09.2020 10.00 a.m	Rs. 3,500.00

3. The bidders shall possess the following requirements to be eligible for submission bids and should be Sri Lankan business entities, manufacturers, firms, limited liability companies and other establishment with a local business registration at the date of publishing of bid notice.
 - a. Two years' experience in supplying of clothing material/ items to public/ private organizations in similar capacity with satisfactory performances.
 - b. Should be registered under the Government Public Contracts Act, No 03 of 1987 Which is applicable for every public contracts over five (05) million Rupees.
 - c. Sound financial capability.
 - d. Satisfactory Tax payment records.

- e. Adequate communication facilities. (Land/ mobile phone/s, Fax/es, E-mail)
 - f. Adequate storage facilities (Warehouses)
 - g. Adequate Staff, Personnel and Office facilities.
 - h. Adequate transport facilities.
 - i. Uninterrupted business operation during last three years.
 - j. Facility/ capabilities to provide after sales service with qualified technical staff.
 - k. Bidders shall not be blacklisted.
4. The bidders must be indicated VAT registration number in bidding documents and required to submit valid VAT clearance letter obtained from Department of Inland Revenue. Bidders who are exempted from VAT should produce a letter from the Commissioner General of Inland Revenue Department certifying that the company has been exempted for VAT. Any bid which does not fulfill above requirements shall be rejected.
 5. The bids duly signed by the applicant should be submitted after placing the official rubber stamp there under as a compulsory requirement. The envelope containing the tender should be marked **"BID FOR THE SUPPLY OF CLOTHING MATERIAL FOR YEAR 2020, Procurement Identification No and date/ time of opening of bids"** on top left hand corner and should be posted to the following address under registered post or to be deposited in the tender box at Naval Headquarters before the closing date of each tender :-

**The Chairman,
Department Procurement Committee,
Sri Lanka Navy,
Naval Headquarters, P.O. Box 593,
Colombo 01.**
 6. All bidders should submit a bid security along with the bid as mentioned in the tender document and to be addressed to Commander of the Navy. The bid security should be original (on the original letter head of the bank), un conditional on demand Bank Guarantee, issued by a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by Central Bank of Sri Lanka. The amount of the bid security for a particular bid is specified in the bidding document which had set as prescribed in the Procurement Guideline 2006. The bid guarantee should be valid up to **180 days** with effect from the date of opening tender.
 7. All bidders are required to forward samples along with the bids and required to deposit testing charges as mentioned in the tender document. Testing charges to be deposited with Director Finance at Naval Head Quarters and original copy of the cash receipt issued by Director Finance should be sent with the offer (Cash or cheque not be accepted) Offers which do not accompany the original copy of the cash receipt issued by Director Finance will be rejected.
 8. The bids will be opened immediately after the closing time. Late bids will be rejected and returned without opening. The bidders or their duly authorized representative could attend the bid opening meeting.
 9. The bidding documents which are incomplete and not accompanied with required documentary evidence shall be rejected. The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any bid.
 10. Selected bidders will be notified by registered post for signing of agreement.
 11. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Director Naval Victualing & Clothing at Naval Headquarters and may inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the office of the address given in para 13 below from **01st September 2020 to 29th September 2020** during **09.00a.m to 03.00 p.m** on working days.
 12. A pre bid meeting will be held on **10th September 2020 at 10.00 a.m** at the Admiral Somathilaka Dissanayaka Auditorium hall of the Sri Lanka Navy, Naval headquarters, PO Box 593, Colombo 01.
 13. The address referred to above is:

Attention : Director Naval Victualing and Clothing
Address : The Commander of the Navy
Naval Headquarters
P.O. Box 593
Colombo 01.
Telephone : Director Naval Victualing & Clothing – 011-7192351
General – 0117190000, Extension – 12351
Fax : Senior Staff Officer (Clothing) – 0117192356
Fax : 011 2424577
E-mail : nhqssclothing@navy.lk, nhqssclothing@gmail.com
 14. This paper advertisement is available in Sri Lanka Navy website www.navy.lk.

**The Chairman,
Department Procurement Committee,
Sri Lanka Navy,
Colombo 01.**

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received in response to advertisements published under Lake House box numbers

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SRILANKAN AIRLINES LTD PROCUREMENT NOTICE

REFERENCE NO: CPIT/ICB 02/2020
INVITATION FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS FOR THE PROVISIONING OF A NEW GENERATION CARGO MANGEMENT SYSTEM.

REFERENCE NO: CPIT/ICB 04/2020
INVITATION FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS FOR THE PROVISIONING OF AN AUTOMATED FLIGHT PLANNING SOLUTION.

REFERENCE NO: CPIT/NCB 01/2020
INVITATION FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS FOR THE PROVISIONING OF LOCAL IT NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES.

A Pre-Bid meeting for Bid reference No. CPIT/NCB 01/2020 will be organised on 04th September 2020 at 9.00a.m. at SriLankan premises, Katunayake, to provide the prospective bidders with the necessary information related to the project. Proposals of the bidders who does not take part in the Pre-Bid meeting will not be accepted. Please refer the bidding forms for further information of the Pre-Bid meeting

The bidding forms could be downloaded directly from the following link
https://www.srilankan.com/en_uk/coporate/tender-notice
with effect from 31st August 2020 after 10.00 am Sri Lankan time (GMT + 5:30 Time Zone)

Bid closing date: 13th October 2020 at 11.00 am Sri Lankan time (GMT + 5:30 Time Zone)

**CHAIRMAN OF STANDING CABINET APPOINTED
PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE,
MINISTRY OF TOURISM
ON BEHALF OF SRILANKAN AIRLINES LIMITED**



PROCUREMENT NOTICE - GLOBAL

STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA

The Chairman, Procurement Committee of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka will receive sealed bids for supply of following items to the Department of Health Services.

Bid Number	Closing Date & Time	Item Description	Date of Issuing of Bidding Documents	Non-refundable Bid Fee LKR
DHS/S/WW/235/21	13.10.2020 at 9.00 a.m.	Debibrillation Gel Pads	02.09.2020	3,000/= + taxes
DHS/SUS/WW/263/21	14.10.2020 at 9.00 a.m.	Surgical Consumables	02.09.2020	20,000/= + taxes

Bids should be prepared as per the particulars given in the Bidding Documents available to prospective bidders on working days between 0930 hours and 1500 hours at the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, Head Office, No. 75, Sir Baron Jayatillake Mawatha, Colombo 1. These could be purchased on cash payment of a non-refundable Bidding Document Fee per set as mentioned above. Offers received without enclosing original payment receipt are liable to be rejected.

Wherever necessary potential bidder/bidders should get registered in terms of the Public Contract Act No. 3 of 1987 before collecting the Bidding Documents and also should get the contract registered after the tender is awarded.

All Bids should be accompanied by a Bid Bond as specified in the Bidding Documents.

Sealed Bids may be sent by post under registered cover or may be personally deposited in the box available for this purpose at Internal Audit Department in the mezzanine floor of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation at No. 75, Sir Baron Jayatillake Mawatha, Colombo 1, Sri Lanka.

Bids will be closed at the Head Office of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation on the dates and time mentioned above and will be opened immediately thereafter. Bidders or their authorized representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of Bids.

Bidding Documents are being sent to Sri Lanka missions abroad and foreign missions in Sri Lanka.

**CHAIRMAN - DEPARTMENTAL PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE
STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA
75, SIR BARON JAYATILLAKE MAWATHA
COLOMBO 1
SRI LANKA.**

TEL/FAX : 00 94-11- 2335008
E-MAIL : dgmsurgical@spc.lk

VEHICLES FOR SALE

KADAWATHA VEHICLE YARD

THREE WHEEL

AAF-35XX	AAQ-10XX	AAZ-51XX	ABM-78XX	ON-00XX	OW-43XX	YO-18XX
AAG-45XX	AAR-67XX	AAZ-66XX	ABD-48XX	ON-26XX	OW-52XX	YO-34XX
AAG-86XX	AAT-42XX	AAZ-38XX	OD-05XX	ON-74XX	OX-64XX	YO-83XX
AAH-23XX	AAT-44XX	AAZ-82XX	DE-48XX	OD-60XX	OX-99XX	YW-01XX
AAK-14XX	AAT-57XX	ABB-15XX	DF-37XX	OT-00XX	OT-81XX	YW-52XX
AAK-28XX	AAV-01XX	ABB-42XX	DF-39XX	OT-65XX	YA-39XX	YX-83XX
AAI-27XX	AAV-84XX	ABB-70XX	DF-58XX	OT-94XX	YO-33XX	YZ-66XX
AAM-15XX	AAW-53XX	ABD-67XX	DF-72XX	OU-12XX	YH-73XX	
AAP-03XX	AAW-73XX	ABH-23XX	DI-26XX	OU-83XX	YL-04XX	
AAP-61XX	AAW-75XX	ABL-85XX	DJ-88XX	OV-71XX	YL-08XX	
AAQ-01XX	AAZ-26XX	ABN-25XX	DL-87XX	OW-14XX	YL-23XX	

OTHER VEHICLES

VEHICLE NO	MODEL	MAKE	VEHICLE NO	MODEL	MAKE
47-98XX	TOYOTA	MOTOR LORRY	BET-58XX	DEMARK	MOTOR CYCLE
LA-92XX	ISUZU	MOTOR LORRY	BK-94XX	BAJAJ	MOTOR CYCLE
LI-24XX	TATA	MOTOR LORRY	PR-97XX	MAHINDRA	MINI TRUCK
LM-85XX	JMC	MOTOR LORRY	PY-18XX	TATA	MINI TRUCK
			RD-76XX	MAHINDRA	TRACTOR

HORANA VEHICLE YARD

THREE WHEEL

AAB-44XX	AAJ-74XX	AAS-24XX	ABC-28XX	OL-61XX	OZ-58XX	YO-99XX
AAB-73XX	AAK-09XX	AAV-03XX	ABE-38XX	OD-03XX	OZ-71XX	YP-06XX
AAD-27XX	AAK-14XX	AAW-58XX	ABI-10XX	OD-47XX	YC-75XX	YO-88XX
AAF-07XX	AAK-25XX	AAZ-86XX	ABJ-57XX	OD-54XX	YO-81XX	
AAF-85XX	AAQ-01XX	AAZ-35XX	ABJ-80XX	OD-61XX	YO-83XX	
AAH-61XX	AAP-46XX	AAZ-72XX	ABL-18XX	OS-76XX	YF-06XX	
AAH-71XX	AAP-98XX	AAZ-20XX	OC-90XX	OV-85XX	YF-80XX	
AAI-98XX	AAH-33XX	AAZ-36XX	OK-38XX	OV-88XX	YH-41XX	
AAJ-44XX	AAR-88XX	ABB-88XX	OL-41XX	OW-85XX	YH-42XX	

