



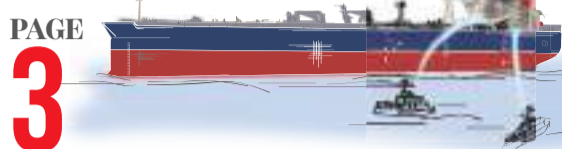
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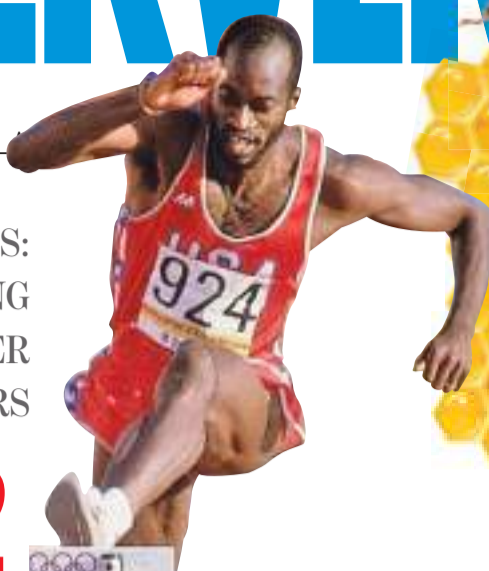
SRI LANKA'S ENGLISH NEWSPAPER WITH THE LARGEST CIRCULATION
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CERTAIN CLAUSES OF 19A FAILED MISERABLY

20TH AMENDMENT WILL SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT

- Keheliya Rambukwella

By Uditha Kumarasinghe

Mass Media Minister Keheliya Rambukwella said two-thirds of the people have mandated the Government to effect a Constitutional change as the 19th Amendment to the Con-

stitution is not progressive. Certain clauses of the 19th Amendment have failed miserably to fulfill the people's aspirations. The 19th Amendment has become a stumbling block for a progressive future. Hence, the need to introduce the 20th Amendment as

mandated by an overwhelming majority of the people, the Minister told the *Sunday Observer* yesterday.

Asked what circumstances led the Government to abolish the 19th Amendment and introduce the...

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Key highlights of proposed 20th Amendment

- No change to term of President to a maximum of **two five-year terms**
- President can dissolve Parliament after **one year**
- President empowered to appoint Ministers directly
- All Commissions will be appointed by President
- Retain Right to Information Act
- Parliamentary Council to replace Constitutional Council



Nine Opposition MPs to support

20th Amendment

By Taraka Wickremasekera

A group of Opposition parliamentarians have decided to support the 20th Amendment to the Constitution, when it is presented in Parliament, po-

litical sources said. Nine Opposition parliamentarians in two groups have assured a leading Government politician of their support.

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Cancer drugs to be produced locally

- State Minister Prof. Channa Jayasumana



State Minister of Pharmaceutical Production, Supply and Regulation Prof. Channa Jayasumana examines the newly produced drug.

By Nadira Gunatilleke

Some expensive imported drugs will be produced in Sri Lanka in the next 18 months at the State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation (SPMC) under the direction of State Minister of Pharmaceutical Production, Supply and Regulation, Prof. Channa Jayasumana, a Ministry spokesman said.

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A film festival organised by Scope Cinemas and Sarasaviya, the media sponsor is now on at the Liberty cinema. State Film Corporation Chairman Jayantha Dharmadasa and Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited (ANCL) Chairman W. Dayaratne PC were the chief guests. *Midunu Vishvaya*, a film directed by Jayantha Chandrasiri was screened to mark the first day of the Scope film festival. It will conclude on Tuesday, September 8. *Yugathra*, a film directed by Channa Perera, will be screened today. Here the SFC chairman shares a light moment with ANCL chairman. Scope Cinemas Managing Director cum Chief Executive Officer Thushan Meemanage was also present. Pic by Thushara Fernando

PRESIDENT THANKS THOSE WHO ASSISTED

Supertanker MT New Diamond fire contained



The Sri Lanka Navy said the fire on board the supertanker MT New Diamond was contained and the ALP Winger tug took the oil tanker 40 nautical miles away from the shore, a media release

from the Navy stated yesterday (5). A spokesman for the Navy said that the feat was possible due to the efforts of the Sri Lanka Navy and other stakeholders.

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Minor parties in talks to join Govt



Members of Parliament of several Tamil political parties in the Opposition are holding discussions to join the Government when the Government presents the 20th Constitutional Amendment in Parliament. The Tamil Progressive Alliance which won six seats at the last...

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Heavy showers forecast today

The Meteorology Department has forecast showers or thunder-showers in most parts of the island. Fairly heavy showers over

50 mm are likely at some places and the public are warned to take adequate precautions to minimise damage due to lightning and localised strong winds during thunder-

showers. The showers and winds over the island are expected to enhance today, a spokesman for the Department said.

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News

Tremors could be a result of reservoirs

BY RAJITHA JAGODA ARACHCHI

Natural disasters in Sri Lanka, recognised as an earthquake-free country, mainly consist of floods and landslides. However, the mild tremors occurred in Gurudeniya, Haragama, Anuragama, Mailapitiya, Ambakote, Digana and Aluthwatta in Kandy on August 29 and September 2, caught the attention of many people.

According to Geological Survey

and Mines Bureau (GSMB) Chairman Anura Walpola, the tremors, recorded in the seismic centre at Pallekele, cannot be considered as earthquakes.

"If the magnitude of the tremor is greater than 2.0 on the Richter scale, we consider it as an earthquake. If an earthquake occurred, it has to be recorded in all five seismic centres of the country. But these tremors have been recorded only in the Pallekele seismic centre," the Bureau chief told

the media.

The Bureau has five seismic centres, Mihintale, Pallekele, Hakmana, Puttalam and Colombo.

The GSMB has deployed two teams of six Geophysicists and Seismologists to investigate the incidents. Geophysicist Nilmini Thaladena, a member of an investigation team, told the media that the tremors 'could be' a consequence of reservoirs in nearby areas.

"But that is just one cause and it is too early to predict," she told the media.

Last year, tremors occurred in several areas, including Badulla, Passara, Haliela and Nuwara-Eliya. The tremor occurred in Badulla on March 16, 2019, registered 3.5 on the Richter scale. In 2018, another tremor of similar magnitude was reported in Kinriya, Trincomalee. GSMB Senior Director, Geologist Udaya De Silva told

the *Sunday Observer* yesterday that the investigation report on the tremors would be released to the public tomorrow.

Emeritus Professor of Geology in the University of Peradeniya C.B. Disanayake in an article titled 'A new plate boundary near Sri Lanka: Implications for future geohazards' published in 2005 –soon after the tsunami occurred in the Indian Ocean where over 35,000 Sri Lankans lost their lives

stated, "The break zone (Indo-Australian split) of the Indo-Australian plate, where the new plate boundary is forming, is centred on a point roughly 600 miles south of the tip of the India."

It revealed important findings, including the probabilities of earthquakes, minor tremors and most importantly Tsunamis near Sri Lankan coastline in the future as a result of the new plate boundary being created south to Sri Lanka.



A workshop for recently passed-out medical students waiting for internship placements was held under the patronage of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa at the Naganada International Buddhist Education Centre, Kelaniya yesterday. The event themed 'Good Intern Program' was organised by the Government Medical Officers' Association. Here GMA President Dr. Anurudda Padeniya presents a memento to the President. (Pic Sulochana Gamage)



Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena, State Minister Tharaka Balasuriya and Foreign Secretary Admiral Prof. Jayanath Colombage visited the Indian High Commission in Colombo to sign the condolence book on the demise of former Indian President Pranab Mukherjee.

People should oppose 20 A, says SJB

The Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) has extended an invitation to political groups and people to oppose the recently gazetted 20th Amendment (20A) to the Constitution.

SJB parliamentarian Dr. Harsha de Silva said his party is considering

the idea of taking the issue to the Supreme Court.

"This is beyond the courts and with the people now," Dr. Silva said. The SJB has commenced a public awareness program to discuss the implications of the 20th Amendment. (AW)

Arrests at Australia anti-lockdown protests

Melbourne, Sep. 5 (BBC) – Australian police have made dozens of arrests amid anti-lockdown protests attended by hundreds nationwide.

In Melbourne, the centre of Australia's outbreak, about 300 people marched in defiance of tough measures that have been in place for a month.

Smaller protests took place in Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth.

On Friday PM Scott Morrison said seven of the country's eight states had agreed to open their internal borders by December.

He suggested an eventual travel bubble with New Zealand could boost tourism and help revive the economy.

Battle against narcotic drugs

Dealers resort to devious tactics

BY AANYA WIPULASENA

When he was in his early 20s, Kumara was a drug addict. He saw his life crumble as a result of his addiction with little power to control it. Now in his 40s, Kumara is rehabilitated and is helping his friends to battle addiction.

Dealers are finding new methods to distribute illicit drugs to their customers. Police Media Spokesman SSP Jaliya Senaratne told the media that one of the tactics these dealers are using now is concealing drugs in devices.

Recently, the police busted a business where drugs were trafficked in inhalers. The dealers targeted schoolchildren and operated in the Colombo city and its suburbs. On Thursday, the police arrested a couple in Galle, with 500 grams of heroin concealed in coconuts. According to the police, the couple was part of a larger operation that is controlled by a man who is in prison for similar offences.

Air Force intelligence operatives and Police Special Task Force raided eight cannabis cultivation sites in the Udawalawe Forest Reserve on August 20. Two Sri Lanka Air Force helicopters - a Bell 212 and an MI-17 - were used to infiltrate the sites by the air. Police STF troops were airlifted and dropped at the locations during the raid.

In early August, the nabbing of

the 'drug smuggling cat' made international headlines. The cat was caught in the Welikada prison premises with a packet containing illicit drugs tied around its neck. The cat was caught just after authorities seized an eagle that was also allegedly used to distribute illicit drugs.

"Addiction to dangerous drugs has increased remarkably over the last couple of years. Earlier, we found addicts mostly in urban areas, but now it has spread to villages too," National Dangerous Drugs Control Board (NDDCB) Chairman Dr. Laknath Welagedara said.

"Drugs are sold to schoolchildren now," he said, adding that this was a worrying situation and needs to be treated as a national issue. According to statistics by the NDDCB's research unit, nearly three million of the country's population consumes alcohol, while 2.4 million consume tobacco. About 300,000 are cannabis users, 92,000 use heroin, 24,000 are addicted to pharmaceutical drugs and 115,000 to other forms of illicit drugs. This makes up to 2.5 percent of the population.

"About 60 percent of the addicts are in the Western Province," Dr. Welagedara said.

Central, North Western and Southern provinces are other areas where drug addiction is most prevalent. Attorney General's coordinating officer Nishara Jayaratne told the media on Thursday that the department has concluded 2480 drug-



Drug smuggling cat

related cases in the past 15 months and the state prosecutor has filed cases on 2,000 serious drug related incidents with the high court reducing the backlog of pending cases to 235 at the narcotics division.

According to NDDCB sources, around 52,000 people were arrested on drug offences from January to June this year. The people who are drug-dependent are rehabilitated in rehabilitation centres. Four of which are managed by the NDDCB and 13 others are private institutions.

About 10,000 receive treatment at the Kandakadu Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre. "About 12,000

are receiving treatment at the rehabilitation centres which are already overcrowded," Dr. Welagedara of the NDDCB said.

As part of its program to battle against the drug menace in the country, the NDDCB will launch the country's first Digital Suggestion Box tomorrow. People can give a tip-off to authorities on drug related incidents using the Digital Suggestion Box.

One of the Directors at the Alcohol and Drug Information Centre (ADIC), Sampath De Seram, said the most worrying development is the attempts by certain politicians, lecturers, monks and artistes to legalise cannabis.

"We see many Facebook accounts that are promoting the cannabis use. They publish lies saying that cannabis is good for health and the economy. When we speak against this we are attacked with foul language," Seram said.

He added that Sri Lanka is in a better place in controlling drug addiction than most of the other countries.

The increase in drug cases, he said, is because more cases are reported now than in the past.

He said that the country has to focus on delaying initiation. When people use drugs later in life they are less likely to get addicted.

The National Dangerous Drugs Control Board can be contacted on 1927.

Providing 100,000 employment opportunities to eradicate poverty

Objective: The program will empower those who live in absolute poverty with no formal education and skills through the Multi-Purpose Development Task Force established by the Government

CRITERIA

Unskilled workers who have no formal education or an education lower than GCE (Ordinary Level) examination

EDUCATION \leq O/L

Not less than 18 years and not more than 40 on the closing date of applications

18 \leq AGE \leq 40 year

Not less than 18 years. Must be an unemployed member of a family eligible to receive Samurdhi benefits but does not receive it, or a member of a family receiving Samurdhi benefits but unemployed

Must be an unemployed member of a family with elderly, sick parents or differently-abled members

Be a permanent resident of the area of application

Source: President's Media Division
Graphic: Manoj Nishantha | Sunday Observer

Selection for training program

Applicants with above qualifications from one family will be considered based on job opportunities close to the applicant's residence and his choice of field for training, and accordingly his/her vocational program will be decided

Program will be conducted at Training Centres in the area of the applicant's residence or at nearby Training Centres

After completion of training, applicants will be employed in his/her area of residence or in nearby areas

Salary and Allowances

During six-month training

Monthly allowance: Rs 22,500

After successful completion

Will be appointed to a permanent government position in his or her residential area

Non-primary skilled salary of Rs. 35,000 and allowances

Eligible for pension after 10 years

Any form of bribery will result in immediate rejection of the application

20th Amendment... From page 1

...20th Amendment, Minister Rambukwella said there are certain clauses in the 19th Amendment which have created various difficulties in the affairs of the State. For example, the newly elected President who is also the Head of State is vested with the responsibility of national security including the security of every citizen. Although this responsibility is cast on the Executive President, he was not

free to exercise his authority. Therefore, it was opportune for us to take corrective measures in terms of a Constitutional change. That is exactly what we have done.

The Minister said the President is elected by all citizens. When there are no remedial measures in place to carry out the state of affairs of the President, it was incumbent on us to take steps to overcome the shortcomings

in the 19th Amendment.

Minister Rambukwella said the so-called independent Commissions far from being a reality, showed repeatedly that they were not independent at all when performing their duties. The 19th Amendment became a redundant piece of legislation. Obviously, there are certain parts of it which are acceptable but not fully. Therefore, certain provisions in the 19th Amend-

ment such as the restrictions imposed on the tenure of the Presidency for five years, the term of office of the President limiting to a maximum of two terms and the Right to Information Act will continue to remain in the 20th Amendment. However, most of the contents in the 19th Amendment have been dropped. There are many salutary features in the 20th Amendment such as the President being em-

powered to handle national security.

Commenting on SJB's decision to challenge the 20th Amendment in the Supreme Court, Minister Rambukwella said that it will be as per the provisions of the Constitution. That is their business. It will be either upheld or not by the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court will eventually convey its determination to Parliament.

The Minister said they are quite confident that the Government could secure a two-thirds majority in Parliament to pass the 20th Amendment to the Constitution. Asked whether there will be Opposition MPs to support the 20th Amendment, the Minister said, of course, there could be a ray of hope. Despite different views eventually collective responsibility will prevail, he said.

Minor parties... From page 1

...general election under the Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) will discuss next week the manner in which it would support the Government.

Tamil Progressive Alliance leader Mano Ganesan, Deputy Leader Palani Digambaram and Kandurata Janatha Peramuna leader V.Radhakrishnan and many former ministers have held several rounds of discussions as to whether they should support or not the

20th Amendment and in what manner to join the Government.

Political sources added that apart from the Tamil parliamentarians, a group of MPs representing minor political parties too have opened discussions on joining the Government.

The Government is adamant that it is not prepared to welcome former Ministers Rauff Hakeem and Rishad Bathiudeen into Government ranks.

Nine Opposition... From page 1

The 20th Amendment has done away with the Constitutional Council and replaced it with a Parliamentary Council and the ceiling on the number of Cabinet Ministers has been lifted. Executive Presidential powers have been restored and the number of independent

commissions reduced to 7 from 11.

The salient features of the 19th Amendment such as the Right to Information Act, limits on the President's term of office to five years and the number of times to two to run for presidency have been retained.

Cancer drugs... From page 1

He said initial arrangements have been made to produce the drugs and discussions are under way to set up another factory to produce cancer drugs.

A patient suffering from Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs) has to spend around Rs.150,000 to buy drugs and at times a cancer patient needs around one million rupees for drugs. However, only 15 percent of the total requirement of drugs is produced at the SPMC, he said.

State Minister Prof. Jayasumana said steps would be taken to overcome the problems of the previous regime due to political interference.

Heavy showers... From page 1

The spokesman added that there would be heavy rainfall above 100 mm likely at some places in the Western, Sabaragamuwa and Central and Northwestern provinces and in Galle, Matara, Mullaitivu and the Mannar districts.

Wind speeds could increase up to (50-60) kmph, at times, across the country.

Supertanker MT... From page 1

The undercurrents and the wind had pushed the crude oil tanker towards Sri Lanka's coastline and the vessel had reached about 20 nautical miles shore wards on Thursday.

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa in a twitter message yesterday thanked the SL Navy, SL Airforce, SL Ports Authority and the Indian Defence Forces for controlling the fire in MT New Diamond.

"Thank You to the SL Navy, the SL Airforce, the SLP and the Indian Defence Forces for their efforts in controlling the blaze in MT New Diamond. I greatly appreciate your contribution in conserving Marine biodiversity by averting a disaster in the ocean," the message stated.

The Navy said fire extin-

guishing efforts are still under way. "There is a risk of occasional fires due to deep sea winds and such unexpected fires are being controlled by tugs and Indian Coastguard ships deployed at the location. Helicopters are also used for these firefighting efforts," the Navy release said.

At present, three capital ships and three Fast Attack Crafts of the Sri Lanka Navy, two ships belonging to the Sri Lanka Coastguard, three ships of the Indian Coastguard, one ship belonging to the Indian Navy, two tugs of the Hambantota International Port Group - Wasaba and Rawana, the ALP Winger tug, the TTT One tug with firefighting equipment and professionals had been deployed in the firefighting. The MI 17 helicopter and the Beach

Craft of the Sri Lanka Air Force are continuing aerial operations to assist in the combined disaster relief efforts.

Two Dornier aircraft of the Indian Coastguard have been stationed at the Mattala Mahinda Rajapaksa International Airport for an emergency, the release added.

The owner of the ship has taken steps to appoint a foreign private company with expertise in disaster relief. The agency is working closely with the Sri Lankan and Indian authorities.

The continuous cooling effect during the disaster relief operation had controlled the fire spreading to the crude oil store of MT New Diamond. As a result, there is no risk of an oil spill so far, the release stated.



Fire on oil tanker Bravery of sailors, coastguards pay dividends

BY MANESHKA BORHAM

The nearly three-day battle to douse the fire on a crude oil tanker in Sri Lanka's Eastern seas has been brought under control following a strenuous fire-fighting effort by Sri Lankan sailors and the Indian coast guards yesterday.

The crude oil tanker MT New Diamond chartered by the Indian Oil Company (IOC) had been sailing from the port of Mina Al Ahmadi in Kuwait to the Indian port of Paradip when disaster struck at around 8 am on September 3.

The vessel sailing under the flag of Panama carrying 270,000 metric tons of crude oil and 117,000 metric tons of diesel had caught fire nearly 38 nautical miles from the Sangaman Kanda point in Sri Lanka's Eastern seas.

Since then the Sri Lanka Navy with the Sri Lanka Air Force and their Indian counterparts and local authorities have been working around the clock to control the fire and avert what would have been the world largest ecological disaster. Marine experts said a possible oil spill of this scale would be the worst marine environmental catastrophe seen in recent times.

The ecological disaster was averted thanks to the untiring efforts by the Sri Lanka Navy, the first responder according to Sri Lanka's National Oil spill contingency plan. Following a struggle for over 50 hours, the fire on the vessel was brought under control by Friday night according to the Indian Coast Guard. However, according to authorities, it would be days before the threat could be completely eliminated.

According to Director General of Operations of Sri Lanka Navy Rear Admiral Y.N Jayarathna, the fire on

the vessel had occurred in the boiler room.

"Two crew members had suffered injuries while a third had gone missing," he said adding that they do not believe the third crew member had survived based on witness accounts. According to Jayarathna, the fire had then spread to the superstructure of the ship.

General Manager of the Marine Environment Protection Authority (MEPA) Dr. Terney Pradeep Kumara said the fire had reached the engine room between 5 - 6 pm on the day. "This is when the black smoke started to appear," he said. According to Kumara, crude oil tankers are designed to have space between the engine and the cargo hold as well as a double hull.

Explosions

"Therefore, if the captain had taken steps to contain the fire in the engine room the situation could have been averted," he said. But according to Kumara, instead, the Captain had ordered to seal the area engulfed in fire and move out. Therefore, as the fire raged on Friday, around 4 am two explosions were heard from the ship, while the Commanding officer of an Indian Coast Guard ship assisting in the fire-fighting efforts reported a crack on the port quarter of the ship.

According to Dr. Kumara, the ship had begun to tilt as a result. The wind and undercurrents had also begun to push the ship towards Sri Lanka's coast causing serious concern and alarm among authorities and public alike. "The Mission had to continue while the ship was gradually floating towards Sri Lanka," Dr. Kumara said. By Friday the ship was 22 nautical miles from the coast while it had been 38 nauti-

cal miles off the coast when the fire had erupted. As the fire raged on 22 crew members who served on board the vessel were rescued. Currently, one member is receiving treatment at the Kalmunai Hospital, according to the Sri Lanka Navy. According to Navy Spokesman Captain Indika De Silva, the uninjured crew members are assisting in the fire-fighting efforts.

While the fire has now been brought under control, the 50-hour mission by the Sri Lankan and Indian forces was a herculean effort. At one time fears were rife that the ship could explode if fire would spread to the cargo hold. The effects would have been devastating to the country's marine ecosystem. More parties including foreign experts are expected to join in the continuous fight over the weekend after Sri Lanka called for support to avert a possible environmental disaster.

According to Rear Admiral Jayarathna, the Sri Lanka Navy has deployed three of its ships and two fast attack craft to combat the fire. The Navy is being assisted by one vessel of the Sri Lanka coast guard, one Indian coast guard ship, and one belonging to the Indian Navy. Meanwhile, two tugboats belonging to the Hambantota Port and a larger tug boat belonging to the shipping company are also assisting in the efforts.

The Air Force also chipped in to combat the fire. Air Force Spokesman Group Captain Dushan Wijesinghe said it had deployed a Beech-craft airplane to observe the latest situation of the distressed ship along with a MI 17 helicopter.

"The observations of the Beech-craft airplane are being reported to Air Force and Navy headquarters," he said. The Air Force was also making

FIRE ON MT NEW DIAMOND

Sep 3, Thursday: Began burning
One Filipino crew member died after a boiler in the main engine room exploded, causing the fire

Total Crew: 23 (5-Greeks | 18 Filipinos)
● Rescued 22 ● Dead: 1

The Panamanian-registered vessel, MT New Diamond
(carrying about 270,000 tonnes of crude oil)
Owned by Liberia-based Porto Emporios Shipping Inc

330-metre (1,080-foot)

■ The Sri Lanka Navy, Sri Lanka Air Force, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, the Indian Navy and the Indian Coast Guard have attempted to douse the blaze with water cannon and helicopter drops

1,700 metric tons of diesel required for the use of the tanker is also stored on board

Currently the fire has had no effect on the oil stored on board, and necessary steps are being taken to prevent the fire from spreading to those crude oil storage facilities

The stricken vessel began drifting towards the shore, prompting navy vessels to begin towing it further out

Graphic: Manoj Nishantha

Bambi bucket drops to douse the fire. Despite the many dangers of the Sri Lanka Navy continuously expressed its confidence in controlling the situation. "There is no threat of an oil spill" Rear Admiral Jayarathna as-

sured. According to him the chance of an oil spill was slim as there is no threat of the ship running aground or breaking apart. But had this occurred Sri Lanka had already planned to face its devastating effects. According to

the Director-General of the MEPA Attorney-at law Dharshani Lahandapura an oil spill could have had a devastating effect on the world's marine environment.

Continued on page 7

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New Constitution will satisfy interests of all communities

— Minister Prasanna Ranatunga

The need of the hour is to bring a brand-new Constitution to satisfy the interests of all communities and it will take some time.

Although it is claimed that there are independent commissions under the 19th Amendment, we could not discern any such commissions. The structure of these commissions needs to be changed by bringing them to the level of effective functioning. Some commissions are there only in name. We have to consider as to why those Commissions have failed to fulfill the tasks entrusted to them.

According to the 19th Amendment, the President is held responsible for ensuring national security but he cannot hold any ministerial portfolio.

However, during the tenure of the former Government, the then President Maithripala Sirisena was allowed to hold two ministerial portfolios. It clearly shows as to how the same law operates differently for two Presidents. The people hold the view that the subject of national security should come under the purview of the President. There are some loopholes in the 19th Amendment. All those who raised their hands to pass the 19th Amendment should be held responsible for creating this crisis situation in the country.

Q. Do you think the minority parties would support to abolish the 19th Amendment and bring in the 20th Amendment?

A. We believe that extremists will not support the 20th Amendment. That is why the people have given two-thirds majority to the Government. We only

have to get the support of another five or six MPs to secure the two thirds majority in Parliament. In addition, a group of MPs who want to abolish the 19th Amendment will also join hands with us.

Q. Should not the present preferential voting system be changed by introducing an electoral system which elects a Member of Parliament who will be held responsible for each electorate?

A. First, we should abolish the 19th Amendment and include people-friendly proposals in the 20th Amendment. After that, we should introduce a new Constitution. The new Constitution should lay key emphasis on the electoral system. Whether to change the present preferential voting system or not should be decided on based on public opinion. Personally, I would prefer to go for the first-past-the-post system. Under the present preferential voting system, each candidate has to incur huge costs for his election campaign and it has created a lot of issues among candidates of the same party.

However, under the first-past-the-post system, if one candidate is fielded for an electorate from one political party, that would create an issue.

Sometimes, if the people like the party and dislike the candidate, then it would eventually lead to an issue where that candidate would become helpless. Therefore, a political party should allow at least two to three candidates to contest

in an electorate so that the people can vote for the party and the most suitable candidate. Of course, this is my personal view. It has to be extensively discussed as to how a more fair electoral system can be introduced but it will take some time. At present, we are not in a position to completely amend the Constitution and introduce a fresh one. First, we should abolish the 19th Amendment and bring in the 20th Amendment.

Q. Certain sections of the Government have also expressed their opposition to the statement by State Minister Sarath Weerasekera that the Provincial Council (PC) system should be abolished. As the former Chief Minister of the Western Provincial Council, what is your view?

A. The Provincial Councils are a good forum where we can render yeoman service to the people. However, it depends on those who are elected to the PCs. The former *Yahapalana* Government was an utter failure. When the country was destroyed due to the mismanagement of the former Government, then the people could have said that there is no use of a Government at all.

If the right person becomes the Chief Minister of a Provincial Council, he can fulfill much work on behalf of the people. I am very happy to say that still many people call me the 'Chief Minister'. My 'golden era' in my political career was when I was the Western Province Chief Minister. Therefore, a methodology should be formulated to make the PCs render the maximum service to the people. If we don't like the word 'Provincial Councils', an alternative should be introduced.

Q. Holding the Provincial Council elections was postponed indefinitely by the former Government. Has the Government taken any decision to hold the PC elections without any further delay?

A. The PC elections are yet to be decided on. To realise their ulterior motive, the former *Yahapalana* Government introduced 50-50 representation to PCs. Then, the PCs won't be able to fulfill any task in the future.

If there is no stable PC system, the Provincial Councilors will be sold for money and as such the PCs would become meaningless. However, if 70-30 representation is introduced and PC elections are held under the first-past-the-post system, then the PC system would become very suc-

FACT-FILE

Prasanna Ranatunga

► **1967:** Born in Minuwangoda, Gampaha to a political family. Prasanna Ranatunga is the second son of the late Reggie Ranatunga, a former Cabinet Minister and Governor of Sabaragamuwa. He is also the brother of 1996 Cricket World Cup winning captain and Parliamentarian Arjuna Ranatunga. Educated at Asoka Vidyalaya and Ananda College, Colombo

► **2008:** Entered active politics joining the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) and its main alliance, United People's Freedom Alliance (UPFA)

► **2009:** Seventh Chief Minister of Western Provincial Council

► **2015:** Contested the General Election under the United People's Freedom Alliance (UPFA) and elected to Parliament from Gampaha district

► **2019:** Minister of Industrial Exports and Investment Promotions, Tourism and Aviation in the Government of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa

► **August, 2020:** Re-elected to Parliament from Gampaha district having contested under the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) and secured 316,544 preferential votes

► **August 2020:** Minister of Tourism in the Cabinet of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa



Source: Internet, Graphic: Mahil Wijesinghe

cessful. We should not change the PC system to cater to the interests of extremists. Former Government introduced 50-50 representation to fulfill the requirements of the TNA and the SLMC. It would create an unstable Provincial Council and we cannot expect anything from such PCs and the council members will only focus on earning money.