OTHER VEHICLES

VEHICLE NO	MODEL	MAKE	VEHICLE NO	MODEL	MAKE
LE-04XX	LEYLAND	MOTOR LORRY	PS-08XX	TATA	MINI TRUCK
41-57XX	TOYOTA	MOTOR LORRY	PU-17XX	MAHINDRA	MINI TRUCK
LA-03XX	MAZDA	MOTOR LORRY	RE-57XX	NEW HOLLAND	TRACTOR
LB-18XX	MITSUBISHI	MOTOR LORRY	RE-67XX	NEW HOLLAND	TRACTOR
LF-10XX	CHANGAN	MOTOR LORRY	KU-58XX	TATA	MOTOR CAR
LN-13XX	TATA	MOTOR LORRY	KS-61XX	TATA	MOTOR CAR
			BHT-56XX	YAMAHA	MOTOR CYCLE

KULIYAPITIYA VEHICLE YARD

THREE WHEEL

AAD-32XX	OC-52XX	OK-24XX	OD-48XX	OS-72XX	OX-67XX	YB-16XX
AAI-11XX	OG-78XX	OK-86XX	OP-75XX	OW-58XX	OZ-02XX	YM-58XX
AAS-82XX	OL-54XX	OM-87XX	OD-08XX	OW-88XX	OZ-47XX	YO-85XX
ABG-84XX	OK-22XX	ON-68XX	OD-86XX	OX-71XX	YO-32XX	YW-41XX
						YX-01XX

OTHER VEHICLES

VEHICLE NO	MODEL	MAKE	VEHICLE NO	MODEL	MAKE
BHT-11XX	HERO	MOTOR CYCLE	BHW-42XX	YAMAHA	MOTOR CYCLE
BHT-86XX	YAMAHA	MOTOR CYCLE	BO-95XX	HERO	MOTOR CYCLE
BHV-82XX	HONDA	MOTOR CYCLE	PY-85XX	DAIHATSU	MOTOR LORRY
BHW-25XX	HONDA	MOTOR CYCLE	DAE-86XX	TATA	MINI TRUCK
			RE-80XX	NEW HOLLAND	TRACTOR

ANURADHAPURA VEHICLE YARD

THREE WHEEL

ABJ-42XX	AAH-34XX	AAQ-95XX	ABF-88XX	OP-40XX	OX-86XX	YO-35XX
AAI-53XX	AAH-82XX	AAS-88XX	PZ-02XX	OT-01XX	OZ-30XX	YV-89XX
AAQ-48XX	AAJ-41XX	AAS-98XX	OK-05XX	OV-00XX	YH-58XX	YW-84XX
						YZ-60XX

OTHER VEHICLES

VEHICLE NO	MODEL	MAKE	VEHICLE NO	MODEL	MAKE
RE-32XX	NEW HOLLAND	TRACTOR	PY-10XX	TATA	MINI TRUCK
RD-87XX	SONALIKA	TRACTOR	PS-39XX	TATA	MINI TRUCK
RD-97XX	TAFE	TRACTOR	PU-95XX	TATA	MINI TRUCK
RE-37XX	NEW HOLLAND	TRACTOR	BIG-83XX	TVS	MOTOR CYCLE
RE-43XX	NEW HOLLAND	TRACTOR	BHU-15XX	HERO	MOTOR CYCLE
RE-77XX	SONALIKA	TRACTOR	BHV-21XX	HONDA	MOTOR CYCLE
LD-38XX	TATA	LORRY	BHX-26XX	HONDA	MOTOR CYCLE
LM-98XX	HIND	LORRY	BHY-78XX	HERO	MOTOR CYCLE
			BE-56XX	HONDA	MOTOR CYCLE

NITTAMBUWA VEHICLE YARD

THREE WHEEL

AAA-58XX	AAH-40XX	AAZ-56XX	OH-92XX	OT-61XX	OZ-85XX	YH-89XX
AAA-61XX	AAQ-79XX	ABD-13XX	OK-15XX	OU-24XX	YA-30XX	YS-23XX
AAB-42XX	AAQ-85XX	ABG-51XX	OK-22XX	OU-54XX	YO-45XX	YS-41XX
AAB-95XX	AAR-80XX	ABJ-20XX	OK-56XX	OU-74XX	YG-87XX	YW-21XX
AAC-43XX	AAS-93XX	ABK-18XX	OL-46XX	OV-02XX	YI-98XX	YX-33XX
AAF-74XX	AAW-32XX	ABR-79XX	OL-78XX	OW-36XX	YM-80XX	YX-34XX
AAF-75XX	AAZ-08XX	JX-27XX	OP-24XX	OX-84XX	YP-61XX	YY-83XX
AAF-85XX	AAZ-12XX	JZ-22XX	OD-90XX	OZ-14XX	YP-88XX	
AAG-74XX	AAZ-58XX	OB-48XX	OT-26XX	OZ-80XX	YO-80XX	

OTHER VEHICLES

VEHICLE NO	MODEL	MAKE	VEHICLE NO	MODEL	MAKE
BIB-65XX	TVS	MOTOR CYCLE	IL-08XX	ISUZU	MOTOR LORRY
JC-03XX	TATA	MOTOR LORRY	IL-08XX	FAW	MOTOR LORRY
LC-86XX	HIND	MOTOR LORRY	LN-01XX	MITSUBISHI	MOTOR LORRY
LF-97XX	TATA	MOTOR LORRY	LN-33XX	TATA	MOTOR LORRY
LH-08XX	SUZUKI	MOTOR LORRY	LN-48XX	ISUZU	MOTOR LORRY
LI-84XX	JAC	MOTOR LORRY	LN-85XX	JAC	MOTOR LORRY
LK-78XX	TATA	MOTOR LORRY	LY-88XX	RENAULT	MOTOR LORRY

VEHICLE INSPECTION
Kadawatha Vehicle Yard. No. 125/F, Ragama Road, Kadawatha.
Horana Vehicle Yard. No. 186, Angurawathota Road, Horana.
Kuliyapitiya Vehicle Yard. No. 259, Medampala Road, Kuliyapitiya.
Anuradhapura Vehicle Yard. Chawal 05, Kururegala Road, Rathmal, Shrawastigirua.
Nittambuwa Yard. No. 655, Jayasuriya Mawatha, Nittambuwa.
31st August & 02nd, 03rd, 04th September 2020 between 10.00 am and 04.00 pm at the above address. Tenders will close at 04.00 pm on 04th September 2020.
Tender forms could be obtained from Kuliyapitiya, Mahara, Anuradhapura, Nittambuwa & Horana CDB Branches. Non-refundable payment of Rs.250.00
Successful bidders will be informed by telephone, and within 7 days from such notification the full amount must be paid as well as vehicle must be removed from our premises. Company reserves the right to withdraw any vehicle from the sale without assigning any reason for it. Bidders have to accept the vehicle in the present condition it is, and it is the relevant bidder's responsibility to settle any outstanding payments with regards to revenue license and other government taxes.
* The Company reserves the right to withdraw any vehicle from the sale without prior notice.

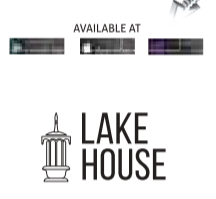
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Tel: 0112 920 665 / 0112 925 044 / 034-22 66 244 / 025-205 26 32

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Able G/B respectable parents Maharagama seek NS/TT educated son for young looking fair, pretty daughter 1980 Dec. 5'5" Scientist holding managerial position in well reputed company in Melbourne, Australia. Reply with full family details, HC, contact number to: wijaya3275@gmail.com Telephone 0112-848624. OB150053

Able G/B respectable parents Maharagama seek NS/TT educated son for young looking fair, pretty daughter 1984 Nov. 5'1" professionally qualified (MSc) Engineer working in Australia. Reply with full family details, HC, contact number to: wijaya3275@gmail.com Telephone 0112-848624. OB150057

Above 5'10" tall, academically and professionally qualified son is sought by a Sinhala/Buddhist mother for her 34 year old, 5'8", educated, well mannered and pretty daughter. She was born in the US and brought up with traditional values. Please reply with family details to: slprop86@gmail.com OB149856

Academically and professionally accomplished well mannered son (below 39) living in UK is sought by S/G/B parents from their, 35 (Jan 85) years old, 5'1" slim, fair & very pretty daughter living in London. Qualified with 3 degrees (BA, MSc & PGCE) working as a Maths Lecturer. Divorced from a marriage contract (confined to the signature only). Reply with full family details, copy of HC and a photograph to: eprposal56@gmail.com OB149890

Academically and professionally qualified caring well mannered teetotaler son from a respectable family sought by Colombo Buddhist Karawe professional parents, for their academically and professionally qualified religious 32 year old daughter working in Colombo. She is 5'3" in height very fair, pretty, attractive, well-mannered personally and a Vegetarian. Caste not material. Reply with full family details and a copy of the horoscope. Non-malefic horoscope preferred. confidentialproposals@yahoo.com OB149706

Academically and professionally qualified employed well-mannered son is sought by B/G professional parents from Colombo suburbs for their slim pretty kind-hearted well-accomplished 30 years 5 feet 8 inches tall MBBS Doctor daughter attached to Govt. Hospital. She inherits millions worth assets. Reply with family details and horoscope with contact numbers. mprops202008@gmail.com OB149996

Academically and professionally qualified kind son is sought by a Sinhala, Catholic mother for the pretty daughter 5'2" height born in 1990, studied in a leading Convent in Colombo. Completed Masters. She is divorced from a short incompatible marriage with no encumbrances. Please reply with family details and contact numbers. OB150037

Academically and professionally qualified partner is sought by G/B respectable parents from Colombo suburbs for their pretty fair slim daughter 37, 5'4", educated at a leading School in Colombo, BSc. Graduate well employed in a reputed company in Colombo. Inherits substantial assets. Reply with horoscope. Email : pr oposalsk25@gmail.com OB149701

Academically and professionally qualified son from a respectable family is sought by Sinhala Buddhist Doctor parents for their pretty slim 5'2" daughter born in February 1989, studied in a leading School in Colombo. She is an Attorney-at-Law and a Lecturer in Law in Colombo. She will inherit substantial assets. She has Rahu in Seventh House. Please reply with family details and a copy of horoscope. She is not willing to migrate. Email replies preferable to matriduwa@gmail.com OB149965

Academically and professionally qualified son is sought by Bodu Deva parents for fair and pretty young looking daughter 40 yrs, 5'1", BSc, MSc Chartered Engineer. dang23456@gmail.com OB149801

Academically and professionally qualified son is sought by Hindu / Tamil parents residing in Colombo, for their 1982 born, 5'1" professionally and academically qualified (B.A) daughter employed as manager in a leading private organization in Sri Lanka, Tamil / Hindu preferred. Please reply with horoscope and family details to kutseyk@gmail.com OB149794

Academically and professionally qualified son (teetotaler / non-smoker) from a respectable family is sought by a Sinhala, Bodu, Govi family from Colombo, for their younger daughter, born in March 1993, 5'5", pretty, slim, fair and independent, brought up with Sinhala Buddhist values, graduated from Australian University with MSc in Mechanical Design and currently working in Brisbane. Reply with family details, horoscope and contact details: pro pose.ldm@gmail.com T.P. 0112836864. OB150007

Marriage Proposals

Academically and professionally qualified son-in-law is sought by Sinhalese Buddhist parents living in Canada for their 26 years old 160 cm tall fair pretty daughter, presently studying clinical rotation in USA Hospital (Final year Doctor). Please reply with horoscope and recent photographs or social media ID kpropousa2020@gmail.com Living in USA / Canada is preferred. OB150075

Academically and professionally qualified well mannered son is sought by Bodu G/D parents from Colombo for their slim pleasant daughter born in 1992 February height 5'7" studied at a leading Buddhist school in Colombo. BSc degree CIMA passed finalist and MBA. She is holding a managerial position in a reputed company. Inherits substantial assets. Kindly reply with family details, horoscope and contact number. 28pr oposal@gmail.com OB149952

Academically and professionally qualified well mannered son is sought by Western Province Bodu/Govi parents for their 1987, 5'3" pretty accomplished daughter studied at a leading girls' school in Colombo 7. Qualified interior designer. Non malefic horoscope. E-mail: nilmin.i.k1961@gmail.com OB149985

Academically and professionally qualified well-mannered partner sought by B/C Govi parents for only child. Born 1980. She is medium complexioned, attractive down to earth lover of nature and animals and a wide range of interests. Educated mostly abroad whilst living with parents. Graduated and post-graduated from highly prestigious university abroad. Partly qualified C.I.M.A. licentiate piano forte Trinity College London, was employed in Sri Lanka and abroad. Presently employed in senior position abroad. Will inherit substantial assets. Non-malefic horoscope. Please reply giving family details copy of horoscope and telephone numbers. E-mail: tityvone@hotmail.com OB148308

Academically and professionally qualified well-mannered son is sought by B/G professional parents from Colombo suburb for their well-accomplished kind pretty Australian citizen daughter born in August 1985, 5 feet 7 inches tall IT Engineer settled in Melbourne. Please reply with family details and copy of horoscope to: rasrperera@gmail.com OB150000

Academically and professionally qualified, Catholic and caring son is sought by Catholic parents in Seeduwa for elder daughter 5'4" tall, fair, slim, 1981 born, earned BSc and Post-graduate Diploma. Please email with family details to: prop osalsdaughter2020@gmail.com OB149876

Academically and professionally qualified, kind-hearted and well-mannered son from a respectable family is sought by respectable Buddhist parents for their daughter born in 1991, 5'4", well mannered, and brought up with Sinhala Buddhist values. Studied in a leading private Buddhist girls school in Colombo. She holds a BSc. Special Degree in Biology from a State University and currently working as a Demonstrator. Please reply with family details and horoscope. p roposalsm20@gmail.com OB149956

Academically professionally qualified partner sought by G/B parents for fair daughter 34, 5'3", BSc, Software Engineering MBA well employed Techlead. Reply with horoscope details. silverlinepr oposal@gmail.com OB150036

Academically professionally qualified son for our daughter 1983, 5'2" Buddhist parents from Colombo. Reply with horoscope. 011-5768795. OB150097

Academically professionally qualified son from a respectable family is sought by B/Durawe, Govi parents for their beautiful elder daughter, 5' 8.5" tall, 1984 born (young looking), curvy figure, smart, great personality, kind hearted, BSc Computer Science, divorced, no encumbrances. Email: tt.p r oposal@yahoo.com OB149886

Academically professionally qualified or established businessman, well mannered, smart, loving son (below 30 yrs) from a respected family in Colombo suburbs is sought by parents for their 24 years, 5'3" daughter fair and smart with a good personality, reading for Masters degree in business computing, working as an advanced level teacher in a leading private school, willing to migrate. Please reply with family details, horoscope and contact number. E-mail: prop.data.123@gmail.com OB149841

Academically professionally qualified partner sought by G/B parents for fair daughter 34, 5'3", BSc, Software Engineering MBA well employed Techlead. Reply with horoscope details. silverlinepr oposal@gmail.com OB150036

Academically professionally qualified son for our daughter 1983, 5'2" Buddhist parents from Colombo. Reply with horoscope. 011-5768795. OB150097

Academically professionally qualified son from a respectable family is sought by B/Durawe, Govi parents for their pretty daughter 1995/01 born 5'3", currently working in a leading private bank as a Banking Assistant. Reply with horoscope & family details. Email: prinsi ranathunga@gmail.com Tel: 0412221154. OB150069

Academically professionally qualified son living in the USA is sought by Aunt for our niece G/B 36 yr 5'7" tall pretty slim, holds a PhD, works in a well reputed health-care system in East Coast USA. Drawing a very high salary and financially independent. Please respond to: proposal8844@gmail.com OB149868

Academically qualified well mannered partner is sought by G/B mother Colombo for younger daughter BSc (IT) international school teacher 5'1" pleasant slim aged 35. Inherits assets. Horoscope needed. propo sal899@yahoo.com OB150065

Academically & professionally qualified handsome partner age below 41 sought by B/G parents of a business family from Colombo 3 for their 36 y. 5'2" young looking pretty daughter. She is highly qualified in law field, working in an MNC earning 6 figure salary, possesses assets. shanama2005@gmail.com OB149441

Academically & professionally qualified son is sought by Govi/Buddhist family in Colombo for their daughter 39, 5'5". She is a PhD. Holder from UK. Currently working in Colombo. Please reply with family details & horoscope. Email : mproposal600@gmail.com OB149968

Academically & professionally qualified son is sought by parents for their 1986 born beautiful, 5'4", academically qualified daughter. Please reply with family details & horoscope. ij ay7722@gmail.com OB150071

Academically & professionally qualified TT/NS partner is sought by G/B parents from Colombo for their 35 years (1985/06), 5'2" height pretty slim young looking qualified Senior Accountant daughter working in leading company Colombo with valuable assets (new house, car, etc) please reply with family details with horoscope copy and contact details. OB150006

Anuradhapura Buddhist Karawa parents, looking for professional groom for daughter 25 years, pretty state bank employee height 5 ft. ram ani.shiromani1973@gmail.com OB149712

An invitation to a well-mannered gentleman with good educational and family background. Daughter born in 1991, height 5'4" graduated at the Department of Town & Country Planning - University of Moratuwa, currently pursuing master's degree. Father retired engineer, both elder brothers are married to doctors. When replying please mention personal-family background, professional profile along with horoscope details. Contact: 0332294025 (after 7 PM), abey91jan@gmail.com OB149892

Aunt is looking for a suitable partner for 44 IT Graduate pretty, fair, young looking, well mannered RC niece from a well connected family. Late marriage due to ill health of parents who are now deceased. Work as a Freelancer in IT for foreign Companies with high income. Inherits house & other substantial assets. (s perdilak@yahoo.com) OB149973

A partner sought for, Catholic, professionally qualified, 5'4" tall, fair, 36 year old daughter, employed as an Executive in a reputed organization. Please contact on 0112932754 after 5.00 p.m. or email to wemcp16@yahoo.com OB149764

A suitable well employed partner is sought by mother for her daughter Sinhala, Buddhist Durawa/ Govi 46 years, 5'5" Accountant/Manager in a leading company drawing six figure salary. Owns a house and a new car. Reply with family details. h w g proposals@gmail.com OB149843

A suitable well qualified partner is sought by Gampaha B/G parents for their 25 yrs. old 5'1" pretty daughter who is a 5th year medical student in a foreign University. Inherits substantial assets, currently in Sri Lanka due to the pandemic. Please reply with family details and horoscope to nishumayogal@gmail.com 033-2287451. OB149775

A suitable, well mannered son is sought by Catholic / Buddhist respectable parents from Colombo District for their very pretty & pleasant daughter born in 1989 - 5'4". Graduated for MD (Doctor of Medicine) & MPH from a foreign University. Preparing for Medical Board Examinations while reading for MBA. Willing to migrate. Please respond with family details. Email: reshap rop@gmail.com or l uckypropo@gmail.com OB149757

A wealthy, respectable Sinhala family from Colombo wishes to find a qualified, tall (minimum 5'10"), handsome and decent son from respectable family for marriage to 5'7" tall, very pretty, elder daughter (1992). She is a Consultant Lawyer to a PLC and a Directress in the well-established family business. Educated at leading school in Colombo. She has CIMA and MBA from Jayawardanapura University and currently reading for Doctorate. She inherits substantial assets. Please email all relevant information to infopr op2019@gmail.com OB150101

Beruwala Bodu Karawa 1983, 5'5", fair, pretty, educated (Attorney-at-Law) parents seek suitable partner. OB149959

BG mother is looking for a son for her daughter, born in 1979, never married, 5'6" tall, Chartered Accountant working in an Executive post in a government organization in Colombo. m p d t 2020@yahoo.com OB149726

Bodu Govi parents seek suitable partner for their daughter Engineer 35 years, 5'4" medium complexion separated from 6 months unsuccessful marriage. Contact for further details. 0382296580. OB149774

Born 16.12.1986, height 5', Buddhist Govi pretty BSc MBA graduate from Moratuwa University, Manageress of a group of companies in Colombo. Owns land in Homagama to build a house. 041-2283552, 011-2098902. propo sal2020march@gmail.com OB149773

Buddhist Govi BSc/MSc graduate of Colombo University, IT Manageress drawing very high salary, owning assets, 35 years, 5'3", pretty daughter, invitation for an educated virtuous son. Horoscope copy needed. OB149743

Buddhist Karawa respectable parents living in Colombo suburbs seek an academically professionally qualified partner with sober habits for their foreign educated (Masters Degree) daughter aged 42 Y., 5'2" slim and very fair. Differences immaterial. Please send a copy of son's horoscope, family details with if available. Email : sunday9494@yahoo.com OB149761

Buddhist parents from Colombo suburbs seek a suitable partner for their accomplished daughter, 23 yrs. 5'5", well employed in Australia after completing her degree. Must be a professionally qualified non-smoker of excellent character and good personality, 5'8" or taller, no more than 28 yrs. Australian residents or those willing to migrate only please. Please reply to priyaw@bigpond.com with all family details or an image social media links. OB149894

Buddhist parents residing in Canada seek academically / professionally qualified son living in Canada or willing to migrate preferably from USA or UK for their daughter born in February 1988, 5'4", pretty, fair, professionally qualified and well employed. Please reply with family details and horoscope to canpro1988@gmail.com OB150013

B/G affluent parents from Colombo seek educated, established partner for only daughter 1990 July, 5'2" pretty fair slim and well accomplished. Studied in a leading Buddhist School graduated in HR with PQHRM. She worked for an International Air Line as an Executive in the HR Management and returned recently. Presently employed as Human Resources Manager in a reputed private entity with a good remuneration package. Owns a modern two storied house in the suburbs with all facilities and other valuable assets. Elder brother an Engineer married to a MBBS Doctor (currently in NZ). Reply with horoscope and family details. kishadalu@gmail.com OB149827

B/G Colombo parents seek an educated son for their 27 yrs, 5'6" pretty daughter working as Software Engineer (Kuja 7, Shani 1). Send horoscope and full details in first reply. vivaha2121@gmail.com 0115783781. OB150004