I believe we should first bring in an Amendment to Parliament regarding 70-30 representation which is a mixture of proportional representation and first-past-the-post system and then go for the PC elections.

Q. Do you believe that there is a need for a strong Executive Presidency to govern the country. As the Executive President is elected with over 51 per cent of the people's votes, shouldn't we respect that public will?

A. Definitely. The country needs a strong Executive. We could win the terrorist war as there was a strong Executive President in the country. If the Executive is weak, it is difficult to govern the country.

We could see the weakness of former President Maithripala Sirisena in his capacity as the Executive President. Therefore, both the Executive and the Legislature should be strengthened so that we would be able to win the confidence of the people. Then only would the investors come and we can implement our development drive.

Q. The people at the August 05 General Election gave a resounding mandate to the SLPP to form a stable Government without being a 'cat's paw' of the minority parties. How do you view this new political development?

A. At the recently concluded election, the people rallied round to change the existing political culture where the

Governments elected had to dance according to the whims and fancies of minority parties. As the Government has secured an overwhelming majority, this is the ideal opportunity to create a new political culture to take the country forward.

Q. Different views have been expressed on the oath to be taken by SLPP Ratnapura District Parliamentarian Premal Jayasekara. Referring to the Attorney General's opinion, Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana has said it is the House that has to decide on this issue. Would you like to comment on this?

A. That is true. The Attorney General has the right to express his opinion. However, he doesn't have the powers to annul his parliamentary seat. When the nominations were given, he was not a convict and the case was being heard and the judgment had not been delivered. Once Jayasekara was elected as a MP, the Election Commission Chairman gazetted his name. If there is any disqualification for Jayasekara to be sworn in as a Member of Parliament, it should be challenged before a Court of Law. However, I believe he can hold the portfolio till his appeal is decided on.

Q. How do you view the Karu-Ruwan-Vajira trio contending for the UNP leadership?

A. First, they should reach consensus among them. Today, they are paying for their own sins they committed after they assumed office in 2015. The SJB will also face the same consequence. All those in the SJB and UNP who took political revenge from the people and caused devastation in the country should be weeded out forever from politics.

Continued on page 7

By
Uditha Kumarsinghe



Tourism Minister Prasanna Ranatunga said that the 19th Amendment to the Constitution introduced by the former *Yahapalana* Government failed to fulfill the aspirations of the people as it wanted to cater to the interests of minority parties such as the TNA with the aim of consolidating their power. In an interview with the Sunday Observer, Minister Ranatunga said that the 19th Amendment didn't reflect the will of the majority of the people. The majority of the proposals in the 19th Amendment were designed to ensure the survival of the *Yahapalana* Government and pamper the interests of the extremists. The need of the hour is to bring a new Constitution to accomplish the needs of all communities and this will take some reasonable time. The Minister said "the country needs a strong Executive. We could win the terrorist war as there was a strong Executive President in the country. If the Executive is weak, it is difficult to govern the country. We could discern the weakness of former President Maithripala Sirisena in his capacity as Executive President."

Q. What is more appropriate, abolish the 19th Amendment and bring in the 20th Amendment or introduce a completely new third Republican Constitution?

A. The people have given a two-thirds majority to the Government in the hope of introducing a new Constitution. However, that task cannot be fulfilled within one or two months. We have to seek public views and also consider the various opinions expressed in recent times. We should bring in a new Constitution which would certainly pave the way for all Sinhala, Tamil and Muslim communities to preserve their cultural identities by creating genuine reconciliation among them.

The 19th Amendment introduced by the former *Yahapalana* Government failed to fulfill the aspirations of the people as it wanted to cater to the interests of minority parties such as the TNA with the intention of consolidating their power.

That is why we opposed it. Likewise, it had also been proposed in their draft Constitution to create Muslim zones as well. Actually, the 19th Amendment didn't reflect the will of the majority of the people. The majority of the proposals in the 19th Amendment was brought to ensure the existence of that Government and satisfy the interests of the extremists.



Tourism Minister Prasanna Ranatunga

Does formal education enhance creativity?

By
Dr. Thilan U. Hewage



Formal education in most countries follows a pattern of preparing students for the workforce which is the lifeline of the economy of the country. If the economy goes down, the citizens of the country will place the blame on the government and the chances of the policy makers getting elected again for the next term will also go down with it. That means the ruling elite will have to give up all the luxuries they have been enjoying. That becomes the main motivating factor for the rulers to keep the economy going well. They have to ensure that the human resources needed for that purpose will be ready and able. To do that most countries have legislation forcing every newborn to go through the country's system of education which is designed to destroy creativity and independent thinking of the individual, and promote conformity and subservient mentality of worshipping the rich, the powerful and the authoritative.

Even when one finds employment at some place, more often than not one feels that the employer has done him/her a favour and therefore he/she should be prepared to be a slave to that employment and/or to that employer. That is one of the reasons why most

cases of workplace-human rights violations, such as, under compensation and labour exploitation, mental and sexual harassments go unreported and sometimes even unnoticed. Politicians use this weakness to their advantage by promising people employment at government institutions and/or other such benefits, to secure their vote. Once in power, politicians instruct government institutions to recruit from the lists of their supporters sent directly from Ministries. Some countries use fancy words such as 'lobbying' or 'corporate donations' for bribing. When a person who has been trained and conditioned to be subservient and not have any self-confidence even to feel that he was hired for the job because of his qualifications and capability, is made to feel that the reason he is employed is the generosity of his politician, that person and his whole family will be voting for that politician and the particular party until they die. In countries such as Sri Lanka one might even see some government institutions being unfathomably overstaffed due to this reason.

What is even more concerning is the fact that young people in their twenties are happy and content with just an employment for which they are often under paid and over qualified. This is one of the easier ways of manipulating voters and a common phenomenon all over the world. As you can see, the continuation of this system depends mainly on making sure that the voter base consists of people who have

no self-confidence, who cannot think for themselves and, therefore, don't know how creative and innovative they can be. What better way to program the voter, to accept all that, than forcing every citizen to go through an education mill, through the ages 5 - 18, designed to achieve exactly that.

Primary and secondary education

Primary and secondary education systems the world over are designed keeping mathematics and natural sciences at the top of their priorities and social sciences and humanities followed by aesthetics all the way at the bottom. A parent of a fourth grader once told me that his son had written a poem as the teacher had asked the class to write a poem or a short essay on anything they liked. When the child showed the poem to the teacher the next day the latter had asked: What is a 'lark'? a word that was in the poem.

The child had answered it is type of a bird. The teacher had then asked who wrote the poem and the child had said he did. The teacher had then thrown the book across the classroom and shouted: "Don't lie to me. Your parents or someone else may have written this because there is no way that you knew what a lark is". The parent said even though he was flattered that the teacher thought the poem may have been written by him



it was through his son's poem that he learned what a 'lark' is.

That was the last time the boy had tested his creativity on poetry. The usual reactions of teachers in schools and universities on new ideas presented by students are statements such as: "It won't work", "That is a dumb idea" and "We have tried that before" due to our nature of constant judging, censoring and criticising. In the name of maintaining uniformity and fairness knowledge is tested using standardised tests where only the answers given in the examiner's guide are considered correct and anything different is marked wrong irrespective of how correct or creative it is.

Research

Research has shown repeatedly, that we are born with the highest creative potentials that diminish gradually through the process of living. A

research done in the USA in the 1960s following 1,600 children from the age of 5 to 25 has shown that 98% of the five-year olds scored in the 'creative genius' range. When the same children were tested through the years only 2% of them got to the category of 'creative genius' at the age of 25.

To maintain creativity at genius level one has to keep the five-year old alive within oneself. Researchers suggested that to achieve that kind of sustainability of creativity one has to maintain divergent thinking irrespective of one's age. Divergent thinking helps create new possibilities using imagination while convergent thinking helps evaluating, criticising and making judgments and decisions. Divergent thinking is supported by happy and pleasant states of mind whereas unhappy and/or depressed states lead to more restrictive and limited thought patterns.

The school or the university should not be a place that robs us of our cre-

ativity and force students to cultivate non-creative thinking where experts in reproducing what has been memorised are generously rewarded.

Students as well as teachers should feel happy to be in that teaching-learning environment where, at the end of each day, everyone experiences a sense of fulfillment about the achievements of the day. Curricula and the evaluation methods should be designed to enhance divergent thinking. Teachers should not only understand the subjects they teach well but also understand the importance of facilitating divergent thinking through which students will be able to see a bigger and more general a picture.

There are certain aspects of creative thinking that can be developed through knowledge and practice if one is free to follow one's imagination and ask the questions 'WHY' and 'WHY NOT?' Therefore, the answer to the question "Does formal education enhance creativity?", is a resounding "NO" in almost all the countries in the current context, except perhaps in Finland and in a couple of other Scandinavian countries. But there can be ways to change certain aspects of formal education, including an attitudinal change in all stakeholders, to enhance creative thinking of all the participants in the game, including teachers and parents.

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

Debate on 20th Amendment in three weeks

BY MANJULA FERNANDO

Hours after the Attorney General Dappula de Livera advised that the proposed 20th Amendment to the Constitution did not require a people's referendum for enactment, the draft law, submitted to the Cabinet by Justice Minister Ali Sabry received the go ahead from the Cabinet of Ministers on Wednesday. The following afternoon it was gazetted by the Government Printer.

The Government justified the expeditious move, as it said the President wanted constitutional backing to implement his vision for the country and he did not wish to be weighed down by the technical glitches and the fundamental flaws in the 19th Amendment which dragged the country backwards during the Yahapalana regime.

The Attorney General (AG) Dappula de Livera advised the Secretary to the Ministry of Justice that the 'draft Bill will not require a referendum as per Article 83 of the Constitution and the amendment may be enacted with a two-thirds majority in Parliament'.

The draft will be tabled in Parliament within 14 days of the gazette notification (by September 17).

According to the gazetted Bill all but three articles in the 19-A will be repealed if the 20th Amendment comes into force by enactment in the House.

The provisions to be retained are, Article 14A citizen's right of access to information (RTI), Article 31 (2) which restricts the President's term to two and Article 30 (2) which defines President's term of office as five years.

According to constitutional experts, a referendum is required to extend the President's term of office, but a reduction in term will only need a two-thirds majority in the House.

As expected and declared by the Government that it received the people's mandate on August 5 to institute a strong government, the latest amendment to the Constitution will reinstate the powers of the Executive some of which were alienated to the office of the Prime Minister and to the Constitutional Council creating two or three power centres within the Government. And if there was discord between these power centres nothing could move forward as far as Government programs are concerned.

Thus among the foremost changes is the revoking of the provision which compelled the President to seek approval from the Prime Minister to appoint the Cabinet of Ministers. Under the 20-A the President may seek the Prime Minister's opinion, only if he feels it's necessary. The particular Article reads, "The President shall, from time to time, in consultation with the Prime Minister, where he considers such consultation to be necessary..."

The provision which prevents the President from dissolving Parliament until the completion of four and a half years has also been repealed so that the time constraint is limited to one year. The President will once again be vested with power to appoint the Chief Justice, Judges to the Supreme Court, President of the Court of Appeal and its judges, the Attorney General, Inspector General of Police, Secretary General of Parliament, The Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (Ombudsman), Auditor General and officers to top Government positions.

The 20-A has abolished the Constitutional Council and with it, its power to appoint members to independent commissions.

The independent commissions, namely, the Election Commission, Public Service Commission, National Police Commission, Human Rights Commission, Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption, Finance Commission, and the Delimitation Commission are to continue under 20-A.

To make appointments to these commissions, the President shall seek the observations of a parliamentary council. The council will comprise the Prime Minister, Speaker of the House, Leader of the Opposition, a nominee of the Prime Minister and a nominee of the Leader of the Opposition who are both MPs. Under the 19-A the Constitutional Council which was headed by the Speaker and which also comprised two members from the Civil Society were empowered to make appointments to top positions in the public sector.

The Government said that the inability to remove the IGP even after he was implicated in the Easter Sunday terror attacks (before the present government came to power) was a major flaw introduced to the Constitution under the 19-A.

With regard to the composition of the Cabinet, the 20-A will remove the limit on the number of Cabinet Ministers which is 30 and the limitation on non Cabinet Ministers and Deputy Ministers which is 40, at present. As per the new Amendment, the President will have the freedom to decide on the number if the particular Article is not replaced during the parliamentary de-

bate. The President can once again exercise power to remove the Prime Minister and members of the Cabinet while he has also been empowered to retain or take over any ministerial portfolio. Education Minister Prof.G.L.Peiris termed this as a major paradox in the 19-A, the President was the Chief of the Security Forces but he cannot hold the Ministry of Defence, - he said this flaw in the 19th Amendment required him to be 'responsible in a subject where he didn't have authority'.

Under the 20th Amendment the President is empowered to appoint three members to the Election Commission and appoint one of them as

Chairman. The minimum age to run for President's office has been reduced from 35 to 30 and the constitutional blockade to prevent dual citizens from running for Parliament and Presidency has also been removed under the 20-A.

Co-Cabinet Spokesman Udaya Gammanpila explaining the need to accelerate the 20-A said, until a new Constitution is drafted, the Government wanted to clear the path and remove constitutional stumbling-blocks which clearly got in the way of smooth governance.

He said the Justice Minister will table the draft law in Parliament 14 days after the gazette notice. Subsequently, interested parties are allowed to chal-

THE 20-A HAS ABOLISHED THE CONSTITUTIONAL COUNCIL AND WITH IT, ITS POWER TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO INDEPENDENT COMMISSIONS.

lenge the proposed law in the Supreme Court (SC) and the Speaker will also seek SC determination on whether the new piece of legislation is in keeping with the Constitution.

"Hence, the draft will be debated in Parliament counting three weeks from last Thursday," Minister Gammanpila said adding that at the 'second reading

stage' of the debate the members can propose amendments to the 20-A to add good features or remove any undemocratic features therein.

Although the Government holds two-thirds power in Parliament the SLFP headed by President Maithripala Sirisena said they will not sit with the SLPP to steamroll the 20-A in the

House. The main Opposition, the *Sa-magi Jana Balawegaya*, headed by the UNP breakaway faction led by Sajith Premadasa has also vowed to fight the Government move to repeal 19-A while National People's Party led by the JVP as well as the leadership of the TNA and the SLMC (part of SJB) too have been very vocal in expressing similar sentiments.

The UNP whose brainchild was the 19-A has expressed strong opposition to 20-A.

But the party which has been reduced to nearly one seat in Parliament at the last general election will not have a major say in this debate.

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Opposition MPs to support 20th Amendment

Key pledge during General Election campaign

The Cabinet of Ministers approved the draft of the 20th Amendment to the Constitution when it was presented at the Cabinet meeting by Justice Minister Ali Sabry on Wednesday. The Extraordinary Gazette notification on the draft of 20th Amendment to the Constitution was issued on Thursday.

Co-Cabinet Spokesman, Minister Udaya Gammanpila told the weekly Cabinet press briefing that the Government's constitutional amendments will be in two-steps. The first step would be the 20th Amendment which will rectify the "anomalies" in the Constitution and the second will be the drafting of a new Constitution.

Political sources have revealed that a group of Opposition MPs will support the Government to pass the proposed 20th Amendment to the Constitution with an overwhelming majority in Parliament. Nine Opposition MPs as two separate groups have informed this to a powerful political figure in the Government. The 20th Amendment has proposed to abolish the Constitutional Council and introduce a new Parliamentary Council in its place.

The proposed 20th Amendment has given powers to the President to appoint Ministers taking away the limit, consulting the Prime Minister if thought necessary and appoint judges and key officials after seeking the opinion of a Parliamentary Council. The President could also dissolve Parliament after one year, while the requirement of a legislator to be a dual citizens is removed. The 20th Amendment has empowered the President to appoint members to the independent Commissions after obtaining the approval of Parliament. The Head of the State will be part of the Cabinet and will act as the Head of the Cabinet of Ministers. However, the proposed 20th Amendment is expected to retain restrictions imposed on the term of the President to five years and the limit on a President's tenure to a maximum of two terms. It has also retained the Right to Information Act.

The abolition of the 19th Amendment and the introduction of the 20th Amendment was one of the key pledges given by the SLPP Government during its General Election campaign. After securing a two-thirds majority at the August 5 General Election, the Government took up the promise swiftly. President Gotabaya Rajapaksa delivering the Policy Statement at the ceremonial opening of the ninth Parliament said, "as the people have given us the mandate we wanted for a constitutional amendment, our first task will be to remove the 19th Amendment to the Constitution. After that, all of us will get together to formulate a new constitution suitable for the country."

Govt's responsibility

Education Minister Prof. G.L. Peiris, addressing a recent public gathering in Kandy, said that those opposed to the Government were busy propagating the lie that the enactment of 20th Amendment in place of the 19th Amendment would be a setback to parliamentary democracy. Prof. Peiris said that it would be the responsibility of the Government to inform the people as to why the 20th Amendment was being brought in. He said that the 19th Amendment was meant to cause chaos.

The Minister asked whether the decision to deprive legally elected President with a massive mandate from holding defence portfolio or any other portfolio could be justified under any circumstances. Prof. Peiris said that former President Maithripala Sirisena had been allowed to hold defence and some other portfolios as an interim measure depriving his successor to exercise the authority of a minister. Prof. Peiris said that the battle between the then President and the Prime Minister erupted as a result of the 19th Amendment. He said if not for the 19th Amendment creating an environment of hostility leading to a major security lapse, the Easter Sunday attacks could have been prevented.

Opposition lawmakers have criticised the Government's moves to bring in a new amendment or to introduce a new Constitution.



KARU-RUWAN-VAJIRA TRIO ARE CONTENDING FOR THE PARTY LEADERSHIP. UNP SENIOR VAJIRA ABEYWARDENA HAS EXPRESSED HIS DESIRE TO TAKE UP THE PARTY REINS CITING 38 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN POLITICS

SJB General Secretary MP Ranjith Madduma Bandara told the media that the Government is trying to create a rule of nepotism by abolishing independent commissions.

SJB Parliamentarian Mujibur Rahman had told the media that the 20th Amendment sought to take the country back to 2015. He criticised the SLPP Government for causing irreparable damage to democracy by granting the President dictatorial powers. He said the Government had abused its two-thirds majority. The JVP has also announced its objection against the proposed 20th Amendment citing it as a precursor to a dictatorship rule. JVP Leader Anura Kumara Dissanayake during a media briefing on Friday said, "this constitutional amendment is undemocratic and harmful to the people."



A GROUP OF OPPOSITION MPS WILL SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT TO PASS THE PROPOSED 20TH AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION WITH AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY IN PARLIAMENT. NINE OPPOSITION MPS AS TWO SEPARATE GROUPS HAVE INFORMED THIS TO A POWERFUL POLITICAL FIGURE IN THE GOVERNMENT. THE 20TH AMENDMENT HAS PROPOSED TO ABOLISH THE CONSTITUTIONAL COUNCIL AND INTRODUCE A NEW PARLIAMENTARY COUNCIL IN ITS PLACE



University of Politics
By Prof. Backbencher

Different views have been expressed on the oath to be taken by SLPP Ratnapura District Parliamentarian Premalal Jayasekera. Referring to Attorney General's opinion, Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana has said it is the House that has to decide on the issue.

Addressing a recent press briefing, Minister Vasudeva Nanayakkara said the admission of MP Premalal Jayasekera to Parliament is a decision of the Speaker and Parliament and not of the Attorney General. He said this in response to a question posed by journalists about the fate of MP Jayasekera in the context that it would be illegal for MP Jayasekera to go to Parliament in accordance with a statement by the Attorney General. Minister Nanayakkara said the Attorney General has made a statement to this effect and has proclaimed that MP Jayasekera cannot go to Parliament, but the Attorney General has no power in this respect. This has now gone to the Courts of Appeal. Accordingly, the AG will go to the Court of Appeal to obtain confirmation of the verdict in question, which is the responsibility of the AG. The Court of Appeal verdict pertaining to allowing Parliament-elect Premalal Jayasekera to attend Parliament sittings will be announced tomorrow. Jayasekera had filed a writ petition before the Court of Appeal seeking an order to permit him to attend Parliament sittings.

Leadership crisis

The leadership crisis within the UNP has taken a new turn as Karu-Ruwan-Vajira trio are contending for the party leadership. UNP senior Vajira Abeywardena has expressed his desire to take up the party reins citing 38 years experience in politics. Abeywardena addressing the media, said that he is the most senior UNP working Committee member after former Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe, adding that he

has received a number of requests from the Maha Sangha and the party supporters to accept the UNP leadership. He said that he is capable of reviving the party if he is offered the party leadership. Abeywardena told the reporters that he has worked under former Presidents J.R. Jayewardene, Ranasinghe Premadasa and party stalwarts Gamage Gamage and Ranil Wickremesinghe.

"I have vast experience in working with them and these experiences will help me revive the party," he said.

Former United National Party (UNP) lawmaker Ruwan Wijewardene had expressed willingness to take over the party leadership due to the request of several factions, including party supporters. Wijewardene at a recent public gathering said, "I am confident that we can lead the UNP to victory by restructuring and strengthening the party."

He said the UNP's election defeat is an opportunity to identify the loopholes in the party and to restore confidence in party supporters. The Youth Wing of the UNP Jathika Yovun Peramuna has also passed a resolution calling for the appointment of Ruwan Wijewardene as the new party leader. Former Speaker Karu Jayasuriya told the media that he is ready to accept the UNP leadership as he is one of the most senior members of the party.

"I am capable of re-building the UNP once again to its former dignified level. The UNP has come down to its lowest due to the lack of confidence among its members. Since 1996, I have been working hard to maintain the status of the party. I have no intention to get the UNP leadership by force or in an undue



SLPP CHAIRMAN, FORMER PRESIDENT MAITHRIPALA SIRISENA IN A STATEMENT, SAID THE SLPP HAS ALWAYS PLAYED A ROLE IN NURTURING LOCALISM AND NATIONALISM

manner. I have no idea to represent Parliament once again, but I am interested in re-building the UNP to its former level in the next few years," he said.

Former Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe gave a statement to the Police unit of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) probing into political victimisation on Friday. Nearly 5 hour-statement had been recorded from him.

The UNP leader appeared before the Commission based on a complaint by former Economic Development Ministry Secretary and Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation Chairman Dr. Nihal Jayathilake. The complaint has made the member of the anti-corruption committee appointed by the Yahapalana Government as respondents and UNP leader Wickremesinghe has been the Chairman of this anti-corruption committee. The former Prime Minister arrived at the police unit of the Presidential Commission investigating into the Easter Sunday attacks earlier.

The SLPP Provincial Councilors' Forum has expressed its opposition to the recent statement by State Minister Sarath Weerasekera that the Provincial Council (PC) system should be abolished. They have also passed a resolution condemning the statements by State Minister Weerasekera regarding the PC system, claiming it as a white elephant.

Addressing the media at the SLPP headquarters, former Chairman of the Sabaragamuwa Provincial Council and Chairman of the forum Kanchana Jayaratne said, "We have seen in recent days that State

Minister Sarath Weerasekera has expressed some views on the Provincial Councils. Neither the SLPP nor the Prime Minister nor the President has made any such statement as a Government. Jayaratne said they passed a resolution on September 3 to express their disgust at Weerasekera's statement and the ideology he holds. "We see this as a conspiracy to undermine the strength of our Government. If one or the other tries to conspire together, there is no room for that," he said.

Democracy

Chief Opposition Whip MP Lakshman Kiriella has stated that the SJB would challenge the 20th Amendment in the Supreme Court to safeguard the mechanisms introduced by the 19th Amendment to ensure independence of the judiciary and the public service. Speaking to the media at the SJB head office, Kiriella said, "the proposed 20th Amendment will deprive the people of their democratic rights. We will obstruct the Government's march towards dictatorship. The first step in that battle will be going before the Supreme Court against the proposed amendment. People asked for strengthening state institutions and making them independent. As a result, we introduced the 19th Amendment to the Constitution to prune down some powers vested in the executive presidency. We re-established independent Commissions which ensured democracy. Now, the Government has brought in another amendment to do away with those democratic mechanisms and to consolidate powers in the hands of the President.

Former President Maithripala Sirisena and State Minister Roshan Ranasinghe, who verbally attacked each other from the political platform during the General Election in the Polonnaruwa district, met each other at a ceremony on Friday. Two political rivals were engaged in a cordial discussion at the opening of the Elders' Home constructed in the Parakum Uyana in Polonnaruwa which was financially supported by the former President's brother Dudley Sirisena.

State Minister Ranasinghe addressing the ceremony said, "We all live a short period and should live in peace and harmony. We have realised this and petty differences will be set aside. The Government is prepared to go along a journey in unison.

We respect former President Sirisena as a veteran politician. I congratulated him on his longstanding political career when I met him in Parliament. In future, the former President and I would join hands to implement all programs to develop Polonnaruwa."



SLPP's anniversary

The SLPP marked its 69th anniversary on September 2. SLPP Chairman, former President Maithripala Sirisena in a statement, said the SLPP has always played a role in nurturing localism and nationalism.

He said the SLPP has always stood for the independence and unity of the country. Multi-faith religious ceremonies were held to mark the occasion and to commemorate the SLPP leaders and members who have passed away. The SLPP joined hands with the SLPP at the last General Election and supported President Gotabaya Rajapaksa at the last Presidential Election.

Former President and a Patron of the SLPP, Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga told the media that she would work with the younger generation to reinvigorate the SLPP that was weakened due to the conduct of former President and SLPP Chairman Maithripala Sirisena.

Former President Kumaratunga, making a statement to mark the 69th anniversary of the SLPP, said she had been saddened by the fate of the SLPP, which was formed by the late Prime Minister S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike.

THE ADMISSION OF MP PREMALAR JAYASEKERA TO PARLIAMENT IS A DECISION OF THE SPEAKER AND PARLIAMENT AND NOT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

SUNDAY OBSERVER

A positive development

It was generally agreed, even by the very architects of the 19th Amendment, that it contained many shortcomings and ambiguities. Even though only one MP – present State Minister Dr. Sarath Weerasekera opposed it at that time, it soon became obvious to everyone that the 19th Amendment could lead to chaos in respect of governance, despite a number of positive features. And it did, before long.

This was of course exacerbated by the rivalry between the then President and the Prime Minister, who tended to pull in different directions. The shortcomings of the 19th Amendment became apparent when the President could not dissolve Parliament even when it became clear that the then Government had lost its mandate to govern following the Local Government Elections of 2018. This led to the tumultuous political events of October 2018, though the Courts eventually had to apply the laws that prevailed at the time. Even when Gotabaya Rajapaksa won the Presidential Elections in 2019 thus completely nullifying the earlier administration's mandate, he had to wait several more months to dissolve Parliament due to the mandatory four-and-a-half-year rule imposed by the 19th Amendment.

Moreover, the 19th Amendment had taken away the Presidential powers to appoint suitable persons to high posts, which has led to utter chaos in several instances. When the serving IGP was taken into custody in connection with intelligence failures over the 2019 Easter attacks, there was no provision for the President or Parliament to appoint the next in line or another suitable person to that post. Instead, only an Acting IGP could be appointed. It also became clear that some members of the Independent Commissions were making statements that could be interpreted as being inimical to the country's interests.

These situations led to calls to re-appraise, amend or abolish the 19th Amendment. This was in fact a campaign pledge of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa as well as the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) led by Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa. Since the voters have given a massive mandate to the Government in this regard, the Government has lost no time in presenting to the people a draft of the proposed new 20th Amendment, which will replace the 19th Amendment. It is in the public domain for everyone to peruse and there will necessarily be a debate in society about its pros and cons, which is how it should be in a vibrant democracy like ours. A number of key provisions in the 19th Amendment to the Constitution has been repealed through the proposed new Amendment, though some have been retained and even strengthened.

The 20th Amendment to the Constitution has proposed a Parliamentary Council comprising the Prime Minister, Speaker, Leader of the Opposition and a nominee from the Speaker and Leader of the Opposition, replacing the present Constitutional Council. These nominees should also be sitting MPs. No non-MPs can represent the Parliamentary Council, unlike in the previous Constitutional Council, which had so-called Civil Society representatives.

Under the 20th Amendment, the President would be empowered to appoint members of Independent Commissions, Superior Court Judges, Attorney General, Auditor General, Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (Ombudsman) and Secretary-General of Parliament after seeking observations from the Parliamentary Council. These appointments were earlier made by the Constitutional Council. This is a step in the right direction, because a President needs to take decisive action at the right time.

In a significant departure from the 19th Amendment, the President would be allowed to dissolve Parliament in a year after it first convenes and he or she would also be vested with the power to remove the Prime Minister. This too is a correct step, as circumstances can arise wherein Parliament may have lost its mandate or other circumstances compel a President to seek a fresh mandate for a Government. In the case of the Prime Minister, a situation may arise where he or she can no longer command the confidence of the President and Ministers and where removal could be one option.