B/G Galle 1990/11 5'11" Jaywardanapura Graduate Kuja 4 Sitha 1 pretty IT Officer daughter works in Colombo international company. Teacher mother seeks teetotaler son. 091-2243276. OB150078

B/G mother from Colombo seeks educated well employed son for her LLB/AAL graduate daughter 42, 5'3" fair slim and very pretty and young looking. She inherits assets including a car. Please reply with family details and horoscope. Email: exp07070@gmail.com OB149728

B/G mother seeks a suitable partner for their slim pretty daughter 1973 born, Bank Executive, 5'5" Kuja 7 owns house and car. sena.path i2019@gmail.com OB149963

B/G mother seeks suitable partner for daughter 1993 born LLB Graduate currently reading for Attorney's employed in a Law Firm. Studied at a leading girls school in Colombo. Reply with copy of horoscope. OB148943

B/G parents in Colombo District seek a suitable partner above 5'10" height for their pretty, slim, fair, educated daughter born in September 1992, height 5'6", employed, as an Assistant Manager in International Company. Only sister is married and lives in USA. She owns assets. Consider malefic horoscope as well. Email : propo sa 1199209@gmail.com OB150081

B/G respectable family residing overseas seeks an honest well mannered (N/S T/T) and academically professionally qualified caring son for our 28 years 5'2" pretty Engineer daughter she is bearing a good character and highly religious. Please respond with family details horoscope and contact number. Overseas residents only. v ivaha24@gmail.com OB149948

B/S/G parents living in Australia seek professionally qualified son for Doctor (MBBS), daughter. She is 34 yrs 5'4" fair pleasant girl employed in Australia. Please reply with details, contacts preferably horoscope. email - padme19@yahoo.com OB149770

Catholic Sinhala professional parents from Colombo seek a professionally qualified, kind bachelor with sober habits from a respectable family, for their fair, pretty, 27 years (June 1993), 5'3", only daughter an Electronic & Telecommunication Engineer from a state university, working as an Engineer in Multinational Company drawing a handsome salary. She attended leading schools in Colombo and inherits a house in Colombo. Our only son is a Doctor (MBBS). Catholics / Christians living in Sri Lanka please respond with full details. Email : c ds97629@gmail.com OB149492

Catholic Sinhala / Burgher parents from Colombo seek a professionally qualified groom, from a good family background for their daughter 32, 5'1". She is an Medical Doctor working in Germany. She will be a specialist in a year. She grew up in Dubai and studied at a private British School there. Reply with family details. sugar .prop29@gmail.com OB150091

Christian mother seeks a respectable husband with sober habits for her daughter born in 1975, younger looking, slim, pretty, fair height 5', executive officer, possessing a postgraduate degree. Dowry available. Religion immaterial. OB149710

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Christian, Sinhala parents living in Toronto, Canada seek academically/professionally qualified son for their daughter pretty, 27 years, 5'4" holds a B.Com degree and working as a Project Analyst in government institute. She has done her primary education at Christian School in Colombo. Reply with family details with contact numbers. Horoscopes not needed. E-mail: p.roposal.ca93@gmail.com OB150077

Christina, Convent educated professionally qualified lady 49 yrs, height 5'7", extremely pleasant and of smart disposition, holds a senior management role. Interests are nature, cooking, music and sports, divorced-plaintiff. Seeks an English speaking kind and caring Christian gentleman of good intellect for marriage who appreciates peaceful family life and is fond of kids. Divorcees with one child are also considered. Age between 50-55 yrs. Appreciate genuine replies via email to r.ebeccasen@gmail.com OB150125

Colombo Bodu Govi employed as a permanent Lecturer (PhD) in government university (BSc Eng - Moratuwa) 1989, 5'6" in height pleasant daughter. Owned property parents seek suitable partner. Kuja 8. nkaruna.thilake56@gmail.com OB150120

Colombo Bodu Govi respectable family seeks professionally qualified or educated entrepreneurial son for their 31, 5'3" pretty and well brought up MBBS Doctor daughter, with assets. Reply with family details and horoscope. Caste immaterial. marriage.props56@gmail.com OB150049

Colombo B/G brother looking for qualified partner for pretty fair kind sister age 50 years unmarried. Working multinational company as an Executive. Please reply with family details. Email: welivita13prop@gmail.com OB149747

Colombo B/K family seeks educated kind hearted well employed partner with good family background for youngest daughter 1987, 5'3" pretty fair studied at a leading girls' school in Colombo graduated from university. Employed in reputed IT company. She inherits substantial assets including a house in Colombo. No encumbrances, siblings Doctors. Please respond with family details horoscope and contact Nos. OB149804

Colombo Sinhalese Buddhist family seeks academically and professionally qualified employed son of a respectable family for their pretty and fair daughter born in 1995, 5', Management graduate, professionally qualified in CIMA and working in a private bank. Reply with horoscope, contact information, family details. OB149858

Colombo suburbs G/B mother seeks partner for daughter, fair, tall, 40 years, educated, holds Senior position in private sector. Owns house and car. Non malefic horoscope only. OB149803

Colombo suburbs 26 years 5'5" slim smart pleasant English honours graduate from an ordinary Sinhala family. Differences immaterial. Only child. Owns house, car and other assets. Kind hearted (even to animals) Professional parents seek an educated kind hearted non smoker with sober habits. Email: ma.shedpotato194@gmail.com OB149943

Colombo 5 Bodu Govi 1990/5'7" pretty daughter educated in a leading Colombo girls' school, Management Graduate. CIMA stage IV. Currently working as an Executive in a multinational firm. Well known respectable parents seek academically and professionally qualified well mannered, tall, handsome son from similar background. Please contact with family details and horoscope to: propcol52020@gmail.com OB149884

Gampaha District B/G parents seek well mannered kind hearted handsome son for their pretty daughter born in 1994 5'8" in height currently works as a Crew Member in a reputed airline. She earns a monthly income exceeding Rs. 200000/- Caste immaterial. Doctors preferred. OB149729

Gampaha Govi Buddhist parents seek educated well mannered partner for their pleasant younger looking daughter 1984, height 5' Executive of reputed Pharmaceutical Company in Colombo from Sri Lanka or abroad. Elder brother married and settled in Canada with citizenship. proposal.year2018@gmail.com OB149999

Gampaha Govi Sinhala Roman Catholic (Religion immaterial) and are looking for our only daughter born in Dec. 1988. Professionally qualified BSc. & MSc. in Australia. She employed as a Scientist in Melbourne and holds Australian citizenship. We expect a qualified son who works there. Please call to - 0775957654. OB149970

Government senior executive brother seeks a suitable academically and professionally qualified partner (Doctor, Judicial Officer / State Counsel, Government Engineer, Chartered Accountant, Government Senior Executive, Lecturer) for his only sister 1991 born, Kandyan B/G, 5'4", pretty well mannered, educated in a leading Girls' School in Kandy, Lawyer / Legal Researcher (LLB, Hons, SL, Dip. Forensic Medicine, LLM, MPhil / PhD candidate, Attorney-at-Law). Reply with family details & horoscope. Contact drsan.jayban7@gmail.com OB149776

Govi Buddhist Kandyan parents of a middle class family from Kandy seek a partner from the Central Province / Kurunegala, preferably an executive officer for their 35 yrs. 5'6" fair slim good looking daughter a postgraduate Diploma holder Assistant Principal in Government service, elder sister is married to a doctor (MBBS). Reply with the horoscope and other relevant details in Sinhala or English. OB149758

Govi Buddhist mother seeks kind caring partner for 5'2", 42 years young looking pretty daughter divorced (innocent party) with two sons. Reply with family details, horoscope and contact number. OB150063

Govi Buddhist / Catholic parents seek academically qualified son fluent in English working in Sri Lanka above 5'7" for their only daughter born in 1985 slim / pretty / tall educated at a leading international school now holding a Senior Managerial post in a leading company. Kuja 1st and Shani in the 7th House. Only brother married and settled abroad. mproposald697@gmail.com OB149994

Govi/ Buddhist parents residing in UK seek educated well mannered partners for their twin daughters born in France 27 years old 5'7" tall studied and at present work in reputed companies in UK. Please respond to twinsprop@outlook.com with horoscope of proposed son. Those residing in the UK are preferred. OB150017

G/B parents from Colombo seek an educated well-mannered son for their accomplished daughter born in 1991, 5'6" tall, employed as an Accountant in the UK upon completion of her BSc, MSc from universities in UK. Please respond to p.roposal.dght2019@gmail.com attached with horoscope and a recent photograph of proposed son. Those residing in the UK are preferred. OB149903

G/B parents from South residing in Colombo suburbs seek an educated Graduate son for daughter 5' 1987 June Graduate English Teacher, father Specialist Doctor Rahu 1 Kethu 7. proposal.gle@gmail.com OB149975

G/B parents living in UK seek academically and professionally qualified similar to MBBS or IT qualified son preferably between the ages of 32 and 34 years, willing to pursue career in UK or currently residing in UK for their 30 year old daughter. She is pretty slim 5'1" tall who is graduated with Masters from a well recognized university in UK and is currently working as a primary school Teacher in London. 199006proposal@gmail.com OB150051

G.B. W.P. respectable parents seek a well established educated kind-hearted son for attractive fair slim 36 yrs. 5'3" educated (Master's) daughter well employed in Australia (Rahu 7th). Dowry available. Reply with horoscope, family details and contact numbers. email - deepsea.sand555@yahoo.com OB149864

Handsome well-mannered son is sought by Business Parents from Colombo for their pretty fair 5'3" 37 year old Catholic daughter, studied at a leading girls' school in Colombo. Father Catholic, mother Buddhist, well reputed parents with a good family background. She is a pre-school teacher at a renowned international school in Colombo and owns substantial assets. Divorced after a very short marriage. (No encumbrances). Caste/religion and race immaterial. Please reply to proposal21310@gmail.com OB149929

Kandyan GB parents seek academically and professionally qualified handsome son for their daughter 26 yrs 5'2" fair attractive youngest daughter with very good character currently working as an Asst. Lecturer reading for PhD in Astrophysics in USA. Two elder sisters both married. One in USA employed after completing PhD. Elder in IT field employed in Australia. Please reply with details. OB149750

Kandy Buddhist father, a retired staff Officer, seeks academically qualified well-mannered below 36 partner, for this attractive, slim and fair 33 years old (1987 March) twin daughters. They both worked as lecturers in a leading University in Sri Lanka, after graduating with BSc (Hons) (Special) degree. At present both are following PhD in USA in same University while doing lectures. Please reply with details and contact number to adgc2015@gmail.com (in English or Sinhala). Caste is irrelevant. OB150111

Karawa Buddhist business parents in Colombo seek for their only daughter 34 yrs. 5'4, presently working at UK's leading Vocational Qualifications Awarding Organization (Colombo). She is an MBA holder and have a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management. Looking for an educated partner with sober habits. Reply with family details by Post or Email: tish985@hotmail.com OB149898

Loving kind, stable, caring gentleman over 43 from a similar background is sought by an educated professional from an affluent G/B family, a dual citizen (Australia) who is fair, attractive, looking very young, kind, enjoys travelling, interested in charity work and Buddhism. Never married and currently living in Sri Lanka. Divorcees and widowers considered. Self-replies encouraged. c.huladhnk036@gmail.com OB149887

Moor family seeks religious genuine professional groom with no kids working in Colombo for divorced bride with no kids aged 44, honest, friendly, wears hijab, resides in Colombo, respectable family. mypretty.girl@yahoo.com OB149927

Moor mother seeks suitable partner for educated daughter 29 years employed at a leading pre school in Colombo. Please contact 2590872 further details. OB149718

Moor parents from Kandy residing in Colombo seek a religious, unmarried groom a professional or possessing an established business, from a respectable Moor family, for their daughter, aged 34, height 5'2", educated (Professional Diploma in Montessori / Computer Literate), kind-hearted and well-versed in home duties. Please reply with full details: moor.nikah.proposal.1786@gmail.com or Phone: 011-7205544. OB149880

Moor Sri Lankan Muslim family in Colombo. Parents searching groom for 23 years old bride. Studied up to A/L. Bride mother convert. Contact 0112736906. zuhuithy@yahoo.com OB150088

Mother seeks qualified partner for 1981 born fair pretty daughter Executive International Company only registration was done and plaintiff. Reply with family details, horoscope and contact number for details. 2790013. Email : kalugala1981@yahoo.com OB149811

Muslim respectable family from Colombo District seeks well qualified partner for our beautiful English educated daughter 27 years. fatherf528@gmail.com OB149837

Our daughter fair pretty young looking kind studied in UK Europe worked in UAE, UK, Italy - 1979, 5'2", divorced, seeking for a suitable partner with overseas exposure, handsome, professionally qualified kind and caring. timesnewrom.anprop@gmail.com OB150113

Our 32 year old daughter is searching for a free-spirited fun loving adventurous and open minded gentleman to build a life with. She is a Doctor by profession, who is living and working in the UK. Please get in touch for more information. dapesi20@gmail.com OB150083

Parents hailing from a respectable Roman Catholic family down south with assets for their good looking daughter, a lawyer, 33 years 5'5" practising in Colombo, seek a partner of equal social status with a steady income. 091-2293770. OB150079

Pretty and gifted girl 38y, 5'2" Ratnapura, Buddhist, Govi, Nursing Officer in private sector. Contact sister 0112778387. OB150121

Professionally qualified, handsome son is sought by Bodu Govi parents living in Nugegoda for their 5'5" tall, pretty, well educated, one & only daughter born in 1992, works in a reputed private company. Please reply with horoscope. palliyaguruwasantha@gmail.com OB149817

Professional parents (G/B) residing in Sri Lanka seek an educated son not exceeding 28 years for their 24 year youngest daughter among the three professionally qualified children, currently residing and employed in Canada. Older children live and work in Australia and Canada. We welcome responses from Sri Lanka, Australia and Canada. Kindly respond with a copy of horoscope, place of birth and family background by email to: u.v253799@gmail.com OB149845

Proposed daughter around 5' tall Lecturer in America has completed 2 year residency born 04-05-1992 Rehena Nekatha Manushya gana Religious minded. Engineer or Doctor son is sought. Those in America also considered. 011-2418897. OB149754

Respectable Buddhist parents settled in Australia with dual citizenships seek a suitable partner for their 29+ years old slim pretty fair and well-mannered daughter height 5'2". She graduated in Australia with degree in Psychology and Masters degree in counseling and psychotherapy. Currently working as Advisor for University and also doing private counseling in Australia. Please reply with horoscope and family details. Email: keerthi.dharmabandu@gmail.com OB150044

Respectable family seeks suitable professional unmarried partner for youngest sister G/B Executive 5'3", 1972 Graduate with pleasing personality. inherits reasonable assets. Tel: 0112802644. OB149752

Respectable G/B parents from Central Province seek a suitable partner for their only daughter 42+, 5'5" fair, pretty, slim & very young looking educated at a leading school in Colombo. Legally separated from a brief proposed marriage. Innocent party. No encumbrances. Reply with family details & horoscope. Dowry available. Honesty is respected. OB149745

Respectable professional Catholic parents seeking a professionally qualified, well-mannered Christian son for our daughter who turned 27 years old in May. She is 5'4" very beautiful and brought up in Sydney with Catholic values. A qualified marketing professional working for an Australian Blue-Chip company. We are looking for a son preferably living in Australia or overseas and willing to settle down in Australia. Please respond with the contact number and family details to sdesilva23105@gmail.com OB150073

Roman Catholic Sinhala Western Province professional parents seek a suitable Catholic partner for their only daughter born in May 1991 height 5'3" pretty & fair MBBS Doctor currently working in a Government Hospital in Northern Province. 0112870653. Email: proposal238@gmail.com OB149972

Seeking a partner MBBS newly passed Doctor for the BSc passed/2020/daughter from our 1995 born slim beautiful one and only daughter parents father Supreme Courts Lawyer. Mother/senior Medical Officer under the Ministry of Health. MBBS Doctor Consultant Dietician too. Having assets Australian PR holders too preferred. Gampaha Colombo Galle preferred. Inform with horoscope and details. OB149860

Sinhala Buddhist parent in Sydney Australia, looking for educated partner Australian residence preferred, for their pretty younger daughter 28, 5'2" double Ba. Eco & App.Finance Sydney Uni. working as Financial Adviser in a private company. Horoscope matching not essential. Please reply with family details and contact: ap.sl20124@gmail.com OB149870

Sinhalese, Catholic, Govigama. The only child in the family has a British IT degree, Working in a leading government company in Dubai. 5'1", age 25 years. Preferably from the same educational background, working in UAE & age between 26-30 is considerable. [phupa.edubai@gmail.com] OB150046

S/B professional parents in Colombo suburb seek a suitable professionally qualified partner for their young looking daughter MBBS Doctor born in mid 1984 employed in Colombo as a Medical Officer studied in a leading Buddhist Girls' School in Colombo. Please forward all details with copy of horoscope to families 12020@outlook.com OB149819

Unmarried partner below 47 is sought by B/K/V parents for MSc, MBA, executive daughter (Colombo). 1977/10, 5'2". Caste immaterial. OB149799

Warakapola, Buddhist, Govi 28 years, studying in final year at Kotelawala Medical Faculty, daughter, parents seek suitable partner. OB149896

Well educated son is sought by Sinhala Catholic/Buddhist parents for their well educated daughter 5'5", professionally qualified in Accountancy/Tax/Law and Business Administration, born in May 1983, studied in a Buddhist girls' school, Colombo 7 with substantial assets. E-mail: nirmalamullegama@gmail.com OB149998

Well mannered caring son is sought by B/G parents in Matara for their pretty daughter. She is an Accountant & following final stage of Chartered Accountancy and born in 1992-12. Reply with family details. 4444proposal@gmail.com OB149829

Western Province Sinhala/Tamil mixed Bodu/Govi Doctor parents are seeking well brought up NS/TT educated son for their 5'3", 1991 March, born fair pretty MBBS Doctor daughter brought up with Sinhala Buddhist values well to do family. proposal.dr151@gmail.com OB149848

We are Christian parents well established in Canada seeking a kind, well mannered, educated (professional designation) partner residing in Canada or USA for our daughter 33 years of age. She is well mannered, bearing good Sri Lankan family oriented values, attractive, slim and fair, 5'5". She is professionally qualified with an MBA, Employed at a reputed company in a senior position. E-mail: dpr.oposal15@gmail.com OB150117

We are seeking an academically and professionally qualified son for our eldest daughter. Our family is Catholic, living in Australia for over 20 years and we are currently seeking a partner for our 5'6" professional daughter. She was born in 1992 and graduated from a leading Australian University and is currently working as a CPA qualified Accountant. Please reply to: melbourneproposals19@gmail.com with a photo, family details and horoscope. OB149854

1982 pretty slim foreign educated daughter employed in S/L. She owns two furnished houses, car and other assets. Divorced and no encumbrances. B/D father from Colombo seeks educated professionally qualified son. Reply with contact No. (Malefic horoscope preferred). abeyal620@gmail.com OB149899

1989 B/G 5'4" very pretty and fair daughter at a leading girls' school in Colombo divorced from the first marriage being the innocent party with a kid (boy), parents are looking for a professional qualified son. p.roposal3127@gmail.com OB150009

1993 born 5'8" Nugegoda Bodu Govi respectable family seeks a suitable partner for their slim fair well educated daughter employed in a reputed bank. She possesses lands and sufficient dowry. 0112802519. mndlpthrg20@gmail.com OB149917

1993, Buddhist, Govi, close Colombo, 5'2", studied at leading school in Colombo, BSc graduate from government university, daughter, parents seek same caste, educated son, either staying abroad or expecting to go abroad. marriage9093@gmail.com OB150048

1993, B/G, 5'6", fair, very pretty, slim, BSc. Graduate daughter studied at leading girls school in Colombo. Currently working in a private firm. Parents are looking for an academically qualified truly caring understanding son who lives overseas. proposal0620@yahoo.com OB150089

1994, 4'11", businessman father seeks a son from a respectable family for daughter educated in a leading School close to Colombo and presently receiving education in Australia. She owns a luxury house close to Colombo. Her only sister is a Medical student. (Rahu 7). OB149981

About son - Academically qualified and professionally employed in Australia with PR, working in a technology company. 36, 5'6" tall, young looking, handsome with fair complexion and maintains a healthy lifestyle. Likes swimming, traveling and holds a good personality, born and raised in Colombo. Seeking a kind-hearted, pretty, young looking daughter. Email: marriageprop.osal_321@yahoo.com OG150034

Absolutely pretty fair slim educated daughter sought by Colombo suburb GB respectable parents for 31+ yrs. 5'7" tall fair handsome Accountant son in Australia, planning to settle down in S.L. in early 2021. Studied in a leading Colombo school. Inherits a substantial wealth. Please reply with horoscope family details and contact numbers. email - day567chand@gmail.com OG149862

Abut B/G/S well connected family Colombo suburb seeks accomplished pretty slim well connected daughter for only son 39+, 5'11" handsome kind-hearted caring presently employed senior position Colombo Architectural Design Company. Hons graduate prestigious Universities UK studied leading school Colombo, owns assets, differences immaterial. sumanavilal43@hotmail.com OG149760

Academically and professionally qualified pretty well mannered daughter below 26 yrs. living in Australia or willing to migrate is sought by professionally qualified GB parents for their only son. He is a Senior Software Engineer in Australia and citizen. He was born in 1990 October and 5'5" height, handsome N/S & T/T. He studied in leading Buddhist School in Colombo and obtained Masters Degree in IT from leading Melbourne university. His only younger sister is Civil Engineer in Australia. Family owns a well established reputed business in Colombo with many assets. Please reply with details and a copy of horoscope. Email : pr.oposalmm1990@gmail.com OG149813