It was no secret that many provisions of the 19th Amendment were brought in with the aim of keeping the Rajapaksa family out of power and politics. From the clause banning dual citizens from entering Parliament to raising the minimum age limit for a President to 35, many of the provisions targeted the Rajapaksas. But they can apply to anyone.

In today's globalised world, it makes no sense to keep dual citizens out, as long as they show a greater commitment to their country of birth. Besides, their experience and networks in the adopted country may be useful in terms of skills transfer and development here. What is needed now is an infusion of ideas from both locals and expatriates on how we can revive the economy and society in the post-pandemic era. If dual citizens can contribute to this noble quest in a meaningful way, then all doors including those of Parliament must be open to them.

The drafters of the 20th Amendment also deserve plaudits for retaining some of the progressive features of the 19th Amendment, such as the Right to Information (RTI). President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has emphasised the importance of accountability, transparency and integrity in governance. His mission is for a corruption-free Government and society and such laws will enable the public to see for themselves whether the Government is on the right track. It would appear that this is the very aim of the 20th Amendment.

Drug underworld comes apart, but critics tilt at windmills

by
Rajpal Abeynayake



The environment issue should not trump the drug issue, but it's happening despite the fact that even detractors are impressed with the gains with regard to eradicating the drug menace. The brickbats about political connections of drug lords etc are sounding totally churlish when everybody is aware the Angoda Lokkas and the Kudu Ruwans don't have a chance.

But the ground is almost cut from under the feet of the Government's Task Forces on these matters due to the noise being made about the Sinharaja forest and other environmental issues, so called.

The Sinharaja Reserve is a national treasure, and it is one of a kind. It's one of the world's most prolific biodiversity hotspots and that's not some slogan, it's a continuing responsibility, plus an ongoing celebration.

But the noise being made about the so called road through areas of the Sinharaja is as far as this writer can tell, not an informed campaign. This pathway has been around for years say the environmental experts. Its idea is to prevent illegal logging on the one hand because the route provides easy and quick access to law enforcement.

So the road is a solution, not a problem, in the symbiosis between man and nature that's a Biodiversity Reserve. No doubt it's paradoxical to think that a forest needs some human intrusion to keep away other rapacious humans i.e illegal loggers, and others of the ilk.

Is there a need to go into a paroxysm of panic about the so-called environmental desecration when the country anyway has a history of environmental boogies. Anyone remembers Kandalama?

The protests against the Kandalama Hotel were strident and at times had almost apocalyptic connotations. Now the hotel is part of the landscape – quite literally if anyone knows the first thing about Kandalama – and people get about their lives, and nobody is saying there is any loss to the environment as a result of the project.

Balance

This is not to say that Sinharaja is not sacrosanct. It is. But it's precisely because it's sacrosanct as a Reserve that has to be protected, that it needs the subtle human inroad, no pun intended.

From all the information that this writer is privy to, the access route has been in existence for many years anyway and is now getting a systemic upgrade, which is good for the Reserve and not detrimental to it. These assessments may change. But I would wager the President can be trusted to strike the right balance now and in the future. If a reversion of



policy is necessary, it will come – and that's a safe bet – but with minimum inconvenience to the poor people who have an interest in the roadway as their lives literally are dependent on it.

The President was seen speaking to the people, at a recent event. He went there to ground-zero – and got acquainted with their grievances. At one point he is heard to say that those who agitate don't have a lived experience of having to use the road, or words to that effect.

Environmentalists will excoriate this position. They already are in high dudgeon, on social media and so forth as far as many observers can see. But while they lack empathy, what they are seen to lack more of is the ability to be informed at the level of ground-zero, where the issue of the road intersects with the lives of people in the surrounding human habitat.

Vagaries

They take a zero-sum position, and are proud of it. Often times a zero-sum position i.e. no touching of the Reserve under any circumstances whatsoever, sounds brave and correct. But a closer scrutiny reveals that there are imperatives for mobility even within a strict nature Reserve.

There are experts and scientists who are frequent visitors to this hotspot of global repute. They are subject to nature's vagaries, and sometimes need to

be quickly evacuated to hospitals when in danger. At least that is what a conservationist who has intimate knowledge of these issues has said.

The people in surrounding villages have genuine problems too, and there are no posh fire-breathing environmentalists to help them out.

This problem is on the same lines of armchair experts pontificating on the human elephant conflict. It's a zero-sum issue there as well, for most of these knowalls.

It's the elephants or nothing for them. But people who get attacked by the endangered animals do not see the problem in the same way.

There is no doubt that the elephants have more often than not been displaced by human encroachment. But it's not necessarily those who encroached that suffer, when the elephants change their routes as it were, because the elephant corridors so-called have been disrupted.

Can anyone in a position of power in good conscience, ignore the plight of the often collaterally endangered humans entirely? The short answer is an emphatic no, but that's exactly what most of the zero-sum environmentalists want.

Having said all this, these are vexed issues and that's restating the obvious. There are no easy solutions and some genuine conservationists are bound to be aggrieved somewhere, in some way, when decisions regarding key environmental is-

ssues that intersect with human lives are addressed.

That can be expected, but don't expect the political provocateurs not to jump the bandwagon on cue. They make the biggest noise. It was the same with Kandalama – now a settled issue that nobody quite remembers.

Reasoned, informed dissenting opinions are what's welcome. But it's the political variety of agitation that attempts to hog the daily discourse when some real gains are being made in the fight against the drug mafia, for instance.

After years of lip service but utter neglect on that front, it will be easy for many including environmentalists of course to say that if there is success in the fight against the drug mafia, get on with it, because that's what governments are supposed to do in the first place.

We are sure the President doesn't need a constant cheer squad, but however, perspective helps. The good being done in the area of the fight against the drug mafia and the underworld, far outweighs the perceived threats to the environment, that are sadly though not always, politically trumped up as well and are in the news focus.

Functioning

It's certain that the President has the resolve to carry on with his war on drugs etc despite the attacks aimed at him on the environmental front, or other fronts for that matter. Getting targeted for criticism, it goes without saying, is par for the course in a functioning democracy.

The President and the Government will manage, but the mass mind needs perspective, and that is not just for the record. Disinformation cannot be allowed to acquire traction by being legitimised, just because people are lazy to look at the issues, and cannot see through the self-righteous indignation of some of the so called protestors. Protests are not quite what they are sexed up to be, and yes, this goes sometimes for environmental protesters as well.

It's easy to forget real gains, and cavil about mostly trumped up issues. It happened when the battle against LTTE terrorism was being prosecuted, and afterward.

But that came at a cost. Those who were taken in by the cries to oust the war winning administration were in for some rude shocks. The Easter Sunday attack was just one of them. So, encouraging proper perspective helps.

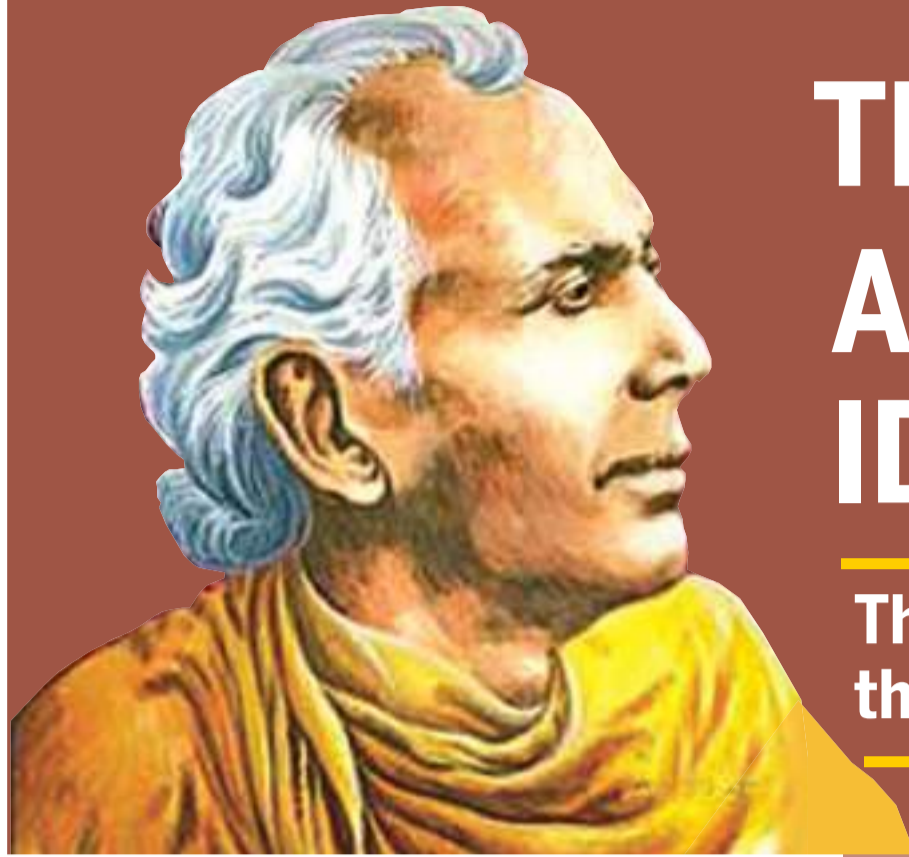
It helps people see and appreciate achievements so that they value these gains enough, to not risk losing them in a frenzy of uninformed teeth-gnashing.

The gains in the war on drugs, on controlling Covid-19, etc. cannot be forgotten because some folk would rather beat their breasts about imagined threats to forests. If the future generations are safe from drugs, they will be safe from environmental destruction too, and that should be apparent to those who have the patience to discern the woods from the trees on environmental policy – no pun unintended.



The destructive history of ANTI-SINHALA-BUDDHIST IDEOLOGUES

The reverberating sounds of history do not echo in the passages of time with a one-hand clap



By
H. L. D. Mahindapala



The abuse of history has been one of the major contributory factors that led to the exacerbation of the North-South relations. If our political/social scientists had balanced the mono-ethnic extremism of the North with the Southern forces reacting to the disproportionate demands of the North (Example: 12% Jaffna Tamils demanding 50% of power at the centre) and given the due weightage to both, the communal conflagration that came out of the partisan and perverse perspectives could have been avoided. Instead the anti-Sinhala-Buddhist ideologues in academia and NGOs played foul by manufacturing and reinforcing the mono-causal perspective coming down from the North to blame only the Sinhala-Buddhists.

Prof. S. J. Tambiah's Buddhism Betrayed?: Religion, Politics and Violence in Sri Lanka is a typical example of blaming only the Sinhala-Buddhists living in a universe of multi-factorial causes. It is a cheap exercise that went overboard to blame only Buddhism. Any academic mug could have written a similar book titled Christianity Betrayed?, or Judaism Betrayed? or Gandhism Betrayed? or even Marxism Betrayed. History is one big mass grave in which the dry bones of noble ideals lie scattered with no one caring two hoots about it. Clearly, Tambiah's academic exercise to pick only on Buddhism, ignoring the parallel Hindu forces of the North fathered by Arumuka Navalar, a caste fanatic, does not elevate him beyond that of a partisan charlatan.

The parallel force in the South was led by Anagarika Dharmapala who, like Navalar, was an anti-Christian, anti-Western reformist whose primary objective was to restore the traditional values of the indigenous people suppressed by the colonial masters. The difference, however, is that Navalar's revision of Saivism, which was a political move to anoint the Vellalas as the Brahmin aristocracy of Jaffna, perverted the political culture of Jaffna, reducing segments of Jaffnaites to subhuman slaves, and finally to Nandikadal, the Waterloo of the Vellalas; whereas Anagarika Dharmapala's Buddhist revival marched all the way to the latest triumph of the Rajapakas in a non-violent political landmark.

The Vellala devotees of Navalar abandoned the non-violent mainstream politics and declared war in the Vadukoddai Resolution (May 1976) to retain their casteist supremacy. Their power struggle led them all the way to Nandikadal (May 2009).

Mono-causal theory

On the contrary, the followers of Dharmapala marched all the way to enthrone the Rajapakas, democratically and peacefully. With all its imperfections, the triumph of the democracy in Sri Lanka is attributed to the power of tolerant Buddhism to nurture and foster a democratic culture. This was the original conclusion of Prof. A. J. Wilson, son-in-law of the father of Tamil separatism. (See below).

Going against this, after the Tamils took to separatism, Prof. Tambiah manufactured a mono-causal history partly to demonise the Sinhala-Buddhists as the prime cause of the raging ethnic conflict, partly to cover up crimes committed by the Tamil Vellalas against their own people in the feudal and colonial times, and partly to lend justification for the Vellala supremacists, born out Hindu perversions, indoctrinated by Arumuka Na-

valar.

Manufacturing a mono-causal theory to point the finger only at one side in a conflict situation where the ubiquitous opposites in history collide is, in the first place, against the known facts. Second, history happens only as a dialectical clash of two or more conflicting forces. The reverberating sounds of history do not echo in the passages of time with a one-hand clap.

The monumental events that shook the nation in the post-independent period for 33 years - from the Vadukoddai Declaration of War in 1976 to Nandikadal in 2009 - moved into the pages of history because the forces of the North clashed head-on with the forces of the South and vice versa. But the ideologues who ganged up to manufacture their version of history constructed only a one-way narrative blaming only the Sinhala-Buddhists as if the Yal Devi went only to the North and never came down.

Take, for instance, the case of Dayan Jayatilaka who never fails to advertise that he is a 'political scientist'. If Prof. Tambiah is at the high-end of anti-Sinhala-Buddhist gang Dayan is at the very low end, parroting what his gurus had told him. Wearing his tinted blinkers made in Gramsci's factories in Italy, he is wont to attack the Sinhala-Buddhists, naming in particular Anagarika Dharmapala, the anti-colonial reformist who awakened the Sinhala-Buddhists to the corrosive effects of the Christianised, Westernised and alien forces imposed by the imperial masters.

Dayan has failed to give equal weightage to the parallel forces unleashed in the North by the Saivite revisionist, Arumuka Navalar - the most pernicious casteist fanatic who is the demi-god of the Vellalas. He fathered the Vellala casteist fascism that turned his devotees in Jaffna into relentless and merciless oppressors of the Tamil people.

This high priest of Vellalaism told his Saivite followers that it is their duty to kill those who 'revile' Siva. And if they can't kill they should hire someone else to do it for them. (p. 80 - The Bible Trembled, The Hindu-Christian Controversies of Nineteenth Century Ceylon, R. F. Young and (Bishop) S. Jebanesan).

Imagine, for instance, what Dayan Jayatilaka and his fellow-ideologues would have done if Anagarika had told the Buddhists to kill those who had 'reviled' the Buddha. Wouldn't he have danced the kavadi to the drum beat of goo-ooo-rung, goo-ooo-rung on the streets of Colombo condemning it?

Dayan's pseudo-political science is yet to give due weightage to the Vellala factor that over-determined the North-South relations from the colonial period. He has, in his abysmal ignorance,



G. G. Ponnambalam



S. J. V. Chelvanayakam

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failed to weave in the decisive and destructive Vellala factor that collided with the Southern forces reacting to the Vellala grab for power in the dying days of colonialism.

At the centre of the North-South conflict has been the Vellala thrust to grab disproportionate power at the expense of other communities. Dayan was blinded by various shades of Eurocentric theories, particularly Marxism, that hardly worked at the grassroots level in Sri Lanka.

He could not get out of that box and come to grips with the mono-ethnic extremism of the North - the sole source of power of the Vellalas - winding its way inexorably to the Vadukoddai Resolution and, consequently to Nandikadal.

Like all anti-national political pundits, he fancies that if he throws in a few quotes from Gramsci, Althusser, Marx or Lenin, he could lasso the multifarious forces that had bedevilled Sri Lankan politics and keep them under his control in his ideological stables. He believes that the solution lies in theoretical mumbo-jumbo spun in Eurocentric ideological factories.

But how many Gramscis, Althusser and Lenins marched all the way to the polls that swept the Rajapakas into power? Which theory of our pundits predicted the annihilation of the UNP, or the rise and rise of the Rajapakas? The Presidential and the parliamentary elections debunked the theoreticians parading as 'political scientists'. The Eurocentric theoreticians were among the victims of the Rajapakas tsunamis that swept the nation.

This is only one example of how our political/social scientists blacked out the destructive forces that came down from the North and destroyed the ground laid for peaceful co-existence by the Founding Fathers of independence.

Distorted history

Better political/social scientists than Dayan have played the ignominious role of betraying the fundamental principles of scholarship. They had no qualms in abandoning their own

findings/theses at the end of years of research and plugging anti-Sinhala-Buddhist propaganda to buttress their partisan political agenda. I shall deal with more of it later.

Before that let me first deal with the manner in which distorted history played its subversive role in post-colonial politics. Each time history was dragged into the political arena it either ran into verbal fireworks with the clash of theories and interpretations, or exploded in bloody violence like the fireball that rolled all the way down to Nandikadal.

In fact, the very first communal explosion that ripped the unintermittent inter-ethnic harmony of centuries occurred when the up-and-coming leader of rising Tamil communalism, G. G. Ponnambalam, launched his attack debasing the Mahavamsa and the history of the Sinhalese in June 1939 in Nawalapitiya. Lashing out at the Sinhalese as 'a race of hybrids' he denigrated them as nobodies in the history of the nation. It didn't take long for inter-ethnic clashes to ignite in the neighbourhoods of Passara, Nuwara Eliya, and Maskeliya.

Next month S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike was able to form a branch of the Sinhala Maha Sabha in Nawalapitiya. At the inaugural meeting he said: "The Nawalapitiya Sinhala Maha Sabha should erect a statue of Ponnambalam as we should be grateful to him for provoking the formation of this Sinhala Maha Sabha." (p.256 - Communal Politics under the Donoughmore Constitution, 1931 - 1947, Jane Russell, Tisara Prakasakayo, 1982.)

This was the time when Ponnambalam was going around whipping up support for his '50 - 50' demand. The ruling Vellalas who formed the power elite in Jaffna backed Ponnambalam to the hilt. The anti-caste, anti-communalist Jaffna Youth Congress, the one and only movement of the North to reject Tamil communalism, was critical of Ponnambalam. The Youth Congress, which was a formidable force in the twenties, stated: "There has been plenty of false propaganda and exaggeration on both sides.

Ponnambalam has been singing the glories of the Tamil race on pub-

lic platforms, and by implication and direct statement casting slur upon the Sinhalese people. Communalists flourish on one another. It is the existence and utterances of Ponnambalam that provide the means for the rise to popularity and power of a Bandaranaike, and it is the latter's acts and utterances that the former used to whip up a following." (Ibid - pp. 255-6).

Jane Russel points out that "1938 and 1939 mark the nadir of communal relations in Ceylon". (Ibid - 234). And she noted: "In March 1938, G. G. Ponnambalam and D. P. R. Gunawardena came to blows in the corridor outside the chamber (of the State Council)." (Ibid - p. 257). Footnote to this said: "The victor to this pugilistic contest was, not surprisingly, D. P. R. Gunawardena". Any serious study of Jaffna will confirm that despite the boasts of the greatness of the Jaffna Tamils they lack not only substantial evidence to back it up but also a historical consciousness comparable to that of the Sinhalese. So when Jaffna launched the separatist movement in 1948 it became an urgent political necessity to manufacture a history that could substantiate their political agenda.

The 'history' contained in the Vadukoddai Resolution is a clear example of Tamil making history on the run. The frantic rush to make a new history was inevitable because the Tamils, unlike the Sinhalese, did not have a sense of history. Writing on the attitude of the Sinhalese and the Tamil towards their past, E. Valentine Daniels, Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Michigan, said, "the Sinhalese privilege history, whereas the Sri Lankan Tamils privilege heritage." (p. 1.- Three Dispositions Towards the Past: One Sinhala, Two Tamils, Social Analysis, No.25:22-41, 1989).

Besides, the Mahavamsa, Chulavamsa, Deepavamsa point to the deep historical consciousness of the Sinhalese. The Tamils have not produced any comparable records of their past. In fact, the colonial masters had to urge them to produce a history for their guidance. The best known, Yalpana Vaipava Malai, was produced by poet Mylvakanam, because the Dutch Governor asked him to do so. Nobody asked the historian Mahanama to write the Mahavamsa. He did so in medieval times because he inherited the historical consciousness from his ancestors. It was in their blood. It was different with the Tamils of Jaffna. In the 20th century the Vellala casteist supremacists were desperately in need of a history not only to maintain their casteist grip on peninsula politics but also to extend their power beyond the boundaries of Jaffna.

Vadukoddai Resolution

They needed history to sanctify, justify and legitimise political violence which they launched in the end to achieve their elusive Eelam. The South too used history to justify their violence.

But it has been more reactive than provocative. For instance, only the North has officially resorted to violence consciously and deliberately to achieve their political goals by declaring war against the South in the Vadukoddai Resolution (1976). No other leadership of any other community has officially declared war on a mono-ethnic ideology to achieve self-serving political goals at the expense of other communities. The ending of Vadukoddai violence in Nandikadal confirm that history returns again and again to renew and reinforce the flow of the mainstream, dismissing fanciful and futile interpretations of theoreticians. History refused to be boxed in by narrow, self-serving theories.

The most deplorable part is the role played by the intellectuals. Re-reading Prof. Tambiah's Buddhism Betrayed?, particularly in the light of subsequent events, makes you wonder

about the integrity of intellectuals and their capacity to contribute gainfully to the welfare of people, particularly to people trapped in conflict situations. Dayan's theories can be dismissed as irrelevant sounds of an empty vessel. Whether it is on Cuba - his ideal state - or on Sri Lanka his political theories and somersaults question not only his intellectual honesty but also his failure to grasp some of the essentials of the ground realities.

It is the betrayal of their own principles and the sacred standards set for sound scholarship that make the anti-Sinhala-Buddhist academics/theoreticians a bunch of hired hacks selling their talents to the highest bidder in the political market. Take the case of Prof. A. J. Wilson, son-in-law of the father of Tamil separatism, S. J. V. Chelvanayakam.

Doctrine of tolerance

In his early career he began by commending Buddhism as the force that has stabilised Sri Lanka and fostered democracy. Here's what Calvin Woodard, an American scholar, wrote in a review of Wilson's, Politics in Sri Lanka, 1947 - 1973, Mac Millan Press, 1974: "The uniqueness of Sri Lanka, Wilson points out, is that it has faced these challenges without veering from the democratic path. Certainly then, the key to the future lies in an understanding of the past.

How and why, in other words, has the democratic experiment been able to work so well in Sri Lanka? The author investigates this and concludes that the political stability so far maintained in Sri Lanka is due mainly to two forces, one of indigenous origin and the other the result of Western implantation. Primary is the Buddhist ethos and the doctrine of tolerance.

This, according to Wilson, has acted to dissuade the majority community from unduly imposing itself on the minorities and encourage it to respect the fundamental rights and distinctions of others in the plural society. Similar in effect to the Western notion of compromise, the doctrine of tolerance has facilitated compromise and provided essential underpinning in society to the parliamentary system." (pp. 72-73, The Ceylon Journal of Historical and Social Studies, Vol III, July-December, 1973, No.2).

It should be noted that this was written after S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, who is generally vilified by the Tamil ideologues as the evil force that unleashed Sinhala-Buddhism as a dominant political force. What happened to Wilson who, by far, was the best-informed political scientist of the Tamils.

Did he turn against his own scholarly judgement after he joined his father-in-law, S. J. V. Chelvanayakam, the father of Tamil separatism? Following in his father-in-law's footsteps he too began to accuse the Sinhala-Buddhist of being creatures of the Mahavamsa.

Abandoning his own scholarly judgement, he had no compunction in pointing his finger at the Mahavamsa mentality of the Sinhala-Buddhists for not yielding to the ever-increasing demands driving the North into mono-ethnic extremism of the North.

This is generally the history of the anti-Sinhala-Buddhist ideologues who had to rationalise their demands to substantiate their mono-ethnic extremism that was driving Jaffna incrementally to their violent end in Nandikadal. They reaped what they sowed. And they yet keep on blaming the Sinhala-Buddhists. As in the beginning they keep on blaming the Sinhala-Buddhists even in the end. Not knowing what to do next they are bent on going back to their fathers and grandfathers' politics like G. G. Ponnambalam who talked of 'two nation' claims in Parliament on the opening day. I wrote this as prelude to deal with his dangerous reversion to divisive politics. I shall deal with it in the next instalment

Features

Vocational education surpasses economic benefits

by
Hemantha Kulatunga



The purpose of the labour market-oriented technical and vocational education and training is aimed at preparing potential future workforces such as students, trainees, and apprentices to gain entry to the labour force in the country. The main function of these vocational education institutions in Sri Lanka is to provide a trained and skilled workforce by strengthening quality.

Almost all these institutions function under the Government. The main objective of the new Minister who seems able, qualified and experienced, is expected to focus on streamlining the process to improve the system further.

A close look at the system indicates that the current routine is more supply-driven for the public and private sectors. Consultation with entrepreneurs, business associations and commercial chambers from which most of the employment opportunities are generated, does not seem to be in the proper position as yet.

At present, there is little evidence that the training programs and subjects of the curriculum are prepared with the involvement of the private sector although they are the main employment providers.

This phenomenon makes the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) highly supply-driven as the trainees who come out are not employment-ready as per the yardstick of the private sector.

Government institutions involved in vocational education can be of immense assistance to the Government's policy of a 'people-centric economy' introduced in President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's manifesto.

The policy is to develop the indigenous industry and agriculture to provide better living standards to the citizenry. Therefore, proper and employment friendly programs can supply the suitable labour force required for the public and private sectors.

Even though there are many institutions for vocational training, and despite the initiatives of consecutive governments, the fulfilment of the actual purpose is yet to take place.

Although hundreds of programs were introduced during the past several decades by institutions such as NAITA, VTA, DTET, National Youth Corps., and NYSC, the result of providing a trained and fully job prepared skilled worker to the market is not yet in place.

There are several reasons for the disparity between the TVET system and the employment needs of the private sector, particularly, and the public sector to some extent. More often than not, vocational institution teachers lack industry experience.

They are also not trained as trainers by undergoing proper methods. Hence, their teaching approach is based only on their classroom theoretical knowledge. They are not motivated enough to deliver results toward the core idea of their contribution. Most of the trainers merely show up in the classroom and deliver a lesson without adding practicalities.

Coordination

Although issues relating to the TVET system are not new to the country, many of them are complex and a wide approach needs to be introduced to manage these issues effectively.

At present, the Technical and Vocational Education Commission (TVEC) acts as the apex body of vocational training in Sri Lanka. However, the pertinent question is whether TVEC involvement in improving and upgrading the country's technical and vocational education is adequate.

Due to the rapidly changing technology around the world, a more effi-



cient and effective service is imperative to keep up with the rest of the world. Hence, an efficient coordination effort between the TVET related institutions should be introduced by the authorities without delay.

The inadequacies of the TVET system and some of the applicable challenges are due to the shortage of suitable instructors, obsolete training equipment and machinery, lack of practical input to develop curriculum. Sri Lankan education encourages students, habitually influenced by parents, to aim at higher education and high-end employments. However, the fact remains that only about 35,000 out of 350,000 GCE Advanced Level students gain entry to state universities.

Of the balance, approximately 160,000 students enter vocational education annually, mostly because it is the only available solution.

The Government, in a timely move, will introduce vocational training as a subject with immediate effect. Details of what those subjects are, is not yet known.

However, the move will be hailed by all concerned as one of the best in the recent past. By making it compulsory in the curriculum, the interest for vocations can be inculcated in students from junior levels.

If a student is compelled to discontinue education after the GCE Ordinary Level examination, he or she will be prepared to continue vocational education. However, functional issues such as recruiting teachers, finding proper facilities and equipment could slow down the process unless the right attention is extended by the authorities.

Vocational education and training are immensely beneficial to a country as a whole. It helps workers to perform their respective work better with the learning experience they obtain. They also get an opportunity to sharpen selected skills and contribute to the job

they perform. Unlike formal education, the student himself chooses the line of vocation he wishes to pursue. Hence, when a student willingly accepts vocational learning, he is self-motivated and does not consider it a futility.

Rewarding

The career of one's own choice is the main advantage in this system. Very few people are fortunate enough to be in the employment of their choice, the world over.

A person engaged in vocational education is already pursuing a pre-selected job. This is more rewarding as employment for vocationally educated and trained persons can have better opportunities compared to other careers.

On the other hand, the TVET system is a great asset to the economy. When the workforce is trained and skilled, contribution to productivity is more.

Vocational education and training can often become a tool to address the economic and social problems that harm economic stability. Job-related training programs assure employabil-

ity, lower unemployment and reduce issues of unemployed youth that are a nuisance to society. Idling youth can be dangerous as they can easily be dragged into nefarious activities. Employment generated through vocational training can draw the attention of youngsters to motivate them and focus on the future positively.

Private sector

The new Ministry should seek the involvement of private sector employers in expanding employment friendly technical education. The quality and standards of subjects offered must be critically re-evaluated to detect drawbacks and offer solutions.