Academically and professionally qualified well mannered pleasant kind daughter is sought by G/B respectable parents from Colombo suburbs for their son 35, 5'8", NS/TT, BSc. (Hons) Graduate, Senior Software Engineer works in Colombo for a reputed Company in Singapore. Owns a house in Colombo suburbs and a car. Reply with family details and horoscope. Email : pr.oposal5634@gmail.com OG149702

About Matugama 5'6" Bodu Govi 1992/09 educated A/L handsome, teetotaller from business family with many assets upstairs house, vehicles, business buildings millions worth. anurap1977@gmail.com OG150067



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Academically and professionally qualified, G/B middle class business parents from Colombo suburb seek academically or professionally qualified, well-brought up pleasant daughter less than 40 years & educated in a leading school for our son who is 46 years old well established British Citizen. He is a Chartered Accountant & lives in London. He was born & brought up in Colombo & educated in a leading school in Colombo. He is 5.1 feet tall handsome, young looking, attractive non-smoker with good values and who has never been married. Please respond by email with your daughter's information & family details, contact number and a recent picture and/or social media links to ukslprop9@hotmail.com **OG150041**

Academically professionally qualified slim fair pretty employed daughter from respectable family is sought by B/K retired Executive parents Colombo suburbs for their son 5'6" 31 years NS/TT studied in leading Colombo school Senior Lecturer in reputed University. Reply with horoscope and family details. sriwee2012@gmail.com **OG149724**

Academically qualified kind and religious daughter is sought by Sinhalese Govi Buddhist family from Colombo for their 5'7" tall son born in August 1983, a dual citizen of Australia and SL. He obtained PhD qualifications in Australia and currently a senior Software Engineer in a leading multinational company in Australia. He is divorced from short incompatible marriage with no encumbrances. infpropoal83@gmail.com **OG150093**

Academically qualified slim fair attractive kind-hearted daughter in mid thirties or below from a respectable family is sought for their Sinhalese Buddhist 45 years 6' tall, fair handsome well-mannered N/S T/T youngest son, legally divorced, having done an MBA in marketing, working in Bangladesh for a UK based reputed multinational company at a senior management position. He owns income generating properties too with 4 luxury apartments and 10 acres Tea/Cinnamon estate. Caste immaterial & Sinhalese Catholic will be considered. Kindly reply with family details & horoscope to: kasunw74@yahoo.com **OG150055**

Academically & professionally qualified young looking daughter is sought by Sinhala Govi Buddhist/Catholic parents from Kandy well settled in Colombo for their professionally qualified Accountant son, born 1989, handsome, Canadian PR holder, BSc, ACMA working in a leading bank in Colombo with six figure good salary. Inherits a two storied house in Colombo suburbs & owns a car, differences immaterial. prop1467@gmail.com **OG149832**

Academically / professionally qualified, kind, caring girl below 32 years is sought by B/G aunt for a nephew, Australian citizen, 36, 5'7" divorced after a brief marriage due to incompatibility, no encumbrances. (Prefer a girl who lives in Australia or willing to migrate). Reply with full details. Email: a rasc123@gmail.com 038-2238840 +61426103305 **OG150070**

Accountant working at private sector, seeking an attractive lady from respectable family with a view to sharing life together. Age suitable above 45 years. **OG149974**

An educated partner is sought by Buddhist family with decent background for their academically and professionally IT qualified, brother born 1977, 5'6" working for a leading company, UAE, owning valued residential property in Kadawatha. Special who prefers to migrate. anucap s2016@gmail.com **OG150003**

A partner preferably from Colombo suburbs sought by educated gentleman in sixties around 5'6", kind & honest and in good health. **OG150043**

A suitable kind hearted and educated daughter is sought by respectable B/G mother from Colombo for her son, academically and professionally qualified Aircraft Maintenance Engineer, born in 1992, 5'7" He's currently employed in Dubai and plans to migrate to USA/Canada. Inherits substantial assets. sl1992 proposal@gmail.com **OG149766**

A well-accomplished daughter is sought by Buddhist parents living in Australia for their professional fair handsome son born in Oct 1987, 5'6", well-employed in Sydney in Finance and Management. Please reply with full family and contact details to: m arop5432@gmail.com All correspondence will be strictly confidential. **OG150080**

Bodu Govi Western Province respectable family Doctor father seeks for the only son slim, 5'8" fair handsome 1987, young looking non-smoker, teetotaler Anandian from Grade One, graduated in international business management. businessman engaged in direct imports of motor vehicles (own company) with assets over 400 million (including a luxury house, Tea Estate, etc) with high monthly income seek a fair, slim, really beautiful well-mannered daughter from a respectable G/B family. Dowry immaterial. propose7788@gmail.com **OG150015**

Born in 1981, S/B/G Kandyan and educated overseas with BSc and MBA from US, Canadian / Sri Lankan citizen currently working for a leading Consulting firm in Toronto and hopes to move back to Sri Lanka. seeks an independent, worldly and English fluent partner. Self replies are welcome. devran mangala@gmail.com **OG149778**

Born in 1981, S/B/G Kandyan and educated overseas with BSc and MBA from US, Canadian / Sri Lankan citizen currently working for a leading Consulting firm in Toronto and hopes to move back to Sri Lanka. seeks an independent, worldly and English fluent partner. Self replies are welcome. devran mangala@gmail.com **OG149778**

Born in 1981, S/B/G Kandyan and educated overseas with BSc and MBA from US, Canadian / Sri Lankan citizen currently working for a leading Consulting firm in Toronto and hopes to move back to Sri Lanka. seeks an independent, worldly and English fluent partner. Self replies are welcome. devran mangala@gmail.com **OG149778**

Buddhist Govi parents living in UK for the past 45 years, originally from Udu-gampola Gampaha district. We seek a suitable pretty kind hearted well mannered daughter below 27 years with a good family background and education, who's willing to settle in UK, for handsome son aged 27 years height 5'9". He is employed in a large establishment in London as a Senior Commodity Broker, specializing in the wine industry. Independent and well settled. Please provide full details with a recent photograph and horoscope in the first letter. Email: kjarri ageproposal@outlook.com **OG150032**

Buddhist Govi parents seek a pretty daughter of good qualities from Colombo, Gampaha area for their son, Chemical Engineer, 37, 5'8", truly handsome and young-looking, well-mannered, non-alcoholic, non-smoking, working as a manager in a leading company in Colombo, divorced as the innocent party with no encumbrances. Caste/religion immaterial. Reply with horoscope. Email - m .propo.ds@gmail.com **OG150105**

Buddhist Medium level parents residing in Ganemulla seeking a truly beautiful, educated, fair and smart daughter with positive and honest attitude over the age 18 from a respectable family. The proposed son is 31 years. (Born 1988), 5'6", truly handsome, fair, well-mannered and has an excellent personality. He is currently reading for masters reputed university in Australia and working as a part time employee. He was holding a managerial level position before leaving the country in a top pharmaceutical company. A girl who lives in Australia or different country would be ideal. Horoscope in immaterial. Please reply with full family details & photograph to proposalson1988@gmail.com **OG150103**

Buddhist parents residing in Canada seeking a beautiful, academically / professionally qualified daughter working or studying in Canada or USA for their 5'6", born Sept. 1990, handsome, academically / professionally qualified, and well employed son. Please email with family details and horoscope to propw2018@gmail.com **OG150011**

Buddhist parents seek pretty partner for only son (born in 1996 December) studied leading international school in Colombo very good personality (5'8") (graduate chemist - Sri Lanka) working in multinational company Colombo. Please reply with details. Contact No. 011-2901556. **OG149703**

B/G mother looking for a bride for her 38 year old handsome tall doctor son who is working in Western Europe. Well brought up with sober habits. Never married. Upper middle class family from Colombo. Please reply to: proposal010118@yahoo.com **OG149872**

B/G mother seeks suitable partner for son born 1986 studied at a leading College in Colombo. Graduated from USA employed in the hotel industry. Reply with copy of horoscope. **OG148941**

B/G parents seek a professionally qualified daughter for their son 5'3", who is well educated and born in 1985. He is a qualified IT Engineer and currently works as an IT Director. He holds an MSc and a BSc. We look forward to hearing from you. Please reply with details along with horoscope to: proposalmail2020@gmail.com **OG149882**

B/K respectable parents from Colombo seek an educated, pleasant, kind-hearted and well brought up partner for their son, a Software Engineer by profession. Born in 1983, 5'6" in height, teetotaler / non-smoker with pleasant manners, he studied at a leading boys' school and pursued higher studies in IT, in SL and UK. Currently employed as a Lead Engineer in a reputed software company drawing an attractive salary. Inherits substantial assets. Reply with details and horoscope. v ivahayojana123@gmail.com **OG150020**

B/K respectable parents (father is a Doctor) from Colombo seek an educated, well-mannered, pretty professionally qualified daughter for their son Royalist, 34 yrs. March/1986) NS/TT, 5'8", CIMA Finalist, working as a Finance Executive in a reputed Company. Reply with family details and horoscope. Non-malefic horoscope. m jw191254@gmail.com **OG149763**

B/V parents residing in Colombo seeking a pleasant and beautiful daughter from USA for 5'8", 31 years old professionally qualified handsome well-mannered son (Green card holder), working at a leading medical company in USA. He is separated from an incompatible brief marriage. Please reply with family details and with horoscope copy. (horoscope - Kujja Hatha). proposal89k@gmail.com **OG149850**

Catholic fifty-five Durawe Govi fair handsome divorced no children employed Italy good salary earlier employed Storekeeper Sri Lankan Airways owner two storey residence other assets seek partner Catholic English speaking family Forty-Four to Forty-Eight fair or tan slim nice appearance. Dowry immaterial, Dutch Burghers widows without children considered. 0312222889. **OG149971**

Catholic parents seeking an academically or professionally qualified daughter for their son. He is 28 years old, born and raised in Canada, 5'6" in height, holds 3 degrees (BSc Chemistry, B.A. Finance & MBA) from top Canadian universities and works as a Manager for one of the largest banks. Very fit and outgoing, and fluent in English, French, and Sinhala. Religion and caste are immaterial. Preferred Canada & US only. Please reply with details at proposals.sf@gmail.com **OG149852**

Close to Colombo born 1991 May Buddhist Govi height 5'4" studied at private school in Colombo, possessing diploma respectable family background, owning two storeyed house close to Colombo, employed private institution, second son of family, government retired father and mother seek suitable partner. Email - marriageprop199105@gmail.com **OG149805**

Colombo, Buddhist/Govi born 1973/ March, height 5'6", owns vehicle, assets, reputed printing press, printer businessman, pleasant son with sober habits, mother seeks suitable educated, virtuous, pleasant daughter. Reply with family details and copy of horoscope. E-mail: exp 07070@gmail.com **OG149733**

Colombo, RC Sinhalese 5'10" height slim, very FIT and handsome looking never married in mid 40's, looks much younger, having his own fully furnished house in Colombo & other properties and finance, returned back to SL after overseas employment, looking for pretty slim girl below 40 yrs age, friendly English speaking background from a respectable family. Race & religion immaterial divorcees are welcome preferably without kids, please email with contact number: sureshdesilva99@gmail.com **OG149888**

English teacher Roman Catholic divorced with private income owns house worth 10 million born 1960, 5'5" looks bride below 45 preferably with house and income, write details on your own. Western Province. **OG149780**

Fair handsome NS/TT 31 yrs. 5'9" MBBS Doctor son postgraduate Trainee working in a teaching hospital respectable G/B parents seek pretty fair slim accomplished and well educated G/B daughter with a good family background. Write with all details and horoscope. svnr3968@gmail.com **OG149461**

Gampaha district Buddhist, Govi, respectable family, 1982/8, 5'6", graduate, Development Officer, sober habits, handsome son, owns valuable assets, retired father (who held high positions in state service) and teacher mother seek educated, virtuous pretty daughter. **OG149954**

Govi Buddhist 44 1976 Lawyer Senior position leading corporate teetotaler NS, 5'6 1/2". **OG149286**

Govi RC parents in SL looking for a pretty Catholic partner, living in USA for their only son an (old Josephian) handsome (5'5" born 1995 March) living in USA, a Pilot attached to a leading reputed Aero Nautical University in USA. Professionally qualified in USA. He owns / inherits two large properties with houses in Sri Lanka. Email: perera 777781@yahoo.com **OG149995**

Govi, Bodu, parents from Kandy, seeks a daughter for our son, 5'11", 38 years, truly handsome, educated at a leading school in Kandy, currently residing in the UK since 2006, academically and professionally qualified, and a Business Entrepreneur in the UK who owns a house and inherit properties in Sri Lanka. We are, looking for an educated, professional, appreciative, kind, beautiful daughter, age preferably below 35 with a similar background, who is living in the UK or willing to migrate. Proposed son at the age of 27, registered a marriage contract with a woman (confined to the signature only, not lived together), hoping to take her to Britain, due to incompatibility, the marriage was legally separated. Our other three children are married and living overseas. Please reply with family details along with the horoscope and birth place. Email : taddkan2020@gmail.com **OG149912**

G/B parents, living in Australia, looking for a good looking, professionally qualified, daughter brought up with cultural and religious values, for their only son, IT graduate, handsome, born October 1993, 5'8" tall working in a higher position in Australian Government sector. Please contact with family details and a copy of the horoscope. subasarana93@gmail.com **OG149731**

G/B , fair, pretty, slim, educated daughter around 33 yrs. above 5'4" height from socially compatible family for eldest son 1982 born, 5'10", handsome, medium complexion, NS/TT, educated at Royal College, qualified in Australia with PR, Company Managing Director with assets and wealth, NS/TT, Kujja/Shani first house. Reply family details with horoscope. ye1954@hotmail.com **OG149921**

Kalutara Buddhist, Salagama/ Govi, 1985 height 5'7", handsome, owning house situated facing main road and lands, businessman son, mother seeks suitable partner, only elder sister is a Lawyer and married. tnpenera94@gmail.com **OG150039**

Kandyan Buddhist Govi age 29, height 5'5", media field businessman, sober habits, handsome son, parents seek suitable partner from around Colombo. w. proposal@gmail.com **OG149918**

Kandy Buddhist 44 1976 Lawyer Senior position leading corporate teetotaler NS, 5'6 1/2". **OG149286**

Kandy B/G educated parents seek academically qualified, pleasant daughter for their handsome son 1992, 5'7" with sober habits. BSc IT graduate reading for MSc, CIMA - III completed an Executive in a leading company in Sri Lanka. Inherits substantial assets. Kujja 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 12 more suitable. Reply to tad.wije@gmail.com **OG150119**

Malay parents seek a Malay or Moor girl age 30-34 educated fair, tall no Abaya in Colombo, for son abroad, educated, no smoking, good job. Contact after 10 am. **OG149737**

Minuwangoda, global online entrepreneur working on his own one-man business, and large scale real-estate investor / entrepreneur, BSc Engineer Moratuwa University, Royal College, former engineer at Sri Lanka Telecom. Financially independent with very significant 6-figure monthly income. Absolutely handsome, extremely young-looking, 5'7". Looking for beautiful, compatible partner younger than 35. b np6787@gmail.com **OG150122**

Moor parents seek a pretty unmarried daughter below 33 with modern values (No Abaya) for their unmarried son 39, 5'11", handsome, he is academically and professionally qualified from a leading University in USA. Currently employed in Director capacity for one of the biggest luxury Companies in the world. Bride should be willing to settle in USA. Please reply with details to : slprop20@gmail.com **OG150086**

Muslim parents middle class family from Colombo seek fair, pretty, bride, for their 30, 5'6" professionally IT qualified teetotaler/non-smoker son working as a system administrator at reputed place. Reply with details. Email: slproposal789@gmail.com **OG149874**

Parent from a very respectable G/B family seeks a pleasant bride from a similar status family for son aged 40 yrs. height 5'8" studied in a leading Colombo School followed IT Course from a reputed institute. He is engaged in own businesses. Owns high income generating commercial buildings modern house in Colombo and hometown. In addition he owns 50 acres Tea & Rubber and other assets worth millions. We are looking for a pleasant kind-hearted bride from a similar family non-malefic horoscope. SLG@gmail.com **OG149713**

Pretty, fair, slim, academically qualified, simple daughter is sought by business parents from Colombo for their handsome fair, slim, 5'9", 32 year old Catholic son, studied at a leading boys' school in Colombo. Father Catholic, lmoother Buddhist, well reputed parents with a very good family background. He was a good swimmer and a very simple person. Currently holding a post of an Assistant General Manager for a reputed conglomerate after reading for his MBA, owns substantial assets. Please reply to propoal21310@gmail.com **OG149930**

Professionally academically kind pretty bride sought for MBBS (MD) Doctor (registrar) 1979 - 5'10", Kujja 7 by retired parents Buddhist Deva Colombo suburbs. **OG150112**

Professional parents living in the USA seek an academically and professionally qualified, preferably a medical student / physician or a similar graduate level educational background living in the USA or Canada, a well-mannered kind daughter from a respectable Govi Buddhist family to build up a relationship leading to marriage for the eldest son, a physician by profession in his second year of residency in a surgical specialty, brought up and educated in USA with Sinhala Buddhist values. He is 26 years of age (April 1994), 6ft, handsome, smart and a fine gentleman with great qualities. Please respond with family details and horoscope to: GroomInfo94@gmail.com **OG150023**

Respectable B/G parents seek a pretty, well-mannered and educated daughter for son born in 1979 December. Academically and professionally qualified, employed in a well reputed organization, 5'6", NS/TT, owns a house, vehicle and a unit of a twin house. Please respond with the horoscope and details of the family to: propp2959@gmail.com **OG149878**

Respectable B/G/K well established business parents seek an educated fair slim pretty well-mannered kind hearted daughter for their youngest son educated at Trinity College Kandy Cricketer very good sportsman Graduated in Finance & Hotel Management in a prestigious uni in Melbourne Australia at present he is a Director / Partner in the family owned hotel business 33 years of age 05'10" in height medium built fair very handsome smart very fluent in English has an attractive personality friendly well-mannered person with great family values. Inherits valuable assets. Please reply with horoscope and family details. Email: spk47774@gmail.com **OG150030**

Respectable Kandyan Bodu Govi parents living in Canada seek a fair suitable partner an undergraduate or a student seeking further studies for their eldest son teetotaler, 23 years fair 5'6". After graduation, he is currently working in a reputed Engineering Company. The daughter should be willing to reside in Canada. Please reply with the horoscope and other details. chulakanthij@gmail.com **OG149601**

SGB educated professional affluent respectable parents of long standing family background seek an academically professionally qualified very well brought up pretty kind cultured daughter from similar family background for their youngest son 30 5'8" well qualified Engineer NS/TT kind talented well brought up cultured with an excellent character a PR holder currently serving as Senior Engineer in Australia. Elder brothers are doctors. Proposals are welcome from Australia also. Please forward horoscope and all family details with contact numbers for easy correspondence. flyshare1234@gmail.com **OG150115**

Sinhala Buddhist parents their only child son born year 1990 6 ft. height fair complexion handsome studied in leading Buddhist School Colombo graduated Masters Degree in Perth Australia thereafter obtained temporary residence and working while expecting permanent employment there, he has substantial assets in Sri Lanka. We are seeking for permanent resident or citizen daughter living in Australia or preferably Western Australia. Please reply proposal90@gmail.com **OG150085**

Sinhala Buddhist professional parents seek a decent educated partner for their son born in December 1984, he did his Undergraduate and Postgraduate Studies in USA and presently attached to a University in Boston USA. He is 5 feet 9 inches in height good looking with sober habits. Those who are studying or working in USA preferred. Write with family details to 231hemkalam@gmail.com **OG147824**

Sinhala Catholic mother seeks a kind hearted, educated daughter for her younger son Engineer, 26 yrs 6'2" in height, fair in complexion. He owns a house and a land, local and foreign proposals are welcome. Reply C/o Observer or email: hilarina62@gmail.com **OG149735**

Sinhala Govi Buddhist parents with a well established business in Colombo seek a well-mannered and well educated daughter for their only son who is very religious. He holds several higher academic qualifications (CCHRM, ANDHRM, IHL, GDM, BBA, MBA), 5'7" of height and aged 30 years. He is the chairman of a holdings company. Reply with a copy of the horoscope and family details and contact numbers in the first letter. E-mail: samula1990@gmail.com **OG149418**

Sinhala, Bodu, Govi, parents seek for their son Chartered Accountant holding a good position in private sector, 33 years, 5'10", owning a land and property, a partner preferably from similar background. E-mail: isdawn18@outlook.com **OG149849**

Son old Anandian born 1985 was Accountant now doing spices business for details contact 2790013. Email kalugala1981@yahoo.com **OG149815**

Sri Lankan parents seek suitable bride preferably from UK for their son a British citizen born in 1985, graduate and running a media and publicity company in London. Govi Buddhist and teetotaler, 5'11" in height, kind and outgoing person. Please reply : proporw@outlook.com **OG149768**

S/B/G Australian citizen parents in Melbourne seek educated, slim, pretty, and well-mannered daughter to be introduced to their only child, 26 years old 6ft tall handsome son studying medicine after his first degree. Professionals or students of same field are preferred. Reply to: a uparents50s@yahoo.com **OG149866**

S/B/G parents from Colombo suburb seeking a pleasant fair slim daughter below 35 years for their very handsome fair young-looking caring son who is 35 years 5'8" tall divorced from 7 month incompatible marriage as plaintiff. IT Consultant in a reputed foreign based company, having two elder brothers both married. Please reply with horoscope with full family details, caste religion immaterial. E-mail : mpr op4579@gmail.com **OG149328**

Western Province G/B parents seek a suitable daughter for their educated well-mannered, established NS/TT son. Born in 1988, height 5'11". E-mail: nilmin i.k1961@gmail.com **OG149983**