Employers interviewed by this writer on the subject were of the view that the general system does not meet their skills need and the authorities should focus on providing better standards including entrance requirements, instructor or trainer certifications, and assessments before releasing students to the market.

They also feel that TVET students lack a general understanding of how the private sector operates, making them confused at the workplace. Therefore, introducing general business knowledge with personality development as subjects in the curriculum could be immensely useful.

Vocational education and appropriate training for employee productivity are vital for the economy of the country and could contribute to the national economic growth.

Many countries in the region have taken prudent steps to strengthen the policies and regulatory structure for TVET systems to improve the coalition between private sector employers and potential technically qualified workers. It is a fact that skilled and trained human capital is a key asset of the country.

High performance in increasingly fierce global economies and markets with challenges posed by poverty, pollution, health, and Covid-19 issues require Sri Lanka to adopt strategies for the growth of the economy in general. The annual addition of the human capital to the employment market released through the TVET system can be exceedingly useful for the economy and the country.

THE INADEQUACIES OF THE TVET SYSTEM AND SOME OF THE APPLICABLE CHALLENGES ARE DUE TO THE SHORTAGE OF SUITABLE INSTRUCTORS, OBSOLETE TRAINING EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY, LACK OF PRACTICAL INPUT TO DEVELOP CURRICULUM

Child cruelty cases on the rise

- NCPA chairman

BY MANESHKA BORHAM

Sri Lanka continues to grapple with child abuse and the numbers are staggering. In the first seven months of this year, the National Child Protection Authority has received 7,484 complaints on various forms of child abuse. Last year it received 8,558 complaints.

According to the Chairman of the National Child Protection Authority (NCPA), Prof. Muditha Vidanapathirana, this could be the tip of the iceberg. "It is suggested internationally that only one in seven cases of child abuse is reported," he said, adding that more such incidents could be taking place in society.

Vidanapathirana said most cases are reported from the Colombo, Gampaha and the Kurunegala districts. According to him, the NCPA continues to educate the public on the abuse of children, and ensuring prevention of abuse and the protection of children. He said while there appears to be a slight reduction in the number of cases, there has been an increase in cruelty cases being reported.

Horrific case

Last month, in perhaps the most horrific case to be reported in recent times, a seven-year-old boy was sexually abused and killed in Gallewela.

Last week, a 39-year-old caretaker of a school in the Kurunegala area was arrested for abusing three Grade 5 female students of the same school. Another case was reported from Kandy where it was revealed that a group of persons including a teacher had lured and abused students in a public lavatory in the town.

According to journalist and child rights activist Gayan Gallage, children seem to have limited protection among adults. "Children are most abused by those close to them. For example, parents, siblings and relations. At times children also face various forms of abuse in school and religious places," he said.

He said not only tougher laws but systems and policies in place to



'THE AUTHORITIES SHOULD ALSO LOOK INTO LIMITING THE MOVEMENTS OF SUSPECTS WHO ARE OUT ON BAIL. SUSPECTS FOUND GUILTY SHOULD GO THROUGH A REHABILITATION PROCESS. THE TIME IT TAKES FOR OFFENDERS TO BE PUNISHED AND REINTEGRATED INTO SOCIETY MUST ALSO BE LOOKED INTO'

combat child abuse should also be reformed. "There are a number of issues on how these cases are investigated," he said. "The issue is so severe that despite receiving over 75,000 complaints from 2011-2019 around 42,075 of them have not yet been resolved," he said.

Activists have made a number of proposals to combat child abuse and better investigate the cases in Sri Lanka. Gallage said a proper and more streamlined procedure should be adopted to accept complaints of child abuse.

"The receiving of complaints by the police and the NCPA is often done in two ways. Although the Child Protection Authority has given the police a method of recording complaints, in reality less than 10% of the police officers follow that method," he said.

According to Gallage, therefore, most complaints are more likely to be distorted within the police. "Therefore, we suggest that it is best to refer

any complaint to the Child Protection Authority," he said.

Special court

He also suggests that a procedure must be put in place to expedite investigations into the complaint after it is received.

"A special court to hear child abuse cases should also be set up," he said, adding that the cases should also conclude within a year's time. Gallage also has a few suggestions which the authorities have not focused on previously.

"There should be proper documentation and statistics of suspects," he said, adding that the authorities should also look into limiting the movements of suspects who are out on bail.

According to him, suspects found guilty should go through a rehabilitation process. "The time it takes for offenders to be punished and rein-



Prof. Muditha Vidanapathirana

tegrated into society must also be looked at," he said. Taking note of this, the government has promised to deliver. The Attorney General's Department in August said that it had concluded 12,968 cases of Child Abuse over the past 18 months. According to the coordinating officer of the Attorney General, State Counsel Nishara Jayaratne, these cases relate to those forwarded to the Attorney General's Department for advice by the Police from January last year to July this year.

Indictments have been filed in the High Courts against suspects in 6,149 cases while 4,372 suspects have been released and the Police advised to file legal action in the Magistrate's Court in respect of 2,447 cases, she said. According to Jayaratne, the Department had reduced the backlog pending cases to 851 in the Child Protection Unit.

"This is the first time in the history of the unit where the number of pending cases is such a low number," she said. The Minister of Justice Ali Sabry PC has said the government is prepared to set up a special court to hear cases relating to child abuse.

Sabry said that while the government can bring new laws and ensure that wrongdoers are punished, the harm done to children cannot be undone. "Young children are like flowers. If they are harmed even once they have to suffer the consequences for the entirety of their lives," he said.

"Therefore, if the need arises, a special court will be set up with the approval of the Cabinet, to hear child abuse cases.

We are also prepared to take other steps as a government," he said.

Pranab Mukherjee's daughter to decide whether to publish his diaries

Writing a diary every day was one of Pranab Mukherjee's ways to keep his famously encyclopaedic memory razor sharp until the very end, said his close friends.

New Delhi: Former President of India Pranab Mukherjee, who died on Monday, had made his daughter Sharmistha Mukherjee custodian of the diaries he wrote almost every day during his five-decade political career and authorised her to take a call on publishing them.

"He has left his diaries with me, and left it to my discretion whether to get them published or not," Sharmistha Mukherjee said. The former President, who had tested positive for coronavirus, died on Monday, weeks after his brain surgery. The 84-year had died after being in hospital for 20 days.

He came into politics in 1969 and subsequently served as minister for External Affairs, Defence, Finance and Commerce and then as India's 13th president. Writing a diary every day was one of Pranab Mukherjee's ways to keep his famously encyclopaedic memory razor sharp until the very end, said his close friends.

"I once asked him what the fate of his diaries would be, and he had said he'd given them to his daughter... because a lot of controversies can take place. In his diaries, he wrote whatever he thought... things that were off the record but he didn't want to publish it before his death," said veteran journalist Jayanta Ghoshal. Mr Ghoshal, who had known the late politician since 1985, said Mukherjee was in the habit of writing diaries since his days as cabinet minister in the Indra Gandhi government and continued to write them even after retiring as president.

In fact, the length of his entries had increased after he demitted the president's office, he said.

Gautam Lahiri, another senior journalist and long-time friend, added that the seven-time parliamentarian would write a diary every day, but the entry would be for events that took place two days earlier.

"I asked him once what the secret of his razor sharp memory was, and he told me that he wrote diaries not for the day's event but for what



Pranab Mukherjee

happened two days ago. 'I try to remember that,' he said. "So he would write diary entries everyday for events that happened 48 hours ago. In this way he would stimulate and exercise his mind," Lahiri said.

One entry that Lahiri knows of is a drawing by Pranab Mukherjee's granddaughter. This followed a conversation between Pranab Mukherjee, the child and then prime minister Manmohan Singh.

"After Pranab Mukherjee was elected as president, Manmohan Singh went to his house and Pranab da called his granddaughter and said, 'You were looking for a prime minister, he is a PM.' She didn't believe it and ran away.

"Later that day, his granddaughter drew a picture of Pranab da as PM. That picture is entered in his diary as a memory of the interaction between Manmohan Singh, his granddaughter and himself," Mr Lahiri recounted. The entire interaction, the journalist explained, stemmed from the much talked about topic of how Pranab Mukherjee never became prime minister.

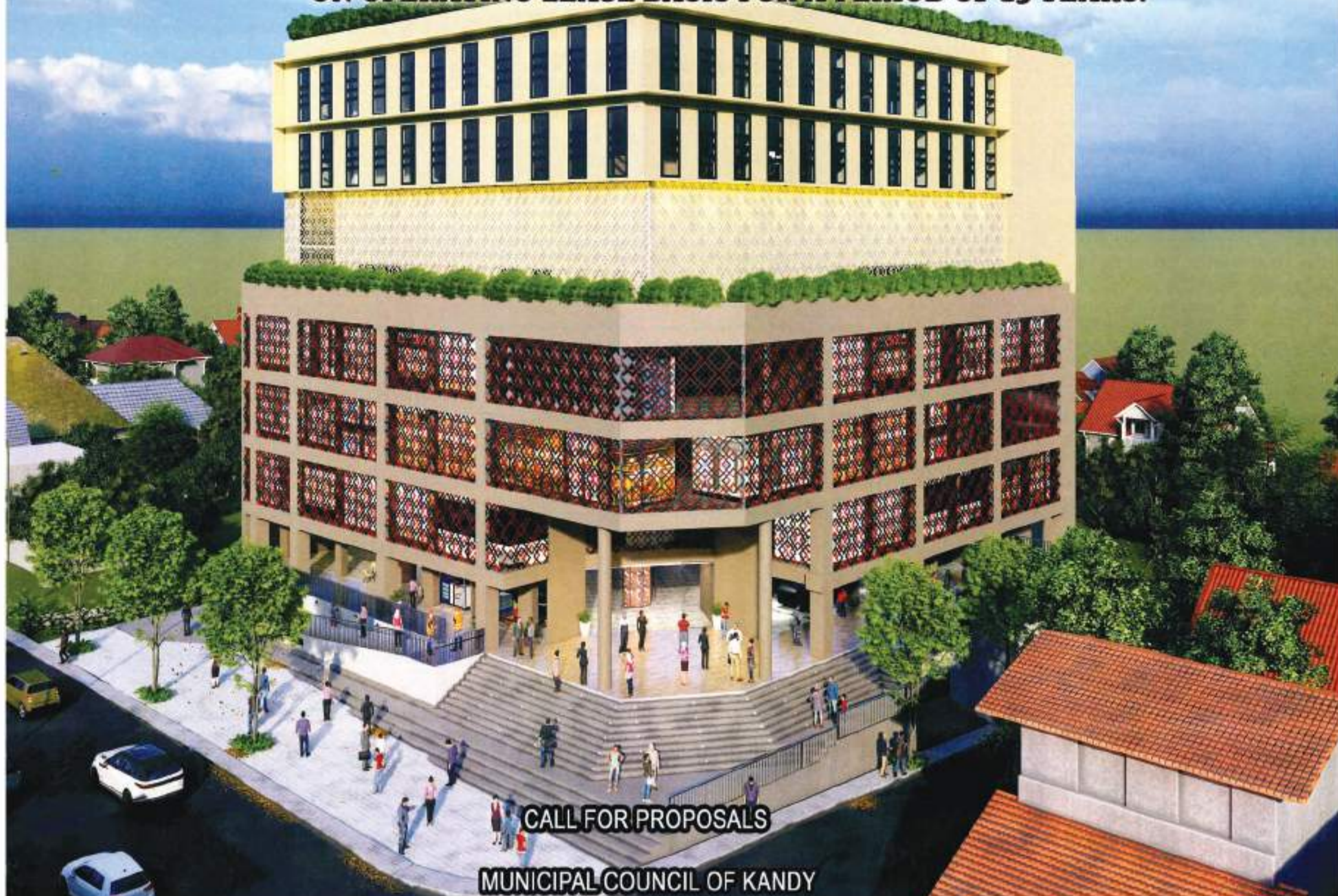
"Like most people, his family too felt that he should be made PM. He never aspired for that and he never told anybody. He believed that the president's and the PM's posts are so honourable that they can only be offered... one cannot go hankering after them," Lahiri said.

- NDTV



**GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF KANDY**

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS TO LEASE THE MAHANUWARACOMMERCIAL CENTRE (MCC)
AND TO OPERATE, MANAGE AND MAINTAIN THE MALL, SITUATED AT NO.377,
SIRIMAVO BANDARANAIKE MAWATHA (PERADENIYA ROAD), KANDY
ON OPERATING LEASE BASIS FOR A PERIOD OF 15 YEARS.**



Proposal No: FD/R/M8/OF/MCC/TEN/01.

Title: Call for proposals for "Operating Lease" to Operate, Manage and Maintain "Mahanuwara Commercial Centre (MCC)" situated at No.377, Sirimavo Bandaranaike Mawatha (Peradeniya Road), Kandy for a period of 15 Years

1. The Kandy Municipal Council, wish to invite sealed bids from eligible Proposers to submit proposals in accordance with proposal documents to operate, manage and maintain the Mahanuwaracommmercial Centre (MCC) at No. 377, Sirimavo Bandaranaike Mawatha (Peradeniya Road), Kandy on operating lease basis for the period of 15 years and the Commissioner of the Kandy Municipal Council is the authorised person to invite aforesaid invitation of the sealed proposals.
2. The Shopping Complex is a newly constructed shopping mall (super structure) is designed with modern state of the art technology belonging to the Kandy Municipal Council which seeks to provide an outstanding shopping experience for its citizens and visitors who visit to the city of Kandy. Its operation will be an unique concept in Sri Lanka providing diverse facilities of high standard under a single roof. This Shopping Complex consists of **10 floors** with ample space for **shops, Offices, Restaurants, Cinemas and entertainment areas** provided with airconditioning for common areas, inclusive of escalators, lifts and basement car parks with **152 parking slots**.
3. The total floor area of the Complex is approximately **155,000sq. ft.**
4. A complete set of Proposal documents in English language could be purchased by interested proposers on the submission of a written application on a business Letter Head to the Chief Municipal Accountant, Municipal Council of Kandy, from 08/09/2020 until 22/09/2020 normal working days from 09:00 hours to 14:45 hours. The proposal document shall be obtained upon payment of a non-refundable fee of LKR. 25,000.00 + VAT in cash to the Municipal Council of Kandy.
5. Only eligible proposers with the following key qualifications should participate in these proposals.
 - 5.1. Should be a company registered under the Companies" Act NO. 7 of 2007 of Sri Lanka or a partnership registered under partnership Ordinance No.21 of 1866 or a joint venture partnership formed in Sri Lanka, with one (01) Joint Venture partner being a Sri Lankan and should be a major partner
 - 5.2. If a company/Partnership registered it should be registered legally in Sri Lanka,**
 - 5.2.1. The company/ Partnership should be commercial operation for last five years.
 - 5.2.2. The Company / Partnership shall have minimum average annual operational revenue (turnover) of LKR. 300,000,000/- (Three Hundred Million Sri Lankan Rupees) for the last five years and should provide last five years of Audited Financial Statements together with the proof of income tax remittances.
 - 5.3. If a joint venture partnership, in Sri Lanka, is a major partner it shall have a registered business in Sri Lanka, More fully set out in clause 5.1 above.
 - 5.3.1 Number of partners of the Joint Venture should be less than or equal to three and shall provide Audited Financial Statements of all parties for the last five years.
 - 5.3.2. Average aggregate Annual Operational Revenue (turnover) of the partners should be not less than LKR. 300,000,000/- (Three Hundred Million Sri Lankan Rupees). Average Annual Operation of the major partner should be not less than LKR. 200,000,000/- (Two Hundred Million Sri Lankan Rupees) for the last five years.(Turnovers for foreign partners will be converted to Sri Lankan Rupees based on the selling rate of US \$ published by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka as at the end of each financial year.)
 - 5.4 The name of the proposer or any partners of the Joint venture and the partner of a partnership should not appear in the CRIB report (Credit Information Bureau of Sri Lanka) as a defaulter.
- 6 The proposer shall have financial resources such as liquid assets, unencumbered real assets, lines of credit and other financial means (other than any contractual advance payments) of not less than LKR. 100,000,000/- (One Hundred Million Sri Lankan Rupees) to meet the cash flow requirements to cover the overall cash flow requirements for this contract and proposer's current business commitment.
7. Proposer's or Proposer's designated representative(s) is/are compulsory to attend a pre-proposal meeting which will take place at the Municipal Council of Kandy, No.12, Thapowana Road, Kandy on 06/10/2020 at 02.00 pm.
8. Pre proposal Site visit will be held on 06/10/2020 at 9.30 am.at Mahanuwaracommmercial Centre, No.377, Sirimavo Bandaranaike Mawatha, Kandy
9. The Proposals shall be valid until 24/05/2021
10. All Proposals should accompany with a proposal security (Bid security) of LKR 5,000,000/- (Five Million Sri Lankan Rupees) issued by a Commercial Bank, registered in Central Bank of Sri Lanka in accordance with the Specimen issued by this document as Form 01.
11. Proposal security shall be valid up to 25/06/2021
12. Sealed Proposals shall be delivered to the Office of the Chief Municipal Accountant, Municipal Council of Kandy, No.12, Thapowana Road, Kandy to receive on or before 10.00 am on 23/11/2020
13. The Lease period is limited to 15 years from the date of lease agreement and the selected bidder shall enter into to a lease agreement subjected to rates terms and conditions stipulated by the Municipal Council of Kandy in accordance with the proposal document.
14. General Information and Technical Proposal will be opened soon after the closing of acceptance of proposals at the Municipal Council of Kandy and the proposers and their designated representatives who choose to attend are requested to be present at the opening of proposals.
15. The owner and/ or the Municipal Council of Kandy is/are entitled to reject or accept any proposal received without assigning reasons for same.
16. Interested proposer may obtain further information from the Chief Municipal Accountant, Municipal Council of Kandy, over telephone numbers 081-2223832 or 081-2222275 Ext. 233 or facsimile number 081-2223832, email address: kmccunit@gmail.com

The Commissioner
Municipal Council of Kandy

News/Obituaries

Deep crisis in Mali following mutiny

BY CHANNA SANJEEWA

Following a mutiny that broke out on the morning of Tuesday, August 18, at the Soundiata Kéita camp in Kati, President Ibrahim Boubacar Kéita (IBK) and his Prime Minister and many civilians and officers were arrested.

In the evening, President Kéita announced on national television from the Kati camp the dissolution of the National Assembly and his own resignation.

For many observers, this coup was the logical consequence of the socio-political crisis that has paralyzed Mali since June this year. President Kéita's power was regularly contested by a crowd assembled by the Movement of June 5-Rassemblement des forces patriotiques (M5-RFP), which demanded his resignation.

Through this undemocratic dismissal of President IBK's regime, there will be several political, socio and economic consequences affecting the Malian mutinies along with CNSP from the ECOWAS and other international organisations to carry out administration.

During the last stage of the discussions with ECOWAS delegation headed by the former Nigerian president Jonathan Goodluck, with Junta and CNSP has decided military to given power to begin a civilian transition immediately and to quickly establish a government to prepare for legislative and presidential elections within 12 months.

This transition should be led by a recognised civilian, not a military, and no military structure should be above the president of the transition, and Subsequently sanctions imposed against Mali at the first extraordinary ECOWAS summit on the issue on August 20, two days after the coup, will be lifted gradually according to the implementation of these decisions.

But Mali's ruling junta demanded a military-led transitional body to be set up for three years and agreed that ousted President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita returns to his home and if he wants to travel for medical care it can be facilitated.

The junta has expressed that it wants to make a three-year transition to review the foundations of the Malian state.

This transition will be led by a body chaired by a soldier, who will at the same time be head of state and accordingly as for junta's proposal the entire government will also be predominantly made up of soldiers.

Due to these juntas demands extraordinary discussions were concluded without a concrete conclusion for restoration of peace for the Malians and as well as create a huge economic and social crisis for the entire sub region and issue has been aggravated to bad to worst condition and it is repercussions will be reflects as intercom-



After the coup

AFTER THE COLLAPSE OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH ECOWAS, SUB REGIONAL LEADERS VEHEMENTLY CONDEMNED THE MILITARY COUP AND CLOSED ALL LAND AND AIR BORDERS WITH MALI UNTIL THE JUNTA ALONG WITH CNSP COMPROMISE TO CONDUCT LEGISLATIVE AND GENERAL ELECTION DURING THE ONE YEAR TRANSITION PERIOD

munal violence and an also be spilled over into neighboring Niger and Burkina Faso.

A crisis within a crisis

Meanwhile, after the collapse of negotiations efforts with ECOWAS, sub regional leaders vehemently condemned the military coup and closed all land and air borders with Mali until the Junta along with CNSP compromise with the decision to conduct legislative and general election during the one year transition period.

This decision does not suit Mali in any way, or the sentence will necessarily be shared with the countries that border with Mali (Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Niger and Burkina Faso), all members of ECOWAS.

It is important to remember that the continent has a strong impact on Mali in such situations. Having no outlet to the sea, to transport the products from the ports to the country, it will take the help of countries such as Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal, and many other countries of the said community.

In the logic where most of the manufactured products of these countries which close their borders at the request of ECOWAS, are sold in Mali, this would undoubtedly be a real problem for these production units of the sub region.

Mali, a breeding country par excel-

lence, supplies the Ivory Coast, Senegal, and many other countries with meat. It is true that Mali will suffer in many ways especially the land transport companies and traders, but the billions that the ports earn from Malian imports will constitute a shortfall during the embargo period.

It is important for ECOWAS to review its conditions in favour of entire sub region and Mali population is concerned. In other way round most of the sub regional countries such as Guinea, Niger, Côte d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso head of states also has a definite fear of such a kind of style mutiny back by a powerful country due to their bad governance, corruptions and grueling of poverty in their respective states.

However, just over two weeks after the coup, Mali is still plagued by terrorism. Last week, Malian soldiers were victims of a jihadist attack on Kona in central Mali. At least four Famas (Malian Armed Forces) died on August 27.

The fight against terrorism continues, and regime change is not having too many consequences on the operational front.

With the August 18 putsch and the imprisonment of several generals, including the Minister of Defense, General Dahirou Dembélé, who is still detained in Kati, the chain of command was disrupted. But according to the French force Barkhane, operations were not affected.

It is not these soldiers with whom we are cooperating who participated in the coup, that is why the cooperation continues, that is the French stance.

When the negotiations turns to bad to worst situation Brigadier General Oumar Diarra, who was appointed Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces on Friday, July 31 was arrested along with several high-ranking army officers on August 18 in the early hours of the overthrow of President IBK.

A few days later he was released and promoted to the head of the Malian army. He now has the heavy task of oiling the war machine, of conducting victorious operations in the field.

Also, the president of the National Committee for the Salvation of the People (CNSP), Colonel Assimi Goïta, has made several appointments at the command level within the Malian Armed Forces (FAMA) to run the military mechanism.

Last Monday during the United Nations Security Council meeting had decided by the member states to renew sanctions against Mali for one year, unanimously adopting a resolution that also extends the work of the group of experts created to study the issue.

In adopting resolution 2541 (2020), the Council decided to renew until 31 August 2021 the measures set out in paragraphs 1 to 7 of resolution 2374 (2017), which include the imposition of a travel ban and assets freeze on those who impede progress in the implementation of the peace and reconciliation agreement in Mali.

In the terms of the resolution, it reaffirmed that these measures shall apply to the persons and entities designated by the Sanctions Committee established pursuant to resolution 2374 (2017).

The Security Council decides that all Member States shall, for an initial period of one year following the adoption of this resolution, freeze immediately the funds and other financial assets and economic resources which are on their territories owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by the persons or entities designated by the Committee.

At last as a prediction; if the mutineers along with CNSP + M5 -RFP, other social and religious groups are act in a undiplomatic manner to the ECOWAS and other international organisations conditions for restoration of peace and harmony leading for establish of democratic system of governance, there can be a huge intervention would be happened from another powerful state of the west African region under the blessings of the France to overcome their economic, social and political issues being happening to neighboring states due to the ongoing economic embargos, closure of the land and Air boarders and escalation of jihadist movements.

PM in Matara



Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa and Shiranthi Rajapaksa were the guests of honour at the 113th annual feast of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Matara yesterday. They were escorted to the Shrine by Chief Celebrant Bishop of Kurunegala, Rev. Dr. Harold Anthony Perera. Bishop of Galle, Rev. Dr. Raymond Wickremesinghe, Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena, Minister Dullas Alahapperuma, State Minister Kanchana Wijesekera were also present. Pic: Priyan de Silva

Book launch

Alu a collection of poems by Chamani Prematilake, a lawyer and social activist, will be launched at the Sudharshi Sinhala Cultural Centre, Baddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7 on September 12 at 3.00 p.m. *Alu* is the maiden collection of poems by Chamani Prematilake. The poems cover topics such as love, sorrow, entertainment, social issues and human feelings.

Death Acknowledgements

UNAMBOOWE - SALIYA Wife, sons (Kavantissa & Sanjaya) and in-laws of the late Mr. Saliya Unamboowe wish to express our deep gratitude to the team of Doctors, Nurses and support staff of General Hospital Kandy and Kandy Private Hospital for the care and assistance provided to Mr. Unamboowe during his illness. We also extend our heartfelt thanks to the members of the clergy, Kandy Florist, as well as all those dear colleagues, friends, neighbours and relatives who honoured Mr. Unamboowe by their presence at the funeral, sent floral tributes, messages or condolence and assisted us in countless ways during this sorrowful occasion. We sincerely regret our inability to convey our thanks individually. **No. 145/7, Srimath Cuda Rattwate Mawatha, Kandy. 050428**

Obituaries

DE SILVA - MUTHUMUNI - DHARMAWANSA (M.D. De Silva) 85 yrs, retired Sherman Sons/Jeffjee Bros - Beloved husband of Indrani, loving father of Dharshana Aruna and Radeeka, father-in-law of Punya, brother of Ramilton (late), Reginald (late) and Galvinton (late), loving grandfather of Dhasni, Nisali and Lihini, passed away peacefully. Cremation on Monday, 7th September at 4.00 p.m. at Liyanagemulla Cemetery. Cortege leaves residence **732, Negombo Road, Liyanagemulla, Seeduwa** at 3.00 p.m. 052475

SUFFIAN - HAJIANI SITHY JAWAHIRA (Kotuwegoda, Matara), daughter of late I.L.M. Ibrahim and late Ummu Affirah - Beloved wife of late I.L.M. Suffian - Beloved mother of Muzammil, Suhailah, late Munawwara (Zindha), Azmey and Zaeena - Beloved mother-in-law of Aadilah, late Dr. Sheikh Mohamed, Dr. Shuaib, Khathuna and Dr. Mazahim Hanifa - Beloved sister of late Kaffoor, late Sahill, late Farook, Proctor Marikkar, Badiya and Ruwaiza - Beloved sister-in-law of late Sithy Naima, late Ummu Naseha, Nilufa, late Mumtaz, late Marikar and late Thawfeek - Beloved grandmother of Raushan and Azim, Dr. Fikreth and Fazliya of Australia, Niroza and Farhaz, Hisny and Ilma of Australia, Ishqi and Reshma of Australia, Fazna and Shibly of Riyadh, Ikhlas and Hasma of Australia, Ithfa and Rosan Fahmy of Australia, Nashra and Rikaz, Firza and Ilham, Yusra and Muzanif, Inshira - Beloved great grandmother of Inaam (Australia), Sarah, Salma, Uzair, Zainab, Zaleeha, Sumaira, Yunus, Shayma, Abdullah, Sumayyah, Humdhaan, Adebef, Omar, Hasna, Manha, Zainab, Yusuf, Hamda and Yasir. Janaza took place on 10th day of Muharram Hijri 1442 (Saturday, 29th August 2020) from **No. 17, Fernando Gardens, Off Senanayake Mawatha, Dehiwala.** (Ms. Raushan Azim 0777424642). 052130

Major General (Rtd) S.V. PANABOKKE KSV of Farm Bungalow, Kadugannawa - Beloved husband of Blossom, dearly beloved father of Priyanthi, brother of Sunil, Maheswari and late Ranjit, brother-in-law of Savithree, late Dr. Asoka Goonetilleke and Aminath, passed away on Friday 4th September. Cortege will leave **Jayarathne Respect Parlour** on Monday 7th September for cremation at Borella Cemetery at 4.30 p.m. 052472

LTTE sympathisers seek lifting outfit's overseas ban

The LTTE linked diaspora and sympathetic groups have stepped up action to get the LTTE off the designated terrorist organisations lists overseas, foreign media reported.

The TGTE, an alleged LTTE front has appealed to the UK's Proscribed Organisations Appeals Commission (POAC) in a bid to unban the group, which still remains a banned organisation in many countries including the EU.

According to media reports, a lawyer has pointed out that UK's counter intelligence and security agency MI5's Joint Terrorism Anal-

ysis Centre (JTAC) noted that the LTTE is no longer operational.

The Commission has the power to order the Home Secretary to unban the LTTE, the media reports stated.

Former Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamad has said he did not support the fight and struggles championed by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) but the local media quoted him saying, "Just because the movement was labelled as a terrorist group in other countries, it did not mean Malaysia should also follow suit."

Twelve killed in Bangladesh mosque gas blast May have been triggered by air-con spark

DHAKA (AFP) - A suspected gas explosion tore through a Bangladesh mosque killing at least 12 people, while dozens suffered life-threatening burns, police said on Saturday, September 5. Worshipers were at Friday evening prayers when the blast sent a ball of flames through the mosque in the central district of Narayanganj, emergency services said.

Investigators suspected a spark from an air-conditioner - which came on after a power cut - set off the gas. "Leaked gas entered the mosque," Narayanganj fire chief Abdullah Al Arefin told AFP.

"When they shut the windows and doors and switched on the air conditioners there was an electricity spark that led to the explosion inside the mosque."

The 12 who died were among 37 taken to a specialist burns hospital in Dhaka in critical condition, said hospital spokesman Samanta Lal Sen. He



added that all had suffered 70 to 80 per cent burns.

Police said at least 45 people were injured by the blast and that people had spoken of smelling a gas leak. In Bangladesh, safety regulations are often flouted in construction. Hundreds are killed each year in fires in the nation of 168 million people.

Progressive Professionals Forum - new office-bearers

The executive committee of the Progressive Professionals Forum met at the committee hall of the Organisation of Professional Associations last week and appointed new office bearers.

Prof. Hilary Silva - President, Gamini Gunasekara - National Organiser, Yugan

Kulasekara - Secretary, Chavith Gamage - Treasurer. Prof. H. D. Karunarathna, Prof. Sirimal Premakumara, Prof. Suratissa Disanayaka, Lawyers D. Kalansooriya and Tissa Yapa Jayawardhana were appointed to the advisory board.

Technical know-how for farmers

RAJA WAI DYASEKERA, TISSAMAHARAMA SPECIAL COR.

The first agro-technology park in Sri Lanka set up at Bata Atha, Hungama in Hambantota, has taken steps to train paddy farmers on modern technological farming methods, including machine transplanting, parachuting method of pad-

dy cultivation, hand transplanting and traditional methods of transplanting.

The OIC of the park, K.W.R. Keerthi said that the orchard at the park has been set up to grow underutilised fruits, such as Veralu and Uguressa. He said that a traditional chena has been set up to cultivate maize, cowpea and kurakkan throughout the year.

Computerised birth and death certificates

BY S.M. WIJAYARATNE, KURUNEGALA COR.

The computerised issue of certificates of births and deaths commenced for the first time at the Kurunegala Teaching Hospital on Wednesday. Earlier, the certificates were filled by hand at the Registrar's Office.

Kurunegala District Secretary, R.M.R. Ratnayake, Kurunegala Divisional Secretary, Mahinda Ekanayake, Acting Director of the Kurunegala Teaching Hospital, Dr. Pramitha Shanthilatha and Kurunegala District Assistant District Registrar N. Amarakoon were also present.

'DR Congo prisoners dying from hunger'

BUNIA, Sept 5 (AFP) - Hundreds of detainees die each year in severely overcrowded and unsanitary prisons in the Democratic Republic of Congo, which prison officials and NGOs say is largely due to a lack of food and medicine.

At a prison in Bunia, the capital of northeastern Ituri province, two inmates died this week bringing the total number of casualties there to 17 since April, according to the prison's director, Camille Nzonzi.

Acknowledgement



The family of **late Mr. H.B. Gamagedara** of 356/1, Nagahawela Road, Kotikawatta who passed away on the 25th August 2020 would like to thank most sincerely for all those who sympathised with us on our great loss. We offer our heartfelt thanks to many friends, neighbours and well-wishers who visited our home, attended the funeral, 7th day alms giving and who provided emotional and practical support to us at this difficult time. For those who telephoned, messaged, travelled long distances, sent floral tributes, cards and condolences, as well as those who made charitable donations, we are profoundly grateful. A special word of thanks to Wasantha, Densil, Thilake, Chuti, Sumitha, Dileepa, Sepalitha, Nimal and the staff of Neville Fernando Hospital, HNB staff, Chandra Panagoda Funeral directors, and others who helped us in many ways - your contribution made our loss a more bearable one. As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as an expression of our deepest gratitude to all who helped in this incredibly difficult moment. **Lasitha and Randeepa Gamagedara and the family members.**

ITAK alienated itself from people

- C.V. Wigneswaran

—By—
Manjula Fernando

Q: Your inaugural speech in Parliament last week is still making news. At the end of your five year term as an MP how do you want your people to remember you, is it as a news maker or someone who delivered on his promises?

A: As someone who delivered on his promises.

Q: What are your plans to serve your people? Will you be confined to addressing issues of people in the North and the East only?

A: The North-Eastern people are the ones who were badly affected by the conflict and who due to the indifference shown towards their problems by the Central Government have still not been able to rise from their penury-stricken environment. Therefore, I would work with them. But all people who are suffering, whether they are Sinhalese, Tamils or Muslims, if they need my help I would strive to help them within the constraints which have been placed before me.

Q: Can you list the issues that you would like to focus on as an MP?

A: Political issues first, economic issues next and social issues third, in that order.

Q: It seems that you have chosen a path of communal politics which is very popular in this part of the world, yet you have done very little to address the genuine grievances of the people. Your comments?

A: It is because the successive Central Governments have not focused their interest and attention on the amelioration of the conditions of the people of the North and the East that we have been forced to take up their cause.

The genuine grievance of our people is the non-settlement of their political issues. Not the denial of economic sops! Economic sops would not solve the long term problems of our people. When we speak of the needs and aspirations of our people why do you Southerners view it as communal politics? When the Government wants to give priority to Sinhala and Buddhism why did you not identify that as communal or parochial politics?

Q: Why do you believe self-determination as the only solution for the Tamils' issues? Are you certain that this is what the people in the North aspire to?

A: Why did we want Independence from the British? Because we wanted to resurrect our heritage, give prominence to our language and culture and live a life in consonance with our individualised, indigenous background and lead a way of life which was peculiar to us. The same considerations move us to ask for self-determination now. We find that the Central Government wants to control us by keeping the armed forces here, keeping us under their thumb without giving the elbow space for us to act freely, expropriate our resources, change the demography of the North and the East and *Sinhalese* and *Buddhisticise* the North and the East.

If we do not have the right of self-determination which we are entitled to under the UN Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Tamil speaking people of the North and the East would become Sinhalese within 15 or 20 years. Already the people from Negombo to Puttalam who were Tamil speaking when I was a child, have now become Sinhalese. The Tamils of Anuradhapura in the Old Town where I lived as a boy have become Sinhalese. Many people of recent Indian origin have become Sinhalese. The only way to preserve our individuality is to become entitled to the right of self-determination so that the people of the North and the East would look after themselves while being part of the Sri Lankan polity.

As for your other question, certainly the people of the North and the East want self-determination. Since TNA did not work towards self-determination our people temporarily embraced a National Party and a proxy for another National Party. But that is temporary.

Q: ITAK suffered a setback at the last two elections. What is your take on that? Shouldn't you be more effective against the Government as a unified front than a scattered bunch?

A: They alienated themselves from the people. There was contradiction between what they promised to the people and what they did after being elected. Unity will come automatically when the Government resorts to anti Tamil activities.

Q: You have been accused of doing very little to serve the people while holding the office of Northern Chief Minister. Do you refute this claim? Why?

A: I have been brought up not to let the left hand know what the right hand did. I had worked at my office throughout the five years about 15 - 18 hours a day during all seven days of the week except when I was busy elsewhere. At the end of



C. V. Wigneswaran

IF WE DO NOT HAVE THE RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION WHICH WE ARE ENTITLED TO UNDER THE UN COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, TAMIL SPEAKING PEOPLE OF THE NORTH AND THE EAST WOULD BECOME SINHALESE WITHIN 15 OR 20 YEARS

my period of office we prepared a booklet containing all that we did. That booklet is available to see what we did during our time.

The persons who set up this canard against me were those who were not given permission to set up certain projects in the North. One such person wanted to set up

a Leather Factory in Mannar. Our officials pointed out that leather needed lot of water to clean and water was scarce in Mannar and that a poisonous substance comes out of the leather in the process of cleaning and it could harm the environment in Mannar. I refused to give permission. Later we learnt that he

had been refused permission earlier in the Hambantota district as well. So, you must be careful in coming to conclusions about me.

Let me point out another thing. My Chief Minister's Ministry was placed first among all the Ministries (including that of the then Prime Minister) and Departments throughout the Island numbering over 850 for proper management of our finances in 2016. The next year too we were within the first three. This was an award given by the Central Government for excellent financial management. Would they give such an award to one who did not serve the people?

Of course, I refute your silly claim. Because that is not the truth. But I thought boasting about ourselves to the outside world was childish and therefore did our work with efficiency but with no fanfare. That is the truth.

Q: Is it possible to give a short note on your views on the 20th Amendment?

A: I received a copy of the Draft 20th Amendment only this evening. The 20th Amendment lays the foundation for dictatorship.

The checks and balances against the President's powers are now to be removed. He could hereafter hold Ministerial posts.

He could appoint Ministers like the Prime Minister. The restrictions on persons having Dual Citizenship entering Parliament is to be removed. Hereafter they could contest Elections.

Minimum Age to become President has been reduced to 30 years.

A number of Independent Commissions is to be withdrawn.

After one year, the Parliament could be dissolved. On the whole the President's powers have been enhanced. We are to go back to J.R. Jayewardene's type of Presidency which could do anything except to make a man a woman and vice versa!

Q: Is it true that you took a vow at the LTTE memorial in Mullivaikkal after your election to Parliament? Why did you think it was necessary?

A: After the Election and before coming to Colombo I did go to Mullivaikkal to pay my respects to the vast innocent humanity who were killed by Governmental Forces around May, 18, 2009.

I prayed for peace for their troubled Souls. As a single individual I may not be able to do much. But my prayers may bring good results. I hoped that the very thought of those killed would prevent me from getting tricked by the powers that be who had previously tricked our representatives.

Q: You don't call the LTTE a terrorist group. But they were classified as a dangerous terrorist entity by the FBI in the US and the UN too has a similar classification for the LTTE. They pioneered the suicide belt, they used if not pioneered female human bombs, recruited Tamil children as soldiers according to UNICEF and assassinated two state leaders among many other Tamil intellectuals. Could you comment?

A: Keppetipola Dissawe was classified by the British as a dangerous criminal. We pay homage to him as a National Hero. Why? The British were intruders who came from outside and expropriated our resources, destroyed our places of worship, took our lands and so on.

Therefore Keppetipola though belonging to the higher strata in society, he joined the rebels in Uva and fought the British. We call him a hero. The British if they were familiar with the term terrorist would have called him a terrorist.

The LTTE consisted of many brilliant minds who if allowed to study further would have been an asset to this country and the world at large. What made Prabakaran? He was a child when he heard about the atrocities which were committed on the Tamil People in 1958.

Thereafter, he heard of many atrocities by the Sinhalese majority which made him fully believe that a proper violent response was necessary. The Military was sent to the North around 1961, I believe under Col. Udugama, only because the Tamils protested peacefully against the wrongs done by the Governments of that time.

Policeman Bastiampillai's sadistic brutalities on the youth were well known at that time. He was a paw in the hands of the Government.

Leave America alone. They formulated a word 'terrorist' and called any one whom they did not like a 'terrorist'. Who christens a murderer a terrorist?

Is it not the Government? Is it not the Attorney General? When anyone rose against State Terrorism they were conveniently christened as terrorists.

Classifications by Foreign Governments and Institutions are done on the basis of what a Government makes out to them. You speak of wrongs by the LTTE forgetting the wrongs done by the State and the State Forces. Suicide bombers and human bombs were the ultimate response to the brutality of the State Forces. If so-called State Leaders were targets find out what they had done prior to their becoming targets. Please do not call one set as terrorists when the miscreants were others. They were greater terrorists.

Russia's Covid-19 vaccine 'encouraging'

A report by The Lancet medical journal on a Covid-19 vaccine developed and tested in Russia says it has shown promising results, but adds that more work is needed.

In trials so far, the experimental Sputnik V vaccine has elicited an immune response and has brought no adverse side effects, according to Russian researchers. Doctors studied 76 healthy volunteers aged between 18 and 60, over six weeks. In a peer review (31867-5/fulltext) of the Russian studies, experts in The Lancet say the two studies (31866-3/fulltext) by Denis Logunov and his team from the N F Gamaleya Research Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology have several strengths.

However, they also noted some limitations: some of those taking part were young soldiers who were likely to be relatively fit and healthy, while older adults were absent from the study. There was also a gender imbalance, the number of people taking part was low, and there was no

control vaccine.

Dr. Naor Bar-Zeev of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and colleagues write in the journal that the studies were "encouraging but small".

Widespread public use 'premature'

The editor-in-chief of The Lancet said the results of the studies did not mean that a general vaccine was ready for widespread public use. "The results are encouraging, but it would be premature, highly premature, to think that this is the basis for a successful vaccine for public use," Richard Horton told the broadcaster CNN. Sputnik V received government approval last month but drew considerable criticism from experts, as the shots had only been tested on several-dozen people before being more widely administered.

Professor Alexander Gintsburg, director of the Moscow-based Gamaleya Institute that developed the vaccine with assistance from Rus-

sia's Defense Ministry, told reporters that the vaccine triggers "sufficient" immune response "to counteract any imaginable dose infecting (a person) with Covid-19."

"We are ready to assert that the protective effect of this vaccine will be detectable and remain at a proper level for two years, or maybe even more," Gintsburg said, without providing any evidence to back up the claim. Warning against vaccine 'war'

During a video conference with President Vladimir Putin, Sobyanyin said he decided to get the vaccine to show support for its developers. Richard Horton welcomed progress made in numerous vaccine trials around the world, but criticised the way the Russian tests were presented in Moscow as a "challenge to western science".

"If we start setting nation against nation, vaccine against vaccine, and company against company, this is going to completely undermine any kind of rational response," he said. (Euronews)

Political parties should respect people's mandate

-Prof. Dinesh K. Gunasekara

BY CHAMIKARA WEERASINGHE

The political parties now opposing the repealing of 19th Amendment should realise that the people of this country after voting in President Gotabaya Rajapaksa into power had given a two-third majority to his government, to govern this country with power and not deal with a constitutional crisis, former judicial officer of the European Court of Law, Prof. Dinesh K. Gunasekara told the Sunday Observer yesterday.

"It is the duty of these political parties to respect the people's mandate and let the President govern this country and fulfill his duties to the public," he said.

"The last thing the people want to see is the 19th Amendment, which was indeed a product of the NGOs and the United National Party, rippling the institutional balance of power within the incipient state structure and spark a constitutional crisis", he said.

This was something that people endured during the office of the previous Maithripala Sirisena-Ranil Wickremesinghe regime.






"The 19th Amendment was intrinsically flawed not to abort the President's Executive powers, but to shift these powers to the UNP Prime Minister. It was an individualistic attempt by a few to perpetuate the powers of the UNP," he said.

"When the Executive powers lay with President Mahinda Rajapaksa, he put an end to the war. With the Executive power scrapped under the 19th Amendment, the country experienced how that compromised the country's national security with the Islamist terrorists letting loose bombs in local churches in Colombo under the previous regime," he pointed out.

The people want to see President Gotabaya Rajapaksa governing the country to develop its economy and deliver his promises to the nation according to his Saubhagayee Dakma policy statement. Rather than political parties trying to hinder presidential powers, he added.

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REFLECTIONS

9/11 - The morning that changed the world I knew

By
Dr. Palitha Kohona



It was another sunny September morning. The sky was a brilliant blue. As I gazed out of my kitchen window while having breakfast, in Mid Town Manhattan, the twin towers were glistening in the morning sun. I noted, as I often had, that they were still there, a familiar and reassuring sight although a German friend who was studying fengshui had commented that the sharp corners of the two buildings did not bode well. They were poisoned arrow tips.

I had returned to New York, still pleasantly warm, from cold but awe inspiring Alaska only the previous evening. It was time to get ready for the mayhem that would be the UN General Assembly in the coming weeks.

The cute young blonde in the apartment across the street was drying her wet hair, as usual, by her plate glass window. In New York, there was little privacy and people really did not care.

The walk to the UN and my office on the 32nd floor of the Secretariat was uneventful. Not that I expected anything untoward to happen. A pre-scheduled closed door management meeting began on time. Just then there was a knock on the door, and Tony M, a lawyer not easily ruffled, put his head in and nonchalantly informed us that some black smoke was rising from one of the towers. None of the participants paid much attention to this intrusion and the meeting continued.

A few minutes later there was more insistent knocking. It was Tony again who blurted out one of the towers may actually be on fire. Both USG Corell and I went round the corner to a window, more to keep Tony happy than because we thought something was amiss. What we saw sent a shiver down my spine. Black smoke was billowing out of the top of one of the towers. We looked at each other and Corell said, "Let us suspend the meeting and find out what is going on".

Safety

I walked down to the 32nd floor and decided to ask my staff to leave the building although I had no instructions to that effect from anyone. But I felt that their safety was my responsibility. I went from room to room. Some staff were just beginning to settle in. Some were having breakfast at their desks, some were writing personal emails. My deputy was actually playing cards on the computer. I insisted that all assemble in the courtyard below and return when instructed. By the time I had locked up my office, the lift had been stopped and I had to walk down 32 flights of stairs to the bottom. I felt the soreness in my legs only the next morning.

On the way down I passed the UN media Centre on the fourth floor and found a few people gathered in front of a large TV screen. Then, as we watched, an aeroplane came streaking across the screen and slammed in to the other tower. A massive ball of fire and smoke gushed out of the other side of the building. Someone behind me commented that it looked like a Cessna. I said no. That was a big passenger plane.

By the time I reached ground level, most people working in the Secretariat building were milling around, uncertain and fearful. My secretary, who was there, asked what she should do. I told her that I was going back to my apartment, just five minutes away, and that she should call me when the security services permitted us to go back in to the building. (I did not know then that the building would remain closed for the next two days).

On reaching home, I went on to my balcony and ominous clouds of black smoke were billowing from the top of the two towers. As an amateur photographer, I could not resist the temptation to take a few shots with my long lens of the burning buildings. I turned on the TV and sat down when to my utter disbelief, the first tower began to crumble down, first in slow motion and then gathering speed in a cloud of cascading dust and smoke.

It took a while to grasp what had happened. Thousands worked in that building and I could not help but think that none would return to their families that day. Then, I grabbed the camera and went on to the rooftop and took a series of photos. Unknown to me at the time, I was taking pictures with the clock on the Woolworth Tower in between me and the towering inferno that was the Twin Towers, now reduced to one. The exact time was recorded in each photo. (Sadly, the camera was left

behind in a NY taxi and the photos were lost to me). But some have appeared in various publications from time to time. A few minutes later the second tower crumbled in a giant swirling cloud of smoke and dust. The enormity of what had just happened was difficult to grasp at first. I had been to the bar on the top floor, Windows to the World, only a couple of weeks ago. Thirty thousand people worked in the two towers and it was possible that thirty thousand lives had been snuffed out in those awful minutes. But it later transpired that for various reasons only about 3,000 had died, including 800 first responders.

The tragedy immediately reduced this previously well ordered and humming city, New York, the throbbing heart of global fiancé, to utter chaos. The phones stopped working, either due to the excessive load or because the antennae on top of the towers had gone down with the buildings, and took me hours to get through to Sri Lanka and Australia to reassure those close to me that I was OK. At least one person in Australia who switched on the TV following my call thought that a cheap Hollywood movie was playing, but the same horror flick was on all the channels!

A Chinese friend's wife who was working in the XinHua office on the 30th floor of the Tower 1 had been on the phone with her husband who was in Kingston, Jamaica, at the time. She had felt the thud of the plane hitting the building but thinking that it was a malfunctioning lift had kept on talking. She understood the gravity of the thud only when her husband screamed for her to leave the building. He was watching the unfolding horror on his TV. Ling Ling ran down the stairs past firemen struggling up with their equipment.

When she reached ground level and saw the terror and chaos, including people leaping out of top floor windows, she had joined hundreds of others and run blindly over the Brooklyn Bridge until she reached the other side. In the process she lost her shoes. Then she realised that her young daughter was at school in Manhattan. Her efforts to get back were prevented by the police who had blocked all the bridges by then. It took her several hours to get back to Manhattan to recover her daughter.

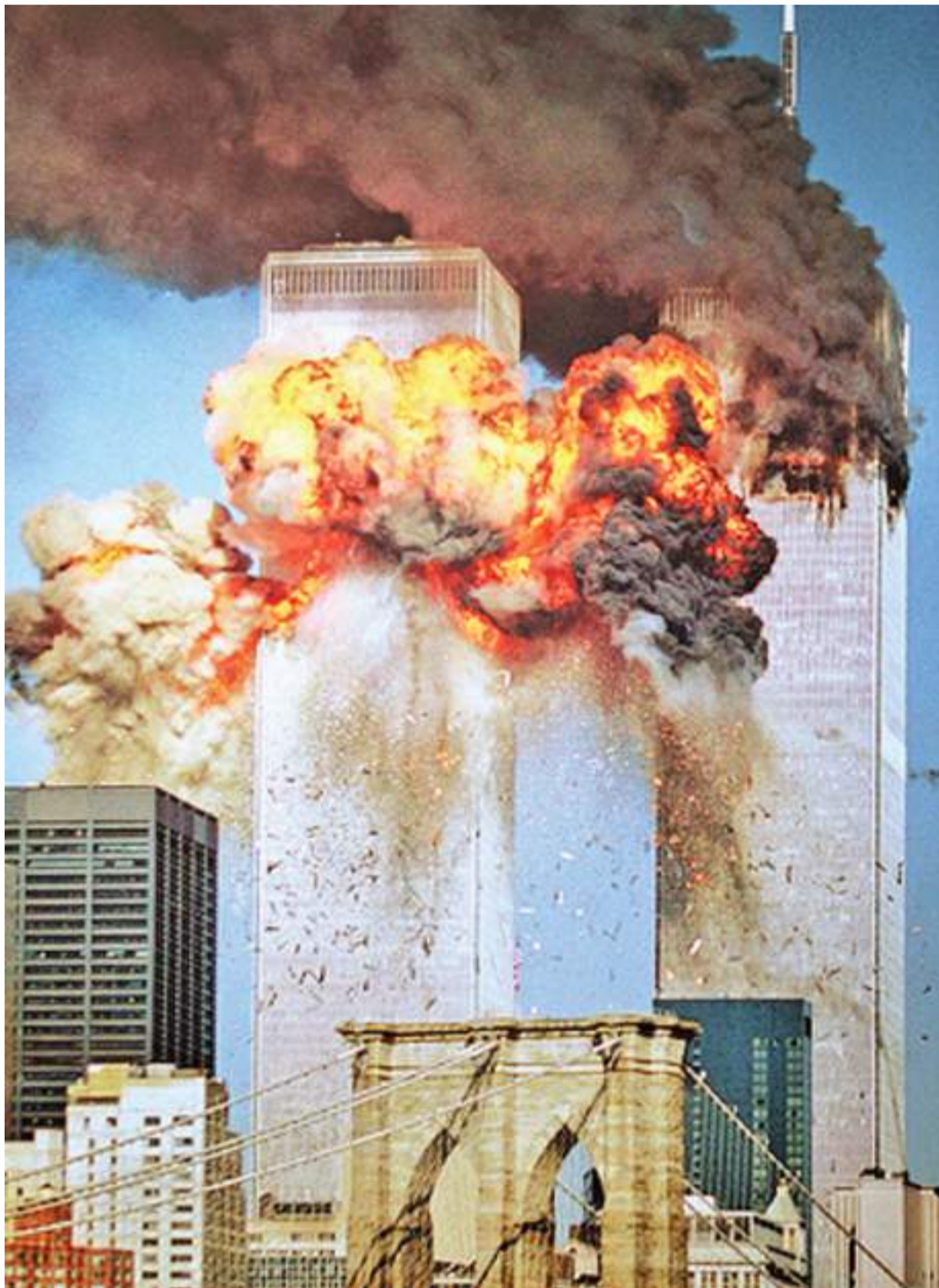
The city went in to lockdown mode. All the bridges and tunnels in to Manhattan were closed. All ferries, trains and subways were stopped and the US airspace was cleared of all aircraft. This situation remained for days. Fighter jets began roaring above the city. Civilian aircraft due to land in the US were diverted to Canada and other neighbouring countries, stranding travellers for days. We did not know at the time but another aeroplane had been crashed in to the Pentagon and a fourth, possibly heading for White House, had crashed in to a field in Pennsylvania, either as a result of passengers taking action against the hijackers or because it was shot down.

The streets of Manhattan were soon log jammed with cars trying to leave the island and food stores including supermarkets were emptied pretty quickly by people wanting to ensure supplies in their homes. Thousands of people who relied on public transport to get to work, were fleeing on foot. One of my staff members took seven hours to reach her home in Queens on foot. The phones remained dead for hours. Heavily armed soldiers appeared threateningly at all strategic locations. Military transports were visible everywhere.

High rise buildings

As we watched from our roof top, seven high rise buildings collapsed in the area of the Twin Towers during the course of the day as a result of the vibrations caused by the collapsing WTC Towers, the last, in the evening around 7 p.m. Many were seriously damaged. Others were covered in inches of dust. A friend, a night owl, remained asleep through the noise and vibrations in the Marriott Hotel until forced to leave in late morning.

A giant pall of smoke and dust covered lower Manhattan for almost three months and fires burned while the twisted steel of the once magnificent Twin Towers remained, stoking deep and complex emotions in every one who visited the area. The smoke and the smell spread towards Queens and spared the rest of Manhattan. Large parts of lower Manhattan had to be evacuated. My friends, Denise and Espen, had to leave their loft with their pet African Grey, Nelson, Alsatian dog, Mickey, and a cageful of birds they were minding. Battalions of firemen and paramedics searched the rubble for months for body parts and personal items which were later stored in Queens and meticulously identified



SRI LANKA MISSED A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY TO MOBILISE INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT, STRENGTHEN ITS SECURITY FORCES AND DEAL DECISIVELY WITH THE LTTE POST 9/11. MISGUIDED IN TO BELIEVING THAT NEGOTIATIONS AND APPEASEMENT WOULD SOLVE ITS TERRORIST PROBLEM, IT CONCLUDED A CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT WITH THE LTTE IN 2002 AND RECOGNISED A PART OF THE COUNTRY AS A NO GO AREA FOR ITS SECURITY FORCES. THE RESULT WAS THE LTTE BLATANTLY USING THE CFA TO FURTHER ARM AND STRENGTHEN ITSELF (IT EVEN DEVELOPED AN ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE WITH POLICE AND COURTS AND NAVAL AND AIR CAPABILITIES) AND ITS MURDEROUS TERRORIST CAMPAIGN AND CARNAGE CONTINUED FOR ANOTHER EIGHT YEARS

and returned to the claimants.

Total confusion and uncertainty prevailed in the city for days before the authorities were able to restore confidence in the population. The city which touts itself as the 'Capital of the World', certainly of the financial world, and the cutting edge of everything modern and dynamic, was gripped by fear and uncertainty. Mayor Giuliani played a critical role in providing leadership and portraying a defiant image of a beleaguered New York. Some men thrive in adversity. He was one of them.

As confidence returned to a shaken New York, people started to search for missing friends, relatives and lovers in large numbers. Walls were covered with notices asking for information of missing persons. Visiting a wall covered with these notices near ground zero, I watched a pretty young woman in red clutching a bunch of roses so tightly that her fingers had turned a ghostly white and tears were welling in her eyes as she stared blankly at the notices. The cute blonde across the street never reappeared by the window again to brush her wet hair. But someone placed two candles on that window sill two days later.

President Bush, whose presidency was sinking into oblivion, was given a massive opportunity to boost his standing that morning and he and his advisors grabbed it with gusto. Cometh the hour, cometh the man. President Bush's address to the Congress was inspiring and provided firm leadership to a nation whose confidence was badly shaken. The United States will henceforth be uncompromising and defiant in confronting terrorism and declared all out war on terror.

Global politics would also be se-

riously impacted by the US crusade against terror. The US under George Bush successfully mobilised the world, including the UN, in to adopting an uncompromising stance against terrorism. The UN General Assembly expressed its sympathy with the US and the 9/11 victims. The Security Council adopted Res 1368 on September 12 condemning the attacks on the US and recognising the right of self defence against acts of terrorism.

On September 28, the Security Council adopted Res 1373, an unprecedented act of international legislation, obliging member states to take a range of detailed measures proactively against terrorism. Crucially, Res 1373 was not focused on Al Qaeda but on international terrorism. (The Sri Lankan leadership, in contrast, began negotiating with its terrorists who were determined to dismember the state and missed a golden opportunity to ride the global tide to eliminate terrorism).