Western Province Sinhala/Tamil mixed Bodu Govi Doctor parents are seeking well brought up educated daughter for their 5'9" 1993 January born handsome NS/TT MBBS Doctor son brought up with Sinhala Buddhist values, well to do family. proposaldr515@gmail.com **OG149847**

We are a Govi Buddhist family living in Sri Lanka, seeking for an educated, pretty daughter, preferably a medical doctor who is qualified / working in the UK, to introduce to our only son with Mars and Saturn in 8th House, for a relationship leading to marriage. He is a handsome 30 year old, 5'5", medical doctor, graduated from a leading university in the UK and currently in his specialty training (ST4) in the UK. Parents and the only sister (married) are doctors practicing in Sri Lanka. Please reply with the horoscope, full family details and a contact number. Email: tgtr aj1956@gmail.com **OG150028**

We are B/G a respectable family. Seeking a charming and honest girl for a relationship which leads to marriage. Son is an entrepreneur and non-smoker. He loves sports. Preferred a daughter who is into sport. Those who are interested please reply to us with details and social media links of the daughter. Email - wedproposals@gmail.com **OG150098**

1955 R.C. 5'6" Specialist in Bricks, Tiles, Banana, Coconut, Paddy, Dairy, divorcee seeks suitable partner. email: ivan rceylon@gmail.com **OG149696**

1982 Colombo suburbs K/B educated 5'6" tall Assistant Manager in a private bank inherits considerable amount of assets. Reply with copy of horoscope to: proposal.silva@gmail.com (Kujja, Shani in 8). **OG149993**

1984, Buddhist, Govi, 5'7", sober habits, religious, handsome, holding Executive grade post in foreign company (UK) in Sri Lanka, drawing a high salary, owning two storeyed house, legally separated as complainant from a two-week old fraudulent marriage, son, parents seek virtuous religious daughter. pr oposal6e@gmail.com **OG150019**

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1988, Southern Buddhist, height 5'3", fair, handsome, religious, virtuous, sober habits, working in the hotel system, owning fully complete new house, Denata Nekatha, Mesha Laguna, Shani Mangala Yoga compatible, Pastry Baker Chef - coming in March on holiday, sought educated, fair, pretty daughter. Horoscopes in seventh, horoscopes in fourth, non-compatible, caste immaterial can lead a respectable life with him. Nekathi Kula in foreign hotel service (salary 150,000 upwards). OGI49941

1993 born, height 5'5" well educated and degree holder, currently works as a Human Resource Executive in a leading company in Colombo. B/ Govi father Lawyer (passed away), B/ Radala mother Teacher seeks an educated English Teacher or an employed daughter, two siblings, younger brother is employed and engaged in higher studies. Younger sister is still schooling. Well mannered. OGI49711

Colombo Bodu Govi parents having own well established leading group of companies seek a doctor and engineer or similar professional or well-educated, well-mannered, height 5'11" or above handsome son of a respectable leading business family for their younger very pretty, born in 1992, M.B.B.S Doctor daughter working in a government hospital correspondence by parents preferred. TP: 0115813178. Email: proposals820@gmail.com

BRIDEGROOM

Dehiwala Buddhist Govigama reputed business family, height 5'10", studied at Ananda College, Colombo, completed higher education from University of Sussex in UK, with BSc (Hons), currently following Master of Business at Monash University, will return to Sri Lanka in 2021 to engage in the father's business network, seek educated lady above 5'5" height. He owns house, vehicles, etc. all necessities.

swarnapala61@gmail.com
011-4884261

BRIDEGROOM

Dehiwala Buddhist Govigama reputed business family, height 5'10", studied at Ananda College, Colombo, completed higher education from University of Sussex in UK, with BSc (Hons), currently following Master of Business at Monash University, will return to Sri Lanka in 2021 to engage in the father's business network, seek educated lady above 5'5" height. He owns house, vehicles, etc. all necessities.

swarnapala61@gmail.com
011-4884261

GROOM

Respectable & Well known B/G Business Parents from Colombo, Canadian citizens seek suitable partners for their eldest son born in 1992 & two daughters born in 1996 & 1998. They studied in leading International Schools in Colombo & higher studies in Canada. All are involved in the family business here in Sri Lanka & Canada. Son is currently working in Canada as a Pilot. First daughter is fully involved in the family business in Sri Lanka. Second daughter is studying to be a pilot while completing her Degree.

O-149705
C/o Sunday Observer,
Lake House, Colombo

BRIDE

Karawa Buddhist Business parents in Colombo seeks for their only daughter 34 yrs, 5'4" presently working at UK's leading Vocational Qualifications Awarding Organization (Colombo). She is an MBA holder and has a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management. Looking for an educated partner with sober habits. Reply with family details by Post or Email: tish985@hotmail.com

O-149902,
C/o Sunday Observer,
Lake House, Colombo

The Housewives' companion
Classifieds on
Daily News

INVITATION FOR BIDS



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இலங்கை மத்திய வங்கி
CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, COMMISSIONING AND MAINTENANCE OF SERVERS AND SERVER RACK FOR THE CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

1. Sealed quotations are invited for the supply, delivery, installation, commissioning and maintenance of five (05) Nos. of servers and one (01) server rack for the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL) from tenderers who have supplied and are maintaining the tendered brand(s) of devices in Sri Lanka during the 3 years ended on 31 July 2020. The tenderers should be accredited agents for the offered brand(s).

Bid Security	Bank Guarantee of Rs. 300,000/=
Issuing Bidding Documents	0900 Hrs. - 1500 Hrs. From 26 August 2020 - 15 September 2020 Mail Room, Ground Floor, CBSL Head Office Building, Colombo 01
Bid Closing Time & Date	1430 Hrs. - 16 September 2020

2. Bidding documents may be inspected free of charge and collected by producing a letter of request made on a business letterhead.
3. For further details, you may contact Senior Assistant Director/IT - Tel: 0112477124 or Senior Assistant Secretary/Procurement - Tel 0112398754

The Secretary - Central Bank of Sri Lanka
No.30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo 01



Lanka IOC PLC

Notice for appointment of Regular Retail Outlet (Petrol Sheds) Dealerships

Lanka IOC proposes to appoint Retail Outlet (Petrol Sheds) dealers at various locations across the island.

The detailed Advertisement and application forms are available on the website www.lankaioec.com

Duly filled applications for Petrol Sheds dealership along with payment of Non-refundable application fee of Rs. 2000/- (Two Thousand Only), should be submitted by post/hand on or before 21/09/2020 at the following address:

Sr. Vice President (RS & HR)
Lanka IOC PLC
Level 20, West Tower, World Trade Center, Colombo 01.

APPLICANTS SHOULD CAREFULLY GO THROUGH THE DETAILED ADVERTISEMENT AND UNDERSTAND TERMS & CONDITIONS OF SELECTION BEFORE SUBMITTING THEIR APPLICATIONS.

The company reserve the right to cancel /withdraw /amend this advertisement or extend the due date as its sole discretion without assigning any reason.

In case of any discrepancy in advertisement published in English news papers vis a vis vernacular dailies, the direction/information indicated in English paper would prevail.

Corrigendum, if any, will be published only in the Web site www.lankaioec.com

For getting application forms and any information with regard to the advertisement candidates may contact the following address:

Lanka IOC PLC
Level 20, West Tower
World Trade Center, Colombo 01.
Contact No: 011-2475720 / 075-9278015

MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT & HOUSING

URBAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY NOTICE

Allocation of Shops at Colombo Gold Center, Colombo 11 on First Come First Serve Basis

- Urban Development Authority has decided to allocate the vacant shops in above project on monthly rental basis for a period of 5 years on first come first serve basis.
- Application Form together with layout plan of the Shops could be collected on weekdays from Real Estate Management & Development Division, Urban Development Authority, 8th Floor, Sethsiripaya - Stage I, Battaramulla between 9.00 a.m. & 3.00 p.m. from 31.08.2020, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Sri Lankan Rupees One Thousand Five Hundred (LKR 1,500/=) inclusive of taxes.
- Further details regarding the monthly rent, security deposit & key money etc. could be obtained from the Real Estate Development & Management Division, Urban Development Authority, 8th Floor, Sethsiripaya - Stage I, Battaramulla during office hours : 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. Telephone - 011-2875916-20 Extension 5603-5605 or Facility Manager (Mr Chanaka - 011-2323945/071-9859131).



Chairman
Urban Development Authority

A Revolution in Emergency Healthcare in Sri Lanka

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY



Call 1990 for free 24-hour pre hospital care ambulance service



This service is now implemented Island-wide.

Lake House is proud to partner this initiative.

CALLING FOR APPLICATIONS FROM REGISTERED ENTITIES FOR DISPOSAL OF ACQUIRED PROPERTIES

A leading private sector Commercial Bank with a wide network of over 200 branches requires outsourcing of its process of disposal of acquired properties.

Key Requirements:

- Experience in disposal of acquired properties.
- Capability to carry out island wide operations.
- Being partnered with other Commercial Banks for disposal of acquired properties will be an added advantage.

SPECIMEN APPLICATION FORM

- 1) Name of the registered Limited Liability Company:
- 2) Name of Directors:
- 3) Telephone Nos:
- 4) Fax Number: Email Address:
- 5) Registered Business Address:
- 6) Company Registration No :
- 7) Please attach copies of following documents
 - Business Registered Certificate
 - Company profile
 - List of services provided by the undertaking
 - List of present clients
 - Any other information you may consider useful

Date

Signature & Rubber Stamp

Please send your application form under registered cover clearly marked "Application for Disposal of Acquired Properties" on the left corner of the envelop within 07 days of this advertisement.

P.O. BOX 1913
Colombo



PROCUREMENT NOTICE National Competitive Bidding (NCB)

NEW CONSTRUCTIONS, RENOVATIONS AND ADDITIONS TO AUXILIARY BUILDING LITRO GAS LANKA LIMITED MABIMA COMPLEX

Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee on behalf of Litro Gas Lanka Limited invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the "New Constructions, Renovations and Additions to Auxiliary Building - Litro Gas Lanka Limited, Mabima Complex".

A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders from 2nd September 2020 to 29th September 2020 from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm on working day. A non-refundable fee of Rs. 3000.00 (Rupees of three thousand only) in cash should be paid for the said document.

The Bidder shall have ICTAD/CIDAC6 Registration or above.

A Pre Bid meeting will be held at 10.00 am on 15th September 2020 at Litro Gas Lanka Limited, Mabima Complex, Mabima Road, Sapugaskanda.

Bids must be delivered by hand or sent by registered post to the address below to reach us on or before 30th September 2020 at 3:00 p.m. Late bids will not be accepted.

All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security obtained from any Commercial Bank approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. The amount of the Bid Security is Rs. 250,000.00 (Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Rupees), The Bid Security should be valid until 30th December 2020 and written be in favor of Litro Gas Lanka Limited.

The Chairman,
Departmental Procurement Committee,
LITRO GAS LANKA LIMITED,
267, Union Place,
Colombo 02.
T.P. - 011-2327714
Fax - 011-2327698

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