American diplomacy and influence, coupled with an uncompromising leadership, was successful in galvanising the international community to take action within days of 9/11. The rest of the world, especially countries such as Sri Lanka for whom terrorism was almost a daily experience, had not been able to command such a reaction. Importantly, Res 1373 did not pay attention to human rights in the context of terrorism.

That year, the UN Treaty Event during the UN GA and a special event held in October, focused specifically on encouraging participation in the 12 UN treaties against terrorism. These were exceptionally successful events.

Sri Lanka missed a golden opportunity to mobilise international sup-

port, strengthen its Security Forces and deal decisively with the LTTE post 9/11. Misguided in to believing that negotiations and appeasement would solve its terrorist problem, it concluded a ceasefire agreement with the LTTE in 2002 and recognised a part of the country as a no go area for its security forces. The result was the LTTE blatantly using the CFA to further arm and strengthen itself (it even developed an administrative structure with police and courts and naval and air capabilities) and its murderous terrorist campaign and carnage continued for another eight years.

The US under President Bush opted for a military response to Islamic terrorism which had deep roots and demanded the extradition of Osama Bin Laden and the expulsion of Al Qaeda from Afghanistan. Although Afghanistan made overtures to discuss these demands, the US along with the UK launched a massive bombing campaign against Afghanistan followed by an invasion in October 2001. They were later joined by NATO countries and others.

While many criticised the invasion as illegal under international law, the US justified its action as self defence authorised under the UN Charter. In December, the UN Security Council authorised the creation of an International Security Assistance Force for Afghanistan. As former President Musharraf describes in his autobiography, Pakistan was monstered in to supporting the US invasion with a threat of being bombed itself. Sri Lanka, among others offered logistical support to the US. The expected quick and clean conclusion to the war that the US launched in Afghanistan never happened. Al-

though, Osama Bin Laden was killed only in 2011 in Pakistan by US Navy Seals, sixteen years after the invasion, the US continues to be bogged down in Afghanistan. The Taliban remains unconquered. Over 3,400 Americans have died and over 19,000 have been injured. Thousands of Afghan civilians have perished. The cost to the US so far exceeds \$700 billion.

Like an inevitable row of falling dominoes war after war began to engulf the US. The US with the UK invaded Iraq, ostensibly because Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction, it was supporting Al Qaeda and it was a threat to peace and stability of the region. The UN Security Council was shown photographs in proof which later turned out to be bogus. France, Germany and New Zealand steadfastly opposed the invasion and Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, called it illegal. Millions around the world, including in the US, rallied against it.

The invasion went ahead and has reduced Iraq to tatters. Some have suggested that the real goal was Iraqi oil and the need to dominate the Middle East, in the process remove a dangerous challenge to US allies, especially Israel.

Iraq's leader, Saddam Hussain, who was an undoubted irritant, was captured, hastily tried and executed while the country was engulfed in sectarian and anti American violence. US troops on occasions responded with extreme brutality, as demonstrated by the Abu Graib photos. The UN's station chief, Sergio Vierra De Mello along with 19 UN staff, was killed in a bombing of the UN office. I was to have joined Sergio that week. Over 4,400 Americans have died in Iraq and a much larger number have been maimed. Some estimates suggest a civilian death toll exceeding 500,000.

The Yasmin Sookas and Collum Macraes of this world are not seen wringing their hands in exaggerated agony and demanding justice for this carnage. Nobel laureate, Joseph Stiglitz, has blamed the 2008 recession mainly on the Bush administration's decision to wage war with borrowed funds rather than raised taxes. And the chaos generated by the invasion has not come to an end. While terrorism has prospered, a new extremist Islamic group, ISIL, has emerged to challenge Western interests. They even set up a Caliphate in the lands that they controlled which has required additional military action to subdue.

Invasion

The invasion of Iraq was followed by NATO led military action in Libya in 2011, another oil rich Arab country. The Libyan leader, Qaddafi, who had earlier surrendered his weapons of mass destruction to the UN, was ousted and brutally murdered in public. Today Libya is a splintered failed state, where terrorism flourishes and has become a jump off place for thousands of illegal immigrants to Europe.

In 2012 the US intervened in the Syrian internal conflict along with Saudi Arabia and Qatar and later Turkey. That conflict has for the first time attracted direct Russian intervention on behalf of the Syrian leader Assad. Syria, which was a relatively liberal Arab state, has also been reduced to chaos and the ISIL's caliphate extended to large areas within it. Syria is a major source of the thousands of refugees flooding into Europe.

Yemen has also followed the path to sectarian violence.

The 9/11 attacks on the twin towers, whether orchestrated by Al Qaeda or, as some conspiracy theorists suggest, by elements intent on provoking US military intervention in the Middle East to advance their own interests, has had multiple consequences. Some may not even have been envisaged by the 19 Twin Tower jihadists. Islamic terrorism has become widespread and does not seem to abate. It has now engulfed a nervous Europe as never before and South East Asia, including Australia.

A flood of refugees has engulfed Europe causing serious socio economic challenges. Border controls have become rigorous and oppressive. Surveillance of individuals has increased. Much of the Middle East region which was relatively stable, even under obnoxious rulers, is now in chaos. Pro Western Arab regimes live with an uncertain future.

The US has become bogged down in a Middle Eastern quagmire, bleeding it of its wealth and young men and women, unable to extricate itself. Ominously, a resurgent Russia has become a militarily active player in the region. If Al Qaeda, and its 19 Saudi born suicide bombers, sought to cause increased Islamic militancy and chaos and uncertainty in the Western world, they have succeeded beyond their wildest dreams.

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THOSE WHO MADE IT POSSIBLE



Panduka Senanayake
Founder-online
Editor of Lake House



Anura Tissera
Chief Innovations
Officer (CIO)



Abhaya Amaradasa
Present General
Manager was
Production
Manager then



Pramod de Silva
Former
journalist is now
the Chief Editor
of Daily News
who teamed up
with the writer



By
Dinesh Weerawansa

Twenty-five years ago, the Internet facility was confined only to a few. Even then, the number of notebook computers was limited.

Even the laptop computers were very basic and simple which could be connected to the internet through a PC-MCIA card on dial up network.

I could well remember my first laptop – an IBM ThinkPad with a ‘luxury’ 3GB hard disc in late 90s. The dial up PCMCIA card cost Rs. 24,000 25 years ago.

It was during that somewhat ‘uncomfortable’ period that the *Daily News* and the *Sunday Observer* became Sri Lanka’s and South Asia’s first two newspapers to go online.

Initially, we did not file online 24x7 stories as done now but gave news highlights and selected stories on news, features, business and sports.

Going online was a tough task and a challenge to the handful of those who were selected to follow this specialised task under Panduka Senanayake, a go-getter in the *Sunday Observer*.

In an article to our sister paper, *Daily News* on its online anniversary, he described his new role under trying conditions as follows: “Having been forced onetime, under threat of withholding salary increments, to abandon an old, rusty and robust ‘Olympia’ typewriter for a computer, I still struggle to understand how the editorship of Sri Lanka’s first online newspaper was thrust upon me”.

Under the guidance of Chairman Lakshman Jayawardena and then Production Manager and present General Manager, Abhaya Amaradasa, Panduka Senanayake was chosen to be the Online Editor with a handful of staffers.

Even though Pramod de Silva, the current Chief Editor of *Daily News*, was chosen to support news was on an official overseas tour at the beginning, we started marching towards an ‘unknown destination’.

Several new words were added to our jargon overnight but when we started, it seemed exciting.

As Panduka recalled, WWW or the World Wide Web, http (Hypertext Transfer Protocol), html and other new terminology seemed out of this world to



The Central Bank bomb explosion by LTTE terrorists on January 31, 1996 was the first major online coverage by the Lake House online editions, barely four months after it was launched.

However, the *Daily News* and the *Sunday Observer* rose to the occasion and covered the horrifying acts of the Tigers by uploading the photographs through our then service provider Lanka Internet Services. Prof. Prabath Samarasinghe, Prof. Saman Amarasinghe, Hemantha Jayawardena and Channa de Silva, the current General Manager of Lanka Clear, helped ANCL in many ways.

everyone. “With one week of training before its launch in 1995, my diffidence dissolved under the guidance of technicians such as D.N. Wijesinghe and T.A.L. Ratnayake.

They put me through the paces and burnt the midnight oil assisting in the search for a reader-friendly format for the new addition to the Lake House flagship,” he recalled in his article.

Apart from the basic sections for Business, Features, Editorial, Security, Politics, World, Letters, Sports, Archives and Obituaries, the all-important ‘In Brief’ section would cover the gamut of the newspaper’s contents.

The task of compiling ‘Sports in

Brief’ was entrusted to me, a sports journalist in the *Daily News* Sports Desk headed by Elmo Rodrigopulle.

Following the memorable launch at the Galle Face Hotel, the so-called Internet Edition of Lake House journalists and technicians were in a tiny room on the top floor of Lake House, overlooking the railway track leading to and from the Fort Railway Station to the South.

All pages of the print edition would be accessed to select the best for the Internet edition. Stories will be updated and edited to suit the web edition which was altogether a new experience to everybody. Pramod de Silva and yours truly, who are now the Chief Editors of the *Daily News* and the *Sunday Observer*, were among the first young journalists selected to the team. Another young journalist then, Riza Rawdin of the *Daily News* joined the team later.

Then Chief Innovations Officer (CIO) Anura Tissera, now domiciled in the United States, played a decisive role with his extraordinary IT knowledge. Technicians Ratnayake, Jagath Dharmaratne, Nalaka de Silva, Gerald Nadesan and journalist Vernon Perera from the *Sunday Observer* did their best to ensure the online publication maintain its deadlines. The slow but confident start showed positive results as our online editions bagged a couple of awards right from the first three months.

Staff of the Visual Display Terminal (VDT) and Production Department gave their fullest support as Abhaya Amaradasa kept a close eye to coordinate with the editorial team. In fact, Amaradasa

was awarded the ICTA award in 2015 for the *Daily News* and the *Sunday Observer* venturing in first to the worldwide web 25 years ago.

The simple start exactly 25 years ago laid the foundation for the resounding success our online editions that we enjoy today. Following the success story of the *Daily News* and the *Sunday Observer* online editions, four other main newspapers – *Dinamina*, *Silumina*, *Thinakaran* and *Vaaramanjaree* began their online journey. Today, there are a number of other weekly papers too going digital, including the *Sarasaviya*, *Tharuni* and *Mihira*.

The Central Bank bomb explosion by LTTE terrorists on January 31, 1996 was the first major online coverage by the Lake House online editions, barely four months old. However, the *Daily News* and the *Sunday Observer* rose to the occasion and covered the horrifying acts of the Tigers by uploading the photographs through our then service provider Lanka Internet Services. Prof. Prabath Samarasinghe, Prof. Saman Amarasinghe, Hemantha Jayawardena and Channa de Silva, the current General Manager of Lanka Clear, helped ANCL in many ways.

It’s encouraging to note that the humble beginnings given by Panduka and his team has blossomed out to become today’s vast operation that encompasses everything from the e-paper to Facebook, Twitter and Instagram feeds.

We are overjoyed to be a part of that success story of South Asia’s first online newspapers which was launched 25 years ago!



Assistant Manager (Digital), Jagath Dharmaratne who is still doing a praiseworthy job at internet room

Hulugalle assumes duties in Sydney

Lakshman Hulugalle is a person of immense experience in the public and private sectors. He is an administrator and diplomat with a proven track record. His portfolios have been diverse and varied, but his commitment and positive approach are always constant.

Result-oriented and hardworking, he recognises that trust, loyalty, and responsibility in everything that one does will always result in success. Hulugalle has been a part of the significant achievements that the country has accomplished over the

past 30 years. Hailing from the Wayamba region and from a respectable family, he attended the best schools in the Kurunegala district. His family background, education and value oriented upbringing enabled him to work hard with determination and this saw him rise in his career to work at the highest levels of State in Sri Lanka.

The Accelerated Mahaweli Development Program is one of the most significant development projects that the country has ever witnessed. The project was spearheaded by the then Minister of Mahaweli Development,

Gamini Dissanayake. The Mahaweli Development Program was initially planned to be completed over 30 years; however, the implementation of the project was accelerated and was completed in seven years.

Hulugalle was at this time (1979-1989) the Coordinating Secretary to Gamini Dissanayake, Minister of Land and Land Development and Mahaweli Development.

The experience and knowledge garnered through this time have been pivotal for the various roles that he has held over the years.



Consul General of Sri Lanka for Sydney, New South Wales and Queensland, Australia, Lakshman Hulugalle presents the letter of appointment to Attaché Administration, Commercial Consul in the Consulate General office in Sydney, M. M. A. Rahim looks on.

SPORT

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SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

Minister initiates Blueprint to create a sports culture and economy

BY PRINCE GUNASEKERA

In compliance with Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa's instructions to formulate a five-year plan to develop sports, all heads of departments and institutions under the Sports Ministry met yesterday at the Avant Drive Hotel in Negombo for preliminary discussions on a blueprint.

The five-year plan will be discussed to pre-

pare the formal draft. As this is initiated on the directive of the Sports Ministry, it is hoped to raise a wide spectrum of knowledge at the level of departments and institutions, Sports Director General Amal Edirisooriya said.

Representatives from the Department of Sports Development, National Sports Science Foundation, Sugathadasa Sports Authority, Sports Medicine Institute, National Anti-doping Agency and National Sports Museum were

present. The Development Plan which will overcome the drawback of not having a National plan to develop sports since Independence will prepare a blueprint consisting of short-term, mid-term and long-term phases.

It will review the national sports programs launched by the Sports Ministry such as sports development projects, registration of coaches, regulation of national sports associations, maintaining national sports pools,

bringing in foreign coaches, taking sports to the village and creating a sports culture and economy.

The initiative will lay emphasis on a major program which will identify the need to develop sports from school to national level and ensure prospects for each student to be a sportsman and provide resources to develop sports targeting the SouthAsian, Asian, Commonwealth and Olympic games.



Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa

AUSSIES CRASH AT ENGLAND THRILLER

SOUTHAMPTON: Tom Curran held his nerve as England beat Australia by two runs in a final-ball thriller to win the first T20 International at Southampton on Friday and go 1-0 up in a three-match series.

Australia, in their first competitive match for nearly six months because of the coronavirus, were making light work of a target of 163 while captain Aaron Finch (46) and David Warner (58) were putting on 98 for

the first wicket. But star batsman Steve Smith's exit for just 18 sparked a collapse that saw Australia lose four wickets for nine runs in 14 balls.

Chris Jordan, in his 50th match at this level, conceded just four runs in the penultimate over that ended with him running out Ashton Agar.

A target of 15 off six balls became five off one.

But Marcus Stoinis, having hit a six off Curran earlier in

the over, couldn't hit another six needed for a win or the four that would have tied the scores and taken the match into a Super Over.

"I thought the bowlers really came good in the last eight overs," England captain Eoin Morgan told Sky Sports.

Meanwhile Finch said either he or Warner should have seen Australia home.

"We knew that England were going to keep coming hard

and they executed really well," he said.

"I'd probably be more critical of myself and Davey, who got us off to good start and neither of us pushed on to make a match-winning contribution."

Earlier, Australia held England to 162-7 after Finch won the toss.

Kane Richardson took 2-13 from three overs and occasional off-spinner Glenn Maxwell 2-14 from his three.



Australia's batsman David Warner falls to the ground after being hit by the ball (AFP)

Football course for elite coaches

The Football Federation of Sri Lanka (FFSL) organized a refresher coaching course for elite coaches to educate them on the new coaching philosophy and the football curriculum at their National Football Training Center, Beddagana, which began yesterday.

Sampath Perera, Manager Coach Education of the Technical Department of FFSL organized this program on the instructions of Amir Alagic the Technical

Director of FFSL. Over 30 top coaches from clubs island-wide were selected for the course. The course covers the latest coaching methods and updates. This two-day course will cover theory and practical sessions.

Amir Alagic covers the technical part while the administrative and match operational part is handled by Jaswar Umar, General Secretary of the FFSL. (AN)

Matheesha, Saajid win Nationals

Matheesha Nettasinghe was made to labour for victory over Thilina Dissanayake in the boys Under-14 Singles final at the Clay Court National Tennis Tournament at the SLTA courts Sir Marcus Fernando Mawatha yesterday.

Nettasinghe took the first set on 6-3 but played poorly to lose the second set on 1-6. This took their game to a tie breaker and Nettasinghe earned a hard fought win 10-5. Saajid Razeek took the girls' under-16 title. (TBR)

Power-lifters ignored look for redress

BY KASUN IRUGALBANDARA

Sri Lankan power lifters who have performed well in international events such as the Asian and Commonwealth Games and won medals are lamenting on the need to discard outdated equipment and acquire sufficient latest models that will take them into the future.

They are expecting to meet Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa to air their grievances and say they are yet to have access to what they call a "real power-lifting set".

"In the past we conveyed our shortcoming to Sports Ministers but none of them did anything to solve the problem. But this time

we can hope that our basic needs will be addressed," said one of the power lifters.

An official of the Power Lifting Association who did not wish to be quoted said that just because medals are won on the international stage the big wigs running the sport in the country think there is no need to acquire new equipment. The Sri Lanka Power Lifting Association is now run by an interim committee headed by Dr. Lal Ekanayake the Director General of the Medical Department in the Sports Ministry.

A new weight lifting set is estimated to cost nearly Rs. 8 million for 500 kilograms which is sufficient for Sri Lankans.

Ten sports bodies in big trouble

BY KASUN IRUGALBANDARA

Director General of Sports Department of the Sports Ministry has compiled a report to be submitted next week calling for the suspension of ten sports associations with immediate effect, the Sunday Observer learns.

Among the offending ten associations are tennis, Paralympics, cycling, golf, baseball, squash and wrestling.

The report was compiled by Amal Edirisooriya the DG who will push for action when he presents the report to Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa.

A special investigation revealed that the offending associations had violated the Sports Law by failing to

submit their annual account statements which amounts to a very serious misconduct on the part of elected office bearers. A total of 14 associations were found guilty of violating the Sports Law but four of them were exempted from any punishment.

The probe Committee was headed by chief internal auditor BMMS Basnayake. The offending ten sports associations had attempted to hide behind the coronavirus factor as the reason for their failure to submit their account statements.

But the Sports Ministry hit back saying the Covid 19 pandemic entered the scene in late March long after the February 28 deadline had passed to submit account statements.

Balapitiya Super and Nandians enter T10 final

Balapitiya Super SC 'A' and Nandians Cricket Academy entered the final of the Inter-Club Under-15/10 Super League cricket tournament conducted by Super Sports Club Balapitiya at the Teachers Training College ground Balapitiya on Friday.

Balapitiya Super beat Benthara SC by 82 runs and Nandians Cricket Academy beat Pragathi SC by six wickets in the semi-finals.

The final will be played today at the same venue.

(YK)

Teenagers down veterans to win RCGC golf titles

Teenage sensation Yanik Kumara played excellent golf to emerge winner of the Royal Colombo Golf Club (RCGC) championship that concluded at their course last week.

Second seed Kumara beat veteran golfer Rusi Captain in the final that was played on a match play system.

tem on the fourth day of the championship. Another teenager and talented golfer Kayla Perera played excellent golf to emerge the winner in the Ladies club championship.

She beat another veteran golfer in Anouk Chitty in the final in the match play system. (TBR)



Kayla Perera RCGC Ladies Champion (left) and Yannik Kumara RCGC Men's Champion

Football coach delivers trophies like kicking goals

BY ALTHAF NAWAZ

Football players and fans heaved a sigh of relief when the Football Federation of Sri Lanka (FFSL) announced the revamp of the domestic tournament under the name Vantage FFSL President's Cup.

One of the prominent clubs in the fray was Colombo FC, coached by Mohamed Hassan Roomy that went on to clinch the championship and the man behind their success was none other than the coach himself who put in an indefatigable effort to see his players reach the pinnacle.

A product of Zahira College, Colombo, Roomy hailed from a family of footballers starting with his father. His three brothers also donned school jerseys and graduated to club level.

Beginning his football career from a tender age, Roomy represented the College with distinction and led them to win several championships, which could be rated as

the golden era of schools' soccer. He toured Hong Kong, India and Bahrain with the junior National teams where he won several awards for his extraordinary skills.

When he was in peak form in the schools' arena, he was called for National duty in 1996 and went on to dribble the ball for them until 2002 as a highly skilled back division player which was his favourite position.

Roomy was recruited by the Air Force and served for 12 years as their Sports Officer and Aircraft and Domestic Firefighter. Aware of his football skills the Air Force management requested him to play for them in the top division and he gladly obliged to end up captaining the team in 2006.

Roomy changed gears down the line and decided to hang his boots and opted to get into coaching which was his dream. He showed gratitude to his Alma Mater and joined them in 2010 to play a pivotal role in restructuring and development.



From left- MH Roomy, head coach, Colombo FC holds the Vantage FFSL President's Cup with Hanif Yusoof, the club's patron and Saif Yusoof, the founder, owner and president of Colombo FC

He transformed Zahira to winning ways and annexed the All Island Schools Soccer Championship for four years which was a unique achievement in his life. His coaching

pross did not go unnoticed and was entrusted to coach the Sri Lanka women's team and the National under-16 side.

While coaching Zahira he was

invited by Colombo Football Club to take over as their coach in 2010 and ever ready to take up challenges he grabbed the opportunity.

He turned Colombo FC into champion unit, a major force to be reckoned with in the local football scene guiding them to win the Silver Cup 2010 tournament in his very first year.

They went on to win it again in 2012 and while maintaining the winning streak Roomy and his team crossed the biggest hurdle by winning the prestigious FA Cup in 2015 which is the most acclaimed prize in Sri Lanka football involving over 700 teams island-wide from the initial stage of the competition.

Roomy also produced six players to don the Sri Lanka jersey and was instrumental in winning several other tournaments culminating in bagging the Vantage FFSL President's Cup to add to his list of achievements at a unique juncture as it was played after a long lapse amid the Covid-19 constraints.

The end result was that Colombo FC had the rare distinction of winning all tournaments on offer in the country under Roomy's coaching.

If Roomy has anyone to thank, he will not waste time in paying a glowing tribute to his school's coach Nizardeen and the late PD Sirisena, the former legend who motivated him to take up coaching.

Discovering the potential in Roomy, the FFSL supported him to obtain his Asian Football Confederation 'A' license diploma which only a few in the country have acquired.

Current employer Saif Yusoof who owns Colombo FC and trusted him to the fullest will be the first to say that Roomy has the best credentials to put his hand up some day for a job with the Sri Lanka team before he decides to retire.

And no one could be more proud than Roomy's wife Fathima Niroza who has been a pillar of strength to him along with his parents.

IMPACT

features.suo@lakehouse.lk / Tel: 011 2 429 429, 011 2 429 228 / Fax: 0112 429 227

SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

Effect of wrongful decisions and administrative inaction



PRESIDENT OF THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF SRI LANKA (BASL)
PRESIDENT'S COUNSEL KALINGA INDATISSA EXPLORES
ISSUES IN THE WRONGFUL EXERCISE OF DECISION AND
ADMINISTRATIVE INACTION



IF YOU TAKE THE WORKLOAD OF THE COURTS EXERCISING WRIT JURISDICTION A SIZEABLE AMOUNT OF WORK OR LITIGATION PENDING IN SUCH COURTS ARE BASED ON BAD ADMINISTRATIVE DECISIONS OR ADMINISTRATIVE INACTION

One of the main issues in every legal system is the long drawn out delay in the litigation. In terms of the Sri Lankan legal system, justice is carried out through judicial tribunals established through the Constitution and through laws passed by Parliament to exercise judicial authority and the judicial power of the people. Hence the judiciary plays an important role in the lives of the people.

When you address the question of law's delay a significant portion of litigation currently pending in courts originate through bad administrative decisions or administrative inaction. During ancient times, the king functioned as the head of the executive, the head exercising legislative power and also the head executing judicial power. In other words, he was very powerful and was the final authority on all these matters.

However, with the breakdown of the monarchical system of the world and the increase in population, the integration between countries and due to the rapid economic growth which took place in the 19th century there arose a situation where the king could not any longer single handedly handle all these powers. Therefore, power had to be delegated.

In ancient times the primary objective of governance was to maintain law and order, col-

lection of revenue, and maintaining economic standards. Since the commencement of the delegation of powers sometimes to subordinate officers of the king and sometimes to ad-hoc tribunals, it was necessary to maintain uniformity in their decisions. In other words, in most of these instances the functionary or the tribunal was placed in a position where they had to exercise discretion. They would either take a decision in favour of a person or against him.

When discretionary authority is granted to an individual or a tribunal it is necessary to apply uniform standards in their functions. Eventually, there developed a situation where most of such discretionary authority was exercised by individuals or tribunals established statutorily.

Doctrine of ultra-vires

The basic concept of a discretion can be summed up as follows "a person in whom a discretion is vested is expected to do not what he likes to do, but what he ought to do." In other words his decision must be lawful, he must have the power to take such a decision, he must act reasonably, and he should not abuse his powers.

In most legal systems discretionary authority of individuals is controlled in two forms.

A. Political control exercised through Parliament

B. Legal control exercised through courts

The above control is generally referred to as the doctrine of ultra-vires. This is the concept which de-

veloped under English Law principles and which is in existence in our legal system today.

Basically, this means the statutory functionary or the tribunal ought to have acted legally. A decision of an administrative tribunal is considered to be legal or intra-vires decision, meaning a decision within the law only if the tribunal has taken the decision acting within his power, without exceeding his power, without abusing his power, and acting reasonably.

The power that a tribunal can exercise is specified in the Statute of Parliament through which it is appointed. Accordingly, the tribunal cannot do anything which is outside the power given to him. If he does so the act becomes invalid on the basis that he has acted without authority or ultra-vires.

Sometimes the tribunal may act within the power given to him by Parliament but without following the procedure specified by Parliament. In such a situation the tribunal is deemed to have acted exceeding its authority and, in this instance, too the decision is considered invalid.

The third situation where a decision of an administrative tribunal would become invalid in law is when it has abused its powers. An abuse of power would take place if the tribunal making the decision has a hidden interest in the subject matter before him. An abuse would also take place where the tribunal has a personal interest or a financial interest in the decision that is about to be made.

Administrative decisions affect the daily lives of ordinary people. Every time a government officer decides to give a licence or cancel a licence or decides to give a permit or cancel a permit or decides to award a tender or cancel a tender, he must ensure that he acts legally. In other words, he must have the power to do

so, he must follow the procedure specified in the Statute and he cannot abuse his powers. He cannot take into consideration personnel relationships, pecuniary interest, or personal benefits.

Wrong decision

In South East Asian countries personal interest and political considerations play a huge role relating to administrative decisions. This should never be encouraged.

If a person is affected by a wrong decision of an administrative tribunal, he could make an application to court to nullify or quash the decision. In such situations affected parties go before court and pray for writs of certiorari or prohibition.

Sometimes it is common in Sri Lanka to experience public authorities refraining from taking decisions. They keep postponing their decision or wrongly refuse to take decisions. This is called administrative inaction, while writs of certiorari and prohibition deal with wrongful administrative decisions the relief for administrative inaction is to seek a writ of mandamus.

The Sri Lankan society is heavily dependent on the State. The State is involved with the lives of people at every point, whether it is for getting approval to build a home, or obtaining permit for the land, or obtaining a licence to possess material, and so forth.

If you take the workload of the courts exercising writ jurisdiction a sizeable amount of work or litigation pending in such courts are based on bad administrative decisions or administrative inaction.

While Parliament lays down the power and the manner in which such power should be exercised by an administrative functionary, the courts are permitted by the Constitution to question the validity of such decisions.

It is my experience that in most instances these decisions are taken for wrongful reasons, namely, political reasons and personal reasons. My experience demonstrates that most persons in the public sector who are situationally empowered to take decisions affecting the lives of people are either ignorant of the manner such a decision needs to be taken or are blind to the concept of legality.

One of the problems I find in Sri Lanka is the lack of training of such persons in this regard. Recruitment in the public sector is done on an examination basis. At no stage are they provided any type of training on the exercise of discretion. Hence it is inevitable that they would make mistakes. The courts will not hesitate to declare an illegal decision as an invalid decision.

In my view, the Government must focus on a proper training program to all state sector functionaries involved in taking decisions affecting the lives of people, on how administrative decisions should be taken. This should be a top priority of any government. The legal profession will provide any assistance for such program. They must be trained in the legality of decisions, proper exercise of power, duty to act within the power, duty to follow the prescribed procedure in taking a decision, not take irrelevant considerations into account, and only consider what is relevant. Also, hear all parties to a dispute before a decision is taken and not have any personal pecuniary or subject matter interest.

If this training can be provided the public sector functionaries would make better decisions which would remove a sizeable workload handled by the courts.

-Aanya W.



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Features

ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH

IN KAYTS CELEBRATES 200 YEARS

Tracing its origins to 1820, St. Anthony's Church, Kayts is one of the oldest churches in the Jaffna Peninsula and commemorated its bicentennial in 2020. Sunday, August 16, was a red letter day for the community, whose ancestors hail from the parish. Having been damaged and abandoned during the hostilities in the North for many years, the church building underwent extensive renovations, thanks to the generous donations from community members in Colombo and other parts of the world. A grand celebration was planned for June 13, 2020 to coincide with St. Anthony's feast, with the participation of community members from around the world. However, Covid-19 caused the festivities to be postponed for 2021.

Ceremonial blessing and reopening

Undeterred by the turn of events, the community rallied together for a grand ceremonial blessing and reopening of the renovated church on August 16 with Holy Mass concelebrated by Rt. Rev. Dr. Justin Gnanapragasam, the Bishop of Jaffna and Rt. Rev. Dr. Thomas Savundaranayagam, Emeritus Bishop of Jaffna, together with Rev. Fr. David Manuelpillai, Head of the Island Deanery, Kayts Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Mac Mayoeran and several prominent members of the clergy.

It was attended by a large number of community members from Colombo and residents of Kayts, and the live television broadcast was viewed by parishioners around the world.

It is noteworthy that a little boy who was baptised at St. Anthony's Church and who spent his formative years in the parish went on to become a Bishop. The only son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Varapragasam Emmanuel, Thomas Savundaranayagam entered the seminary in 1953, was ordained a priest by the late Bishop Emilanuspillai at St. Mary's Cathedral Jaffna and celebrated his first mass at St. Anthony's Church on December 23, 1963.

After serving in numerous parishes in the Jaffna and Mannar regions, followed by a tenure as the Diocesan Director of Catechetical Centre, Fr. Savundaranayagam was sent by the late Bishop Deogupillai to Rome where he pursued the religion and was awarded a Doctorate in Sacred Biblical Theology from the Urban Pontifical University of St. Paul. While in Rome, he was appointed by Pope John Paul II in 1981 as the first Bishop of the newly created Diocese of Mannar. In 1992, upon the retirement of Bishop Deogupillai, he was installed as the seventh Bishop of Jaffna, a post he held until his retirement in 2015. During his 34 years of episcopal service Bishop Savundaranayagam, shepherded his flock with a steady hand during some

of the most turbulent times in our recent history. In addition to Bishop Savundaranayagam, the Kayts East Community has also produced three other priests and two nuns. The late Rev. Fr. Victor Rajanayagam being the first priest from the community, was ordained in 1942. The others are Rev. Fr. Jude Angelo, Rev. Fr. Sylvester, Rev. Sr. Naomi Rajanayagam and Rev. Sr. Kamala Srinathan.

Then and now

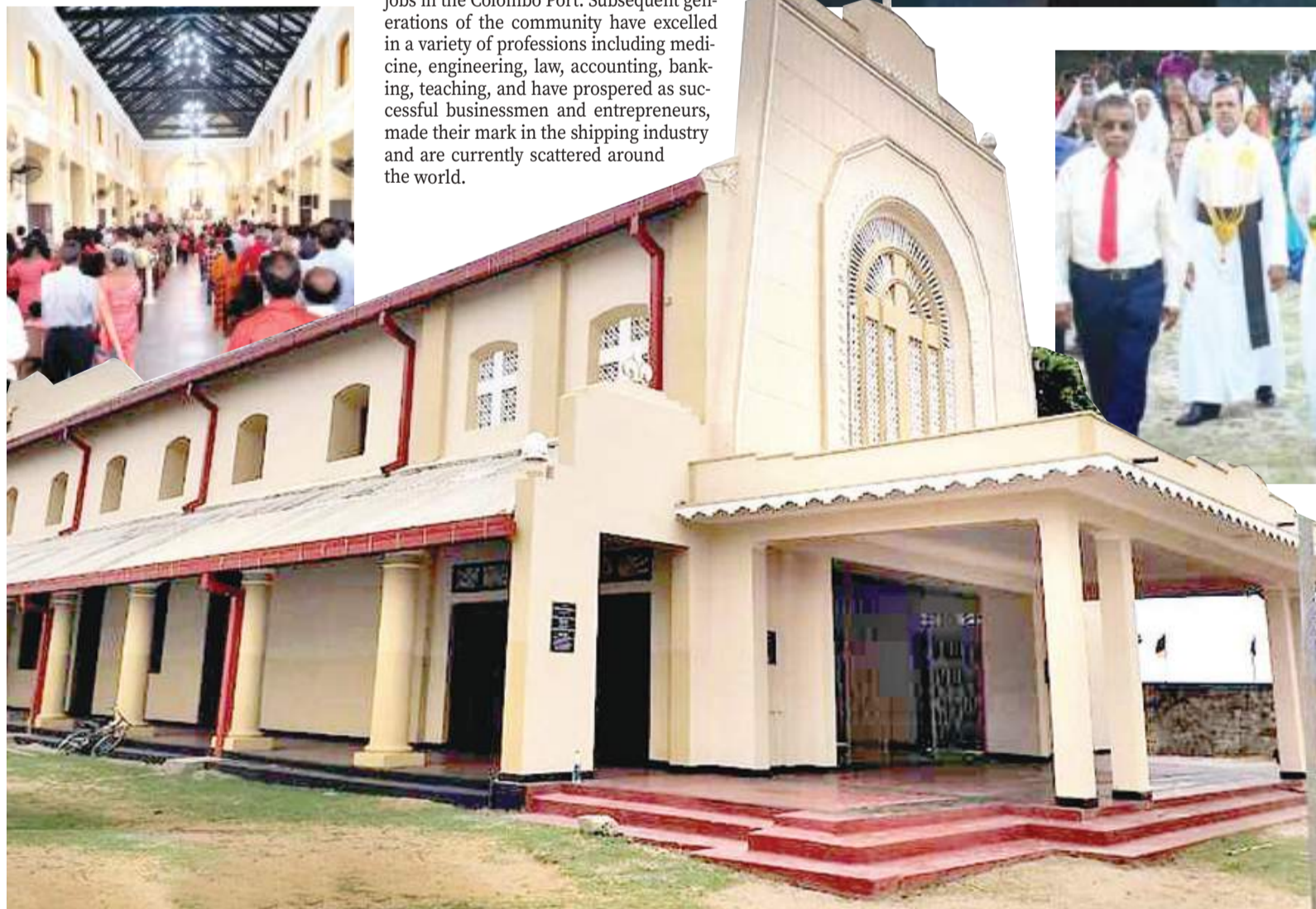
A reputed historian, the late Fr. Gnanapragasam, writes that initially, a church for St. Thomas was constructed at the present site of St. Anthony's Church. During the time of the Dutch regime, Roman Catholicism was suppressed in Ceylon. Because of persecution by the Dutch, many statues held in churches were moved by devotees and hidden. After the departure of the Dutch, a statue of St. Anthony was found hidden in a tree trunk near the church by a wood cutter. The parish priest, when alerted, rushed to the spot and brought the statue in procession and placed it in the church.

Devotees began to venerate the statue of St. Anthony and soon, a number of miracles attributed to the power of St. Anthony were reported. As a result, St. Thomas Church was renamed St. Anthony's Church. From ancient records of the church it appears that the people of Kayts East are the descendants of the martyrs of Mannar.

They are known to have initially settled in Chaddi in Kayts Island and were engaged in farming. They prospered and gradually moved to areas such as Naranthana and Velanai. When the Kayts harbour began to gain prominence and sea trading began to develop, the people in this area were attracted towards the shipping industry. The years that followed saw many seasoned seafarers emerge from the community including master mariners, marine engineers and tug masters, many of whom went on to man senior jobs in the Colombo Port. Subsequent generations of the community have excelled in a variety of professions including medicine, engineering, law, accounting, banking, teaching, and have prospered as successful businessmen and entrepreneurs, made their mark in the shipping industry and are currently scattered around the world.



BECAUSE OF PERSECUTION BY THE DUTCH, MANY STATUES IN CHURCHES WERE MOVED BY DEVOTEES AND HIDDEN. AFTER THE DEPARTURE OF THE DUTCH, A STATUE OF ST. ANTHONY WAS FOUND HIDDEN IN A TREE TRUNK NEAR THE CHURCH BY A WOOD CUTTER



Elders of the community escorting the Bishops and clergy who concelebrated the dedication mass, to the building



Concelebrants L - R Fr. David Manuelpillai, Fr. Thaya Perera, Fr. Terrance, Rt Rev Dr Justin Gnanapragasam, Rt Rev Dr Thomas Savundaranayagam, Fr. Amaladas, Fr. Mayoeran

Dawoodi Bohras observe *Ashara Mubarak* in their homes

The city of Colombo was bustling with thousands of Dawoodi Bohras from all parts of the world around this time last year to commemorate the ten days of *Ashara Mubarak* with their leader, His Holiness Dr. Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin, the 53rd al-Dai al-Mutlaq and head of the Dawoodi Bohra community. This year, however, the streets of Bambalapatiya and Masjid premises across the world are silent, as the members of the Dawoodi Bohra community ob-

served *Ashara Mubarak* in their homes.

Ashara Mubarak - The Blessed Ten

At the beginning of the Islamic year during the month of *Muharram*, the Dawoodi Bohra community commemorates the martyrdom of Imam Husain ibn Ali AS, the grandson of Prophet Mohammed SAW.

For the Dawoodi Bohra com-

munity, this ten-day period, known as *Ashara Mubarak*, is a time of spiritual reflection and educational growth.

Starting on the 2nd day of the month of *Muharram* and delivered over nine days, sermons delivered by His Holiness Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin explore themes of justice, sacrifice, brotherhood, forgiveness, kindness and piety, all qualities that manifest themselves in the tragedy that befell Imam Husain AS and his companions in Karbala, Iraq, which

ultimately led to his martyrdom. This year, the *Ashara Mubarak* sermons commenced on August 19 and concluded on 28.

Ashara Mubarak sermons online

Year 2020 has been a year of change in all aspects of our lives, including the way prayer and faith is observed. Adhering to government guidelines and instructions on social distancing due to the

Covid-19 pandemic, this year, Dawoodi Bohra communities the world over observed *Ashara Mubarak* in their homes with their families by following prayers and sermons online; just as they did during Ramadan and other recent religious occasions.

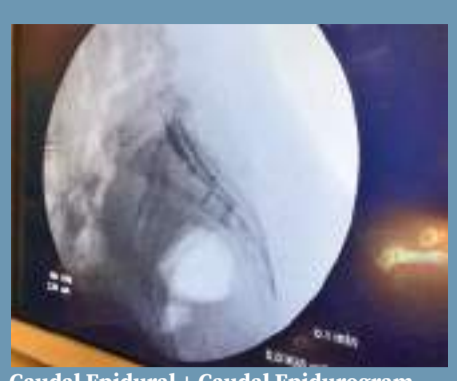
Recordings of the sermons delivered by His Holiness Dr. Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin, and predecessors, Syedna Mohammed Burhanuddin and Syedna Taher Saifuddin are being relayed online, directly to their homes.



Prime Minister opens London Pain Management Centre



The Prime Minister launches the official website



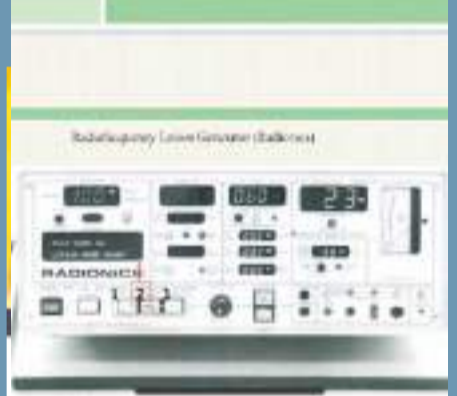
Caudal Epidural + Caudal Epidurogram



Lumbar Epidural + Lumbar Epidurogram



Lumbar Epidural



Radio frequency denervation of facet joints for back pain



Dr. Senasinghe examining a patient at his Horton Place clinic

Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa opened the London Pain Management Centre on September 2 on the invitation of Dr. Namal Senasinghe, Consultant in Pain Medicine.

Pain medicine is practised widely in the west including, UK, Europe and the USA. It is not well established in this part of the world especially, in the South East Asian countries, including Sri Lanka. Consultants in pain medicine have a dual fellowship and are accredited in both fields. One fellowship is in anaesthesia and the other in pain medicine.

Dr Senasinghe had his early education at Trinity College, Kandy. He passed out as a doctor from the North Colombo Medical College in 1991. After a four-year stint as a doctor at the Ministry of Health he migrated to the United Kingdom in 1995, and completed his postgraduate training in London.

Following the completion of the specialist training he was awarded the certificate for specialist training and appointed a Consultant in Pain Medicine in 2003 at the East Kent NHS Trust. After 25 years in the UK, Dr. Senasinghe has returned to his motherland to share his experience and expertise in Pain Medicine.

He has given up a private practice, earning 30,000 sterling pounds (7.5 million) a month in England and returned to serve the motherland. He could have practised for at least 13 more years in the UK. He made a sacrifice to introduce proper pain services to Sri Lanka and relieve the people of their suffering. He says pain relief is a human right.



Dr. Senasinghe explaining his mission and why he wanted to return home

UK's health budget is 135 billion sterling pounds a year, of which one billion is spent on treating back pain alone. As much as five million working days are lost a year in the UK due to back pain alone. The impact on the economy is immense.

Of the patients who attend pain clinics 80-90 percent are for back pain in the UK, he said, adding that there are no official figures in Sri Lanka as there is no documentation of patients. Besides back pain, knee pain also may be a major issue in Sri Lanka, he said. Every other pain condition in addition to back pain will be treated (other than ischaemic chest pain). They are the joint pains which include large and small joints, leg pain, sciatic pain, certain headaches, neuralgic pains and pelvic pain.

Dr Senasinghe will spend 15 minutes with a patient for a nominal consultation fee which is 1/20th of the consultation fee in UK. He will carry out many procedures as practised in the UK.

Dr Senasinghe believes a new trend can be developed in Sri Lanka where most if not all Sri Lankans can be free of pain with his expertise. But instructions and medical advice has to be followed religiously.



Religious observances

The procedures carried out are:

- Cervical Epidural
- Thoracic Epidural
- Lumbar Epidural
- Caudal Epidural
- Shoulder Injection
- Knee Injection
- Hip Injection
- Cervical facet injection
- Thoracic facet Injection
- Lumbar facet Injection
- Cervical RFD
- Thoracic RFD
- Lumbar RFD
- Dorsal Root ganglion blocks
- Dorsal root ganglion Pulse RF
- Lumbar Sympathetic block
- RFD Sympathetic lumbar
- Coeliac plexus block
- Ilioinguinal N block
- Femoral nerve block
- Pulse RF femoral nerve
- Genicular nerve block and RFD from 1/12/18
- Intercostal nerve block
- Paravertebral block
- Botox injections
- Trigger Point Injections
- Occipital nerve blocks
- Sacro iliac joint inj
- RFD SIJ
- Piriformis muscle block
- Suprascapular N block
- Pulse RF suprascapular Nerve
- Genicular nerve blocks for knee pain

First Agro Technology Park in Hambantota

BY RAJA WAIDYASEKERA
Tissamaharama special corr

The first ever Agro Technology Park in Sri Lanka set up at Bata Atha Hungama in the Hambantota district trains paddy farmers in modern technological farming methods which cover machine paddy transplanting, parachuting method of paddy cultivation, hand transplanting and traditional methods of transplanting.

The Agro Technology Park was set up by the Information and Communication Centre of the Department of Agriculture as a tribute to the farming community.

The OIC of the Pakrk K.W.R.Keerthi said that the aim of behind the setting up of the Agro Technology Park was to provide knowledge and new technological techniques to the farming community and also to make tourists aware of the traditional methods of farming.

He said that the orchard at the

park has been set up to grow under utilised fruits such as Veralu, Uguressa, madan,himbatu, galsiyambala, Anoda and Nelli. In addition, papaya mango, pineapple and rambuttan are also grown here.

The OIC of the park said that a modern traditional *chena* has been established where maize, cowpea and kurakkan are cultivated throughout the year. In a plot of land at the park there is a variety of wet and dry zone flowers

At the commercial vegetable cultivation unit, dry and wet zone vegetables are cultivated successfully despite the dry weather in the Hambantota district by using a sprinkler water system. A traditional home garden is also maintained.

This Agro Technological Park has proved to be a boon to the farming community not only in Hambantota district but also in all districts in the island.

It consists of a cafeteria where local food and beverages are served. It caters not only to visitors to the park but also to passers by.



Western Province Governor, Marshal of the Air Force, Roshan Goonetilleke opened the "Green Coop Market" mobile service at the Colombo South General Hospital, Kalubowila recently. Hospital Director A. Gunawardane, Deputy Director M. Karunaratne, Green Cooperative Society Chairman Dr. G.Jayaweera, Vice chairman, Dr.W.A.Y. Wedisinghe and Secretary Dr. Lasantha were also present. This mobile service will be held every Wednesday from 7am to 2.30 pm. (Pic: M. S. M. Munthasir, Panadura Central Gr. Corr)



Postal Services and Mass Media Development State Minister Sathasivam Vialendran visited the Batticaloa district media unit at the District Secretariat recently. Pic: Sivam Packiyathan, Batticaloa Special Correspondent

Call to develop Ambalantota town

BY RAJA WAIDYASEKERA
Tissamaharama special corr

The people of Ambalantota urge the Government to implement the Ambalantota City Development Project which the previous Government failed to implement despite plans mooted by the Urban Development Authority (UDA). The project includes the setting up of a new bus stand, a playground and the renovation of Circular Road close to the clock tower in the town.

Industrial projects in Hambantota

BY RAJA WAIDYASEKERA
Tissamaharama special corr

The Government is taking steps to launch industrial projects in the industrial zone in Hambantota. The industrial projects including a tyre factory, a cement factory and an oil refinery, will create over 100,000 jobs.

Steps will also be taken to convert the Hambantota town into a tourist zone. The old *kachcheri* premises will be brought under the tourism zone. The Urban Development Authority has identified the Hambantota Rajapaksa International Sea Port as the engine of the tourism zone.



HelpAge Sri Lanka (HASL) donated a wheelchair recently to a 54-year old H.D. Suneetha of Egodayana whose legs were amputated following a surgery. Here HelpAge, Youth Education Program Director G.C.Mendis with the beneficiary.

GERMANY CHILDREN DEATHS:

Bodies of five found in flat in Solingen

SOLINGEN, Sep. 5. The bodies of five children have been found in a flat in a large housing block in the western German city of Solingen, police say.

Police say they suspect the 27-year-old mother of killing the children before attempting to take her own life at a train station in nearby Düsseldorf.

Few details have been provided, with no information about the cause of death. Emergency services were called to the residential block in the Hasseldelle area of the city on Thursday afternoon.

Responding to call about 13:45 local time (11:45 GMT), police said they arrived at the building in Solingen, in North Rhine-Westphalia state, to discover the bodies of five children - three girls and two boys - aged from one to eight.

A sixth child, reportedly an 11-year-old boy, was said to have survived. The children's grandmother,

who lives 60km (37 miles) away in the city of Mönchengladbach, had alerted the emergency services, the German news website Bild reported.

Police spokesman Stefan Weiland said the children's mother had been seriously injured after throwing herself in front of a train in Düsseldorf and was being treated in hospital under police guard.

"Background and further details are not known at this point and that is what we are trying to find out," Weiland told journalists, adding that police investigators were at the scene 'in full force'.

Police said they were hoping to learn more about the 'incredibly tragic occurrence' after speaking with the mother. The entrance to the block of flats in Solingen has been sealed off and images show police cars and ambulances lining the streets, with forensic officers also at the scene. The

mayor of Solingen, Tim Kurzbach, wrote on Facebook that he had visited the housing block where 'this terrible act took place' after hearing the news. "For me it is still incomprehensible," he wrote in the post, adding: "Today is a day of mourning for all of Solingen."

Later on yesterday, residents began leaving flowers and candles at the entrance to the building as a tribute.

- BBC



The nature of modern society

Modernity must be understood, in part at least, against the background of what went before. Industrial society emerged only patchily and unevenly out of agrarian society, a system that had endured 5,000 years.

Industrial structures thus took much of their characteristic form and colour from the rejection, conscious or unconscious, of pre-industrial ways. Industrialism certainly contained much that was new, but it remained always at least partly an idea that in both its theory and its practice was to be understood as much by what it denied as by what it affirmed.

The force of the modern has always been partly a reactive force, a force that derived meaning and momentum by a comparison or contrast with, and by rejection or negation of, what went before.

Considered at the most general level, this point suggests a view of modernisation as a process of individualisation, differentiation or specialisation, and abstraction. Put more concretely: first, the structures of modern society take as their basic unit the individual rather than, as with agrarian or peasant society, the group or community.

Division of labour

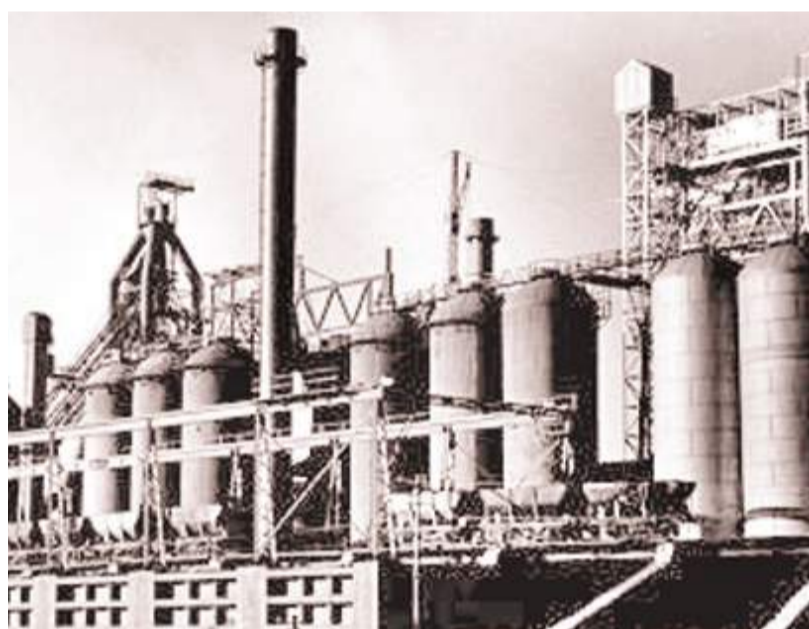
Second, modern institutions are assigned the performance of specific, specialised tasks in a social system with a highly developed and complex division of labour; in this they stand in the sharpest possible contrast with, for instance, the family in peasant society, which is at once the unit of production, consumption, socialisation, and authoritative decision-making.

Third, rather than attaching rights and prerogatives to particular groups and persons, or being guided by custom or tradition, modern institutions tend to be governed and guided by general rules and regulations that derive their legitimacy from the methods and findings of science.

In principle at least, they are not the agents of particular individuals, such as a king or priest, endowed with divine or prescriptive authority, but act according to the rational and impersonal precepts formulated by "experts."

These contrasts by no means complete the characterisation of modern society, nor are they the only ones that might be drawn. Nevertheless, they do illustrate the dependence of the concept of modernity on past structures that form the basis of comparison and exclusion.

Indeed, it is such a set of contrasts, not necessarily carefully distinguished, that most people have in



mind when they speak of modern as opposed to traditional society.

With regard to the more positive features of industrialism, industrial society can best be thought of as consisting of an economic core around which other, noneconomic structures crystallize.

In Marxist terminology, this is rendered in the more deterministic form of an economic base conditioning a noneconomic "superstructure." This seems unnecessarily rigid and misleading.

The relation of the economic to the noneconomic realm is mutual and interactive, as can be seen by considering the impact of scientific ideas on economic and technological development. Still, it is true to say that, fundamentally, it is the economic changes that most dramatically affect industrial society.

Economic change

Economic historians and theorists have been inclined to stress economic growth as the central defining feature of an industrial as opposed to a non-industrial economy. Thus, the British historian Edward Anthony Wrigley (b. 1931) declared that "industrialization is said to occur in a given country when real incomes per head begin to rise steadily and without apparent limit."

The American economic historian W.W. Rostow (b. 1916) popularized a similar conception in suggesting that with industrialisation, the economy at a certain point "takes off" into "self-sustained growth"; all the relevant statistical indexes of the economy—investment, output, growth rate, and so on—take sudden, sharp, almost vertical upward turns.

Underlying this phenomenon of

growth are certain core components of the industrial system. These include technological change, whereby work is increasingly done by machines rather than by hand; the supplementing or replacement of human and animal power by inanimate sources of energy, such as coal and oil; the freeing of the labourer from feudal and customary ties and obligations, and the consequent creation of a free market in labour; the concentration of workers in single, comprehensive enterprises (the factory system); and a pivotal role for a specific social type, the entrepreneur.

It would be easy to vary and extend this list. Not all components are of equal importance, nor are all equally indispensable to the industrial economy. They are drawn largely from the experience of the first industrializing nations, in western Europe and North America. Later industrialisers were able to dispense with some of them, or at least to try to do so.

The Soviet Union, for instance, industrialised on the basis largely of forced rather than free labour and made a point of doing away with entrepreneurs, while in Japan the entrepreneur was throughout stimulated and sustained by strong state involvement in industrialisation.

Moreover, it should be remembered that states—as, for instance, Denmark and New Zealand—can industrialise largely through the commercialisation and mechanisation of agriculture. Agriculture simply becomes another industry; farms are simply rural factories.

Even in this latter case, there is no place for a distinctively rural way of life in industrial society. Mechanisation brings an increase in productivity that renders a large portion of the rural labour force superfluous. Even

where agriculture remains an important part of the industrial economy, the proportion of the labour force employed in agriculture drops steadily with industrialisation. This is the "sectoral transformation" that is one of industrialisation's clearest and most obvious effects.

Workforce

A majority of the workforce comes to be employed in the production of manufactured goods and in services rather than in the primary sector of agriculture.

In both the United Kingdom and the United States, for instance, by the end of the 20th century more than 97 percent of the employed population worked in manufacturing and service jobs, while the number in agriculture had declined to less than 3 percent. Japan, as an example of a late developer, showed the same pattern: in 1970 more than 80 percent of the employed population worked in manufacturing and services and less than 20 percent in agriculture.

By the late 1990s the declining number of workers involved in Japanese agricultural production represented only 5 percent of the workforce. These figures should be compared with the normal condition of preindustrial agrarian societies, where typically 90 percent of the adult population are peasant farmers or farm workers.

The vast increase in agricultural productivity on which this sectoral change in employment depends is characteristic of industrialism. Industrial society breaks through the historical limits of scarcity.

In the past, the potential for economic growth was always cut short by Malthusian checks on population, by limitations of food supply, or by the shortage of easily available raw materials such as wood. Industrialization permits the creation of large food surpluses that can feed a largely urban population.

The entire world, both on land and in the sea, is scoured for raw materials and further energy sources to supply industry. Science has so far proved remarkably effective at finding substitutes for those sources that have dried up and those materials that have become dangerously scarce.

The British economist John Maynard Keynes suggested that, for the first time in human history, "the economic problem may be solved," and that "the economic problem is not the permanent problem of the human race." In the mid-1980s it still seemed reasonable to believe that industrialism promised growth for the foreseeable future, even that it might bring abundance to all.

-Britannica

Who should get the Covid-19 vaccine first?

When effective Covid-19 vaccines are developed, their supply will inevitably be scarce. The World Health Organization (WHO), global leaders, and vaccine producers are already facing the question of how to appropriately allocate them across countries. And while there is vocal commitment to "fair and equitable" distribution, what exactly does "fair and equitable" look like in practice?

Now, nineteen global health experts from around the world have proposed a new, three-phase plan for vaccine distribution -- called the Fair Priority Model -- which aims to reduce premature deaths and other irreversible health consequences from Covid-19. Published this week in *Science*, the paper was led by Ezekiel J. Emanuel, MD, PhD, vice provost for Global Initiatives and chair of Medical Ethics and Health Policy in the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania.

Two proposals

Though little progress has been made to describe a single, global distribution framework for Covid-19 vaccines, two main proposals have emerged: Some experts have argued that health care workers and high-risk populations, such as people over 65, should be immunised first. The WHO, on the other hand, suggests countries receive doses proportional to their populations.

From an ethical perspective, both of these strategies are "seriously flawed," according to Emanuel and his collaborators.

"The idea of distributing vaccines by population appears to be an equitable strategy," Emanuel said. "But the fact is that normally, we distribute things based on how severe there is suffering in a given place, and, in this case,

we argue that the primary measure of suffering ought to be the number of premature deaths that a vaccine would prevent."

Fair Priority Model

In their proposal, the authors point to three fundamental values that must be considered when distributing a Covid-19 vaccine among countries: Benefiting people and limiting harm, prioritising the disadvantaged, and giving equal moral concern for all individuals. The Fair Priority Model addresses these values by focusing on mitigating three types of harms caused by Covid-19: death and permanent organ damage, indirect health consequences, such as health care system strain and stress, as well as economic destruction.

Of all of these dimensions, preventing death -- especially premature death -- is particularly urgent, the authors argue, which is the focus of Phase 1 of the Fair Priority Model. Premature deaths from Covid-19 are determined in each country by calculating "standard expected years of life lost," a commonly-used global health metric. In Phase 2, the authors propose two metrics that capture overall economic improvement and the extent to which people would be spared from poverty.

And in Phase 3, countries with higher transmission rates are initially prioritised, but all countries should eventually receive sufficient vaccines to halt transmission -- which is projected to require that 60 to 70 percent of the population be immune.

The WHO plan, by contrast, begins with 3 percent of each country's population receiving vaccines, and continues with population-proportional allocation until every country has vaccinated 20 percent of its citizens.

- Science Daily



VETERAN RACER, INTERNATIONAL OFFICIAL ELECTED BIG BOSS OF SLAS

BY BERNARD PERERA

The Sri Lanka Automobile Sports governing body for motor sports held its Annual General Meeting on August 31 at the Institute of Sports Medicine where Ashhar Hameem a veteran racer, international official and founder member of the Southern Motor Sports Club was elected uncontested for the post of President.

Shehan de Tissera of the Colombo Motor Sports Club and Upulwan Serasinghe of the Negombo Motor Sports Club were elected uncontested as Secretary and Treasurer.

Hameem who hails from Matara is an old boy of St. Servatius College, Rahula College and Royal College Colombo. He has been an active participant on the racing track since the age of 16 and is an experienced driver who was the overall winner of the Ruhunu Rally for three consecutive years, the Negombo Rally 2002 and SLADAR 1000 in 2007 and many rac-



Ashhar Hameem

ing events including Katukurunda races, Wace Park, St. James', Mahagastota and Eliyakanda hill climbs.

Motor sports in Sri Lanka is expected to reach greater heights with the new set of highly experienced of-

ficials of the racing fraternity being elected to the governing body, especially with the new president being an International Race Official and administrator trained by FIA-CAMS Australia and the British Automobile Racing Club who has officiated at the Formula One races in Australia, India and thrice in Singapore.

Sharing his future plans with the media Hameem said that with Namal Rajapaksa being a racing enthusiast and Minister of Sports and international racing driver Dilantha Malagamuwa as a member of the National Sports Council he would have their support to further develop the sport.

He said that constructing two race tracks, one tarmac and a gravel track to international standards and improving the safety and welfare of drivers would be given priority.

"We hope to promote more one-make races of international level which would attract foreign participants to the country" said Hameem.

Newly elected officials of SLAS:

- President:** Ashhar Hameem
- Vice Presidents:** David Todd, Suminda de Silva
- Secretary:** Shehan de Tissera
- Asst. Secretary:** Rizvi Farouk
- Treasurer:** Upulwan Serasinghe
- Asst. Treasurer:** Col. Duminda Jayasinghe
- Committee Members:** Dr. Sanjaya Sedara Senarath, Eranda Wakista, Yohan Lawrence, Safraz Junaid, Dhammika Pieris, Suranjith Premadasa, Dinesh Jayawardena, Jaliya Jayasekera, Pubudu Wickrama, Kamil Hussain, TGN Gamini, Malaka Herath, Namaz Fawzy, Kalim Iqbal, Jayantha Fernando, Janaka Dias, Ryan Grey and Abeeth Dangalla

Richmond, Kingswood Old Boys face off today

BY DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Richmond College Old Boys will battle with Kingswood College Old Boys in their third annual T-20 cricket encounter at St Anthony's College ground Katugastota today.

Dilshan Amarasinghe will lead the Richmond Old boys team while Suwanji Madanayake the experienced all rounder will lead the Kingswood Old boys.

The Richmond side comprises former skippers Manohara Kudagodage and Samantha Lorenshewu while Buddhika Ekanayake, Dhanushka Gamage and Dharshana Kalansuriya are the key players of Kingswood Old boys.

Chompaka Ramanayake the first Test cricketer of Richmond and later the National fast bowling coach who presently works as head of the High Performances Centre in Bangladesh will play for the Richmond over-50 Old Boys side while Rohan Raj Perera and Lalith Wijeratne, an outstanding rugby, hockey and soccer player will turn out for Kingswood.

Richmond Old Boys: Dilshan Amarasinghe (Capt), Manohara Kudagodage (V.Capt/WK), Thushan Jayawardena, STR Jay-

asekera, Samantha Lorenshewu, Upul Yatawara, Chamil Perera, Suboda Gunawardena, Chamath Siriwardena, Sanjaya de Silva, Amila de Silva.

Richmond Over 50: Lasatha de Silva, Chompaka Ramanayake, PA Gunawardena, Prasad Abeyson-dara, Nishantha Mendis, Thushara de Silva, Shehan Seneviratne, Prasanna Ramanayake, Anura Mahendra, CK Hewamanna, Asoka Sirimanne.

Kingswood Old Boys: Suwanji Madanayake (Capt), Dharshana Kalansuriya, Demintha Dahanayake, Danushka Gamage, Manjula Pihilianga, Malith Mallawaarachchi, Muditha Abeykoon, Thushara Samarakoon, Buddhika Ekanayake, Chathura Kumarasiri, Udayanga Nanayakkara, Saluka Walisundara, Samindu Wijesinghe, Ruwantha Hathurusinghe, Subodha Lakmal, Gayan Fernando (manager)

Kingswood Over-50: Tissa Wijeratne, Rohan Raj Perera, Lalith Wijeratne, Upul Sumanasekera, Mangala Dharmaprema, Sujewa Fernando, T.A. Miskin, T. Gamage, N. Sawall, L. Kankanamge, UB Seneviratne, S. Wickramanayake, N. Cooray, S. Seneviratne, N. Kulatunga, N. Sarifoodeen

National golf to commence practices

BY KASUN IRUGALBANDARA

The national golf pool is to commence practices next month, the Sunday Observer learns as the executive committee of Sri Lanka Golf will decide on the dates in the near future.

Several members of this pool are from the Navy camp in Welisara who have not started their activities yet. The pool will also not be exposed to any National championships so

quickly as it would adversely affect their rankings. The players must get back to the game and correct their mistakes and shortcomings after such a long break according to an official.

"Without this kind of exposure it would be difficult for the players to play with fluency and accuracy. This is why Sri Lanka Golf has decided to begin training early next month," he said.

State Services soccer final

The State Services Football League final between Kotte Municipality and Kandy Municipality is scheduled to kick off on Wednesday (Sept. 9) at the City Football complex at 3.30 pm. Kotte MC were made to fight all the way for their one-nil vic-

tory over Prisons Department in the semi-final played at the Vernon Fernando Stadium.

The second semi-final made Kandy Municipality narrowly beat Kurunegala MC 1-0 in a thrilling encounter in Colombo.

Volleyball referees get appointments

As many as 66 volleyball referees who passed their Grade 'A' (34) and Grade 'B' (32) were presented their awards and appointments at a ceremony held at the Sports Science Foundation Auditorium on August 31.

With the appointments of these referees from all parts of the country

the national sport is sure get a boost from them in the future to develop the sport further according to the Vice President of the Sri Lanka Volleyball Federation Kanchana Jayaratne.

The Chief Guest was Director General Sports Development Amal Edirisooriya.

Maurice Perera never changed his rugby club Kandy SC

By Hafiz Marikar



Maurice Perera

Maurice Perera was a great player, rugby coach and administrator. He was one of the best front row forwards during his days. He learnt his rugby at Trinity College and played in the 1953 team under the captaincy of Dharmasiri Madugalle. In that year Trinity won the Bradby 13-0 and 3-0 and Maurice's gutty performances made him to win his rugby Colours. Ironically, it was after his 79th birthday that he passed away in 2013.

Maurice has the unique achievement of being a member of the first Clifford Cup final team of Kandy Sports Club. He started his schooling first at Poramadulla Central and later was at Kingswood College and Vidyartha College.

While playing for Trinity College, Barrie Cameron invited him to play for Kandy Sports Club. He was a player, committee member, secretary, treasurer, vice president, senior vice president and rugby coach and was recognized and awarded honorary life membership. The most thrilling moment for Maurice was in 1969 in the Cup final against CR & FC. This time Maurice Perera was the coach of the side and the team was led by the late Lt. Gen. Denzil Kobbekaduwa.

Maurice is one player who never changed clubs. He started with Kandy Sports Club and was there until the end of his rugby career. It was in 1968 he took up coaching Kandy SC when Fed Murray stepped down as coach. That year the Kandy Sports Club team was led by Y.C. Chang and they lost in the

semifinals to CR & FC. He participated in three Cup finals, two as a prop forward and the third as the rugby coach.

Later he coached Trinity College and was also the first coach of the Old Trinitians Sports Club. It must be said that when Trinity lost to Royal 62-0 in 1976, one of the heaviest defeats, Maurice was invited to take over Trinity coaching and he did his best. Maurice's association in rugby was well over 60 years. A disciplinarian he punished any player who failed to adhere to instructions or misbehaved themselves and on one occasion several key players were dropped on charges of indiscipline a decision which he had to make much against various odds.

He was also in the Sri Lanka Rugby Football Union as Council member and was one time the National coach and Selector. In 1970, he had the pleasure of learning advanced methods of coaching and development of the game from the Technical Advisor of the Rugby Football Union in Twickenham, under former British Rugby Lion Don Rutherford.

When the Provincial Unions were formed he headed the Central

Province Rugby Football Union as its President and introduced rugby to 106 schools in the Central Province and went as far as Wasgamuwa and the girls from Namini Oya Maha Vidyalaya in Hettipola made such an impact that they participated in a women's rugby tournament in Singapore.

His son Devapriya Perera too played for Trinity College and Kandy Sports Club. He too coached Trinity College and the father and son have the unique record still to be equalled having coached Trinity College at rugby and guided them to win the Bradby Shield. The third generation rugby was his daughter's son Sean Wanigasekera jnr who played and captained Trinity College in 2007 and was awarded his Rugby Lion. Then his son Devapriya's twin sons Danesh and Naresh played for Trinity College in 2012 and 2013 and were the first set of twins from Trinity College to play in the 2013 Bradby and his other grand son Sean Wanigasekera captained Trinity in 2008.

One of his greatest success in his rugby career was in 1977 when he took up the challenge as the rugby coach of Trinity College. For the Trinitians nothing is closer to their hearts than winning the Bradby Shield against Royal College. In 1976 they lost the Bradby Shield by the then biggest margin of 62-0 when it was three points for a try. He coached and motivated the Trinity ruggerites to such a level that they took sweet revenge of the Royalists by winning both legs and aggregated 22-10. For this performance the team was rewarded with a trip abroad. He also conducted several coaching camps and tournaments which were all aimed in the development of rugby.

Aussie Rules football players banned and sent home

SYDNEY: Two Australian Rules players were slapped with 10-game bans and sent home in disgrace Friday after a drunken brawl outside a strip club, which broke strict coronavirus regulations.

Sydney Stack and Callum Coleman-Jones, who play for reigning champions Richmond, left their bio-secure 'bubble' and ventured out into Surfer's Paradise, a bar-heavy area of Gold Coast, where they got into a fight at 3:30 am Friday.

Coleman-Jones suffered facial injuries and was treated in hospital. Stack was detained by police, but no charges were laid.

The Australian Football League said they had been sent home to Melbourne and banned for 10 games, with Richmond hit with a Aus\$100,000 fine (US\$72,000).

A host of AFL teams from Melbourne, which is under a coronavirus lockdown, have relocated to bio-secure hubs in Queensland state to ensure the season continues.

Players are prohibited from attending bars, restaurants or other confined public spaces.

AFL general counsel Andrew Dillon said the protocols were the



Callum Coleman-Jones

Sydney Stack

competition's license to continue playing, and any breach was serious.

"It is a privilege to be able to continue our competition, and with that privilege comes responsibility," he said.

"The actions of the players are not only irresponsible but disrespectful to the competition and everyone associated with it."

"There is simply no excuse for this breach," he added.

The breaches included Stack, 20, and Coleman-Jones, 21, travelling in an Uber car, visiting a non-approved venue and getting involved in a police-related incident.

Richmond chief Brendon Gale said he was incredibly disappointed in the pair.

"They have let down themselves, teammates, our members and supporters, our partners and the entire AFL industry," he said.

LAST MONTH THE CLUB APOLOGISED AFTER FOOTAGE ON SOCIAL MEDIA SHOWED A PLAYER GRABBING THE GENITALS OF A TEAMMATE DURING A POST-MATCH SONG IN THEIR DRESSING ROOM, WHILE ANOTHER WAS SEEN PRODDING THE MAN'S ANUS

"Yes, young people can make mistakes, but we expect better." It is not the first scandal involving Richmond since the season resumed in June after a lengthy coronavirus-enforced shutdown.

Last month the club apologised after footage on social media showed a player grabbing the genitals of a teammate during a post-match song in their dressing room, while another was seen prodding the man's anus.

Social media erupted at the time, with some calling it "blatant sexual harassment" while others saw it as simply "locker room antics".

"We all accept that this has been a difficult year, but it is no excuse for some of the mistakes we have made," said Gale.

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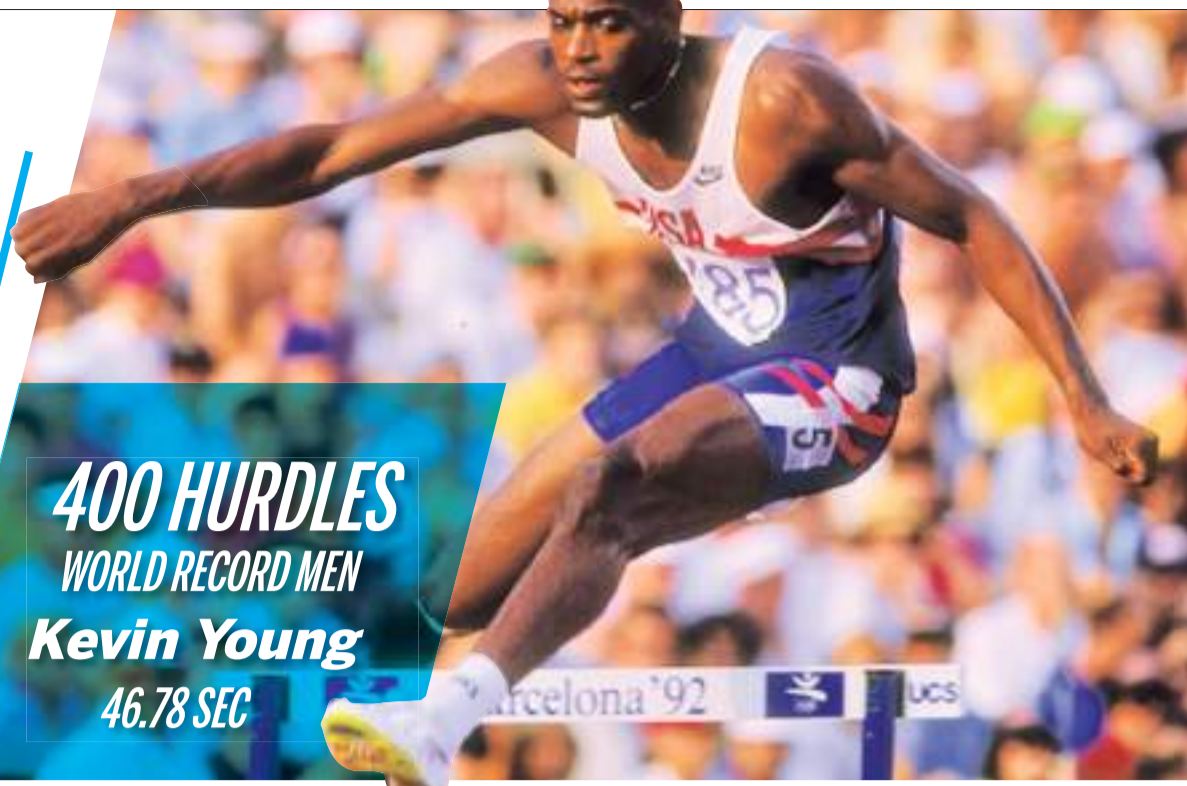
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SPORTS



400 HURDLES
WORLD RECORD WOMEN
Dalilah Muhammad
52.16 SEC



400 HURDLES
WORLD RECORD MEN
Kevin Young
46.78 SEC

400 HURDLES: SCINTILLATING TRACK EVENT OF DASHING HIGH SPEED, HOVERING OVER TEN BARRIERS

By Rear Admiral Dr. Shemal Fernando, PhD



The 400m hurdles is a scintillating track event of running at speed and jumping over ten hurdles. It is in this event that legendary Edwin Moses recorded the 122-race winning streak. In hurdling, a series of barriers known as hurdles are set at precisely measured heights and distances which each athlete must pass by running over. Failure to pass over or intentionally knocking over hurdles will result in disqualification. Hurdle design improvements made in 1935 developed the L-shaped hurdle which tip down to clear the athlete's path.

There are five hurdle heights on most standard hurdles -106.7 cm, 99.1 cm, 91.44 cm, 83.8 cm and 76.2 cm. In sprint hurdle events for men, regardless of the length of the race, the first hurdle is 13.72 m from the starting line and the distance between hurdles is 9.14m. In sprint hurdle races for women, the first hurdle is 13m from the starting line and the distance between hurdles is 8.5m. In long hurdle events, whether for men or women, the first hurdle is 45m from the starting line and the distance between hurdles is 35m.

Edwin Moses's World Record Streak of 122 Successive Wins

Edwin Corley Moses, born August 31, 1955 is a US athlete who won gold medals in the 400m hurdles at Montreal 1976 and the Los Angeles 1984 Olympics. He won 122 consecutive races that included 107 finals and set the world record in the event four times between 1977 and 1987. In addition to his running, Moses was also an innovative reformer in the areas of Olympic eligibility and drug testing.

Moses was born in Ohio and having accepted an academic scholarship to Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, he majored in physics and industrial engineering while competing for the school. Initially, Moses competed in 110m hurdles and 400m. Later, he shifted to 400m hurdles. In his first international meet, Moses won the 400m hurdles gold setting a world record of 47.63sec.

With his height of 6'2", Moses' trademark technique was to take a consistent 13 steps between each of the hurdles, pulling away in the second half of the race as his rivals often took 15 strides. He qualified for the US team for the Montreal 1976 Summer Olympics and won his first Olympic gold with a world record.

After breaking his own world record the following year at the Drake Stadium with a time of 47.45sec, Moses

lost on August 26, 1977 in Berlin; this was his fourth defeat in the 400m hurdles. Beginning the next week, Moses won and he did not lose another race for nine years, nine months and nine days.

Moses qualified for the Moscow 1980 Olympics but was unable to compete due to the boycott. He did however receive one of 461 Congressional Gold Medals created especially for the spurned athletes. In the 1984 Olympics held in Los Angeles, Moses was selected to recite the Olympic Oath, but forgot the text during his presentation but won his second Olympic gold.

By the time, he was beaten on June 4, 1987, Moses had won 122 consecutive races, set the world record four times, won three World Cup titles, a World Championship gold as well, besides his two Olympic golds. After the loss, he went on to win 10 more races in a row, collecting his second world gold in Rome the same year. Moses finished third in the final 400m hurdles race of his career at the 1988 Summer Olympics.

In 1979, Moses took a leave of absence from his job to devote himself to running full-time. He was instrumental in reforming international and Olympic eligibility rules. At his urging, the IOC established an Athletes Trust Fund in 1981. It allowed athletes to benefit from government or privately supplied stipends, direct payments and commercial endorsement money without jeopardizing their Olympic eligibility. This fund is the basis of many Olympic athlete subsistence, stipend and corporate support programs, including the US Olympic Committee's Direct Athlete Assistance Programs.

Moses was the 1980 Track & Field News Athlete of the Year. In 1981, he became the first recipient of USA Track & Field's Jesse Owens Award. He received the James E. Sullivan Award in 1983 and was named as ABC's Wide World of Sports Athlete of the Year in 1984. Moses also shared the Sports Illustrated Sportsman of the Year in 1984. His hometown of Dayton renamed Miami Boulevard West and Sunrise Avenue "Edwin C. Moses Boulevard" in 1984.

As a sports administrator, Moses participated in the development of a number of anti-drug policies and helped the track and field community develop one of sports most stringent random in-competition drug testing systems. In December 1988, he designed and created amateur sports' first random out-of-competition drug testing program.

In 1994, Moses received an MBA from Pepperdine University and was inducted into the Na-

tional Track and Field Hall of Fame. In 1999, Moses ranked 47 on ESPN's Sport Century 50 Greatest Athletes. In 2000, Moses was made chair of the Laureus World Sports Academy, which seeks "to promote and increase participation in sport at every level and also to promote the use of sport as a tool for social change around the world."

In 2009, the University of Massachusetts Boston awarded him an honorary doctorate for his efforts to maintain the integrity of Olympic sports and for use of sports as a tool for positive social change. He is a humanitarian and advocate for peace.

Back to Back World Records in 2019 by Dalilah Muhammad

Dalilah Muhammad, born February 7, 1990 is a US athlete who won gold at the 2019 World Championships, setting the current world record of 52.16 sec. A few months earlier, she stunned the athletics world when she obliterated one of the longest-standing records in women's track and field during the US trials, storming to victory in 52.20 sec. Her display sliced more than one tenth of a second off the previous record of 52.34 sec and has left many wondering if the 52-second barrier may fall.

At Rio 2016, she won the Olympic gold in the 400m hurdles. She is only the second female 400m hurdler in history, after Sally Gunnell, to have won the Olympic and World titles and broken the world record. She was also the winner of world championship silver medals in 2013 and 2017 and the US national champion in 2013, 2016, and 2017.

She competed in various track and field events at high school, including the hurdles, sprints and high jump. At the 2007 World Youth Championships, she took the 400m hurdles gold medal. While at Benjamin N. Cardozo High School in Bayside, Queens, she won the 2008 New York State and Nike Outdoor Nationals titles in the 400m hurdles. During that period, she also gained her first international experience.

In 2008, she enrolled at the University of Southern California on a sports scholarship, majoring in business. At the Pacific-10 Conference meet, she was runner-up in the 400m hurdles. The NCAA Outdoor Championship saw her set a 400m hurdles best of 56.49 sec. She won the national junior title that year and was the silver medalist at the 2009 Pan American Junior Athletics Championships. In her second year at USC, she was a runner-up at the Pacific-10 championships. The 2011 outdoor season saw her repeat her Pac-10-second place and a personal record of 56.04 sec.

In 2012, at the Pac-12 meet, she was placed third in the 400m hurdles. She was again an NCAA finalist in her specialty, coming in fifth and participated in the heats at the 2012 US Olympic Trials. She ended her

career as a four-time NCAA All-American.

After graduating from USC, she chose to compete professionally in the 400m hurdles. She improved her personal best in the 2013 season with 55.97 and then 54.94 sec in California. In her IAAF Diamond League debut, she was placed fourth at the Shanghai Golden Grand Prix with a time of 54.74 sec. She won at the Memorial Primo Nebiolo in Italy in 54.66.

At the 2013 USA Outdoor Track and Field Championships, she improved her personal record to 53.83 to win her first national title in the 400m hurdles. She represented Nike since 2013. At the 2014 USA Outdoor, she qualified for the 400m hurdles. At the 2015 USA Outdoor, she was placed seventh with a time of 57.31. At the 2016 US Olympic Trials she won the 400m hurdles in 52.88. At the 2016 Summer Olympics, she won gold in 400m hurdles. She defended her title at the 2017 USA Outdoor, winning with a personal best time of 52.64.

Muhammad broke the 400-metre hurdles world record at the 2019 USA Outdoor Track and Field Championships with a time of 52.20 sec, improving a 16-year-old record established in 2003. She won the gold medal at the 2019 World Championships, setting the new world record with a time of 52.16 sec. At the end of the season she was selected for the Jackie Joyner-Kersey Award by the USA Track and Field Federation and by Track and Field News at its World Women's Athlete of the Year.

World Record of 1992 by Kevin Young

Kevin Young, born September 16, 1966 is a US athlete who won the 400m hurdles at the Barcelona 1992 Olympics with a world record and Olympic record of 46.78 sec which was the first time the 47 sec was broken. The world record remains unbeaten even after 28 long years. He became the world champion at the 1993 World Championships. He had an unusual hurdling technique of switching between 12 and 13 strides between the hurdles.

At Jordan High School, he was first successful as a 110m hurdles. As a University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), he was fifth at the 1985 Pac-10 Championships in the 400m hurdles. He won the 1986 Pac-10 400m hurdles with a record of 49.02 sec. At the 1986 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Championships, he was a second-place finisher. While running between the fourth and fifth hurdles he took eleven (11) strides between the barriers, a feat only repeated by him in the first round of the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.

At the 1987 NCAA championships, he captured a pair in 400m hurdles and 4x400m relay. In 1988 at UCLA, he defended his third Pac-10 400m hurdles title. The 4x400m relay team became the first collegiate team to run under 3 minutes. Young finished his senior year as team captain and the most valuable male collegiate athlete in the US. He graduated from UCLA setting junior and senior class records in the 400m hurdles clocking 48.15 and 47.72 respectively.

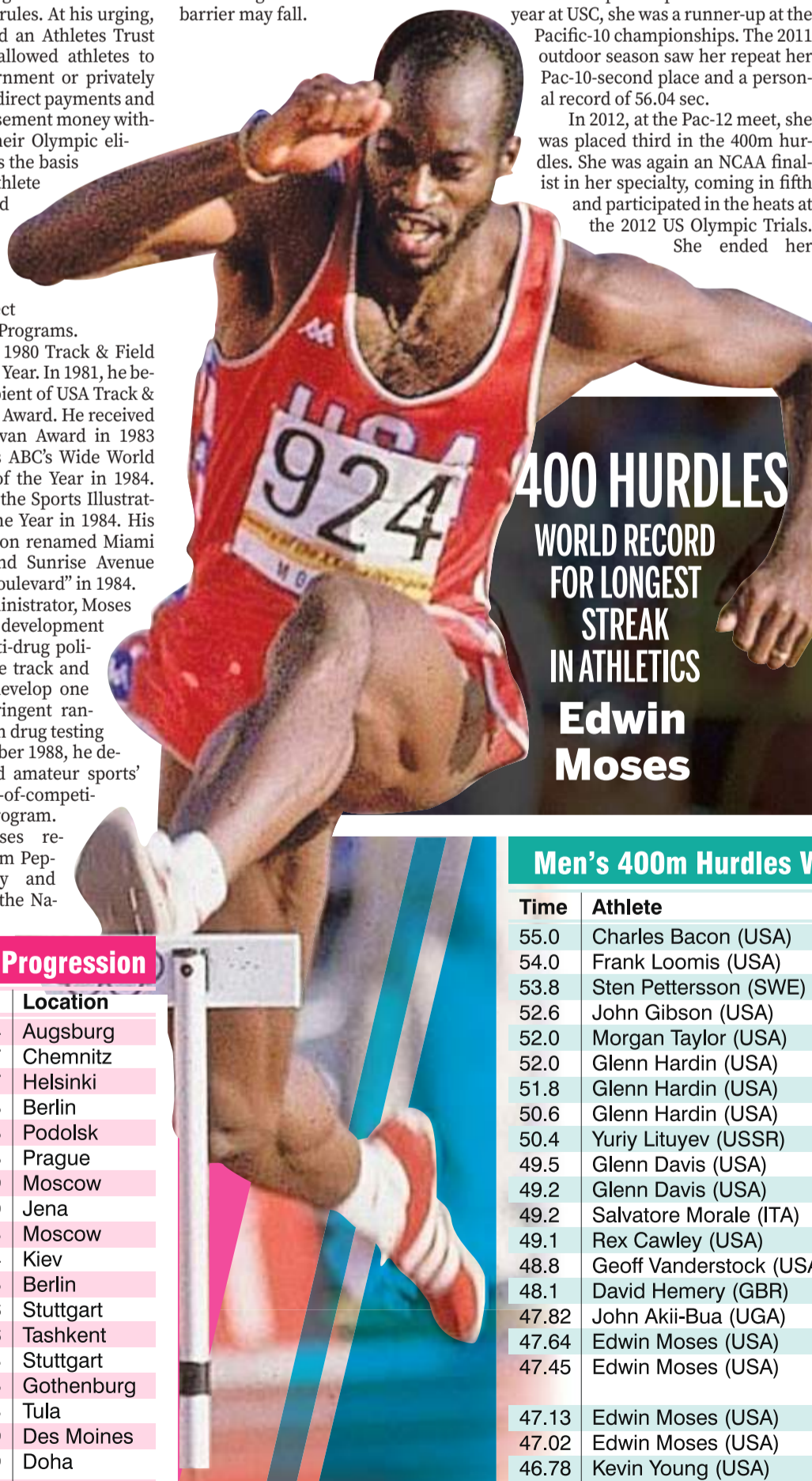
Young made his international debut at the 1986 Goodwill Games in Moscow and later at the 1987 Pan American Games. At the 1988 Summer Olympics, Young finished fourth just behind Edwin Moses in his final race. At the 1991 World Championships, Young was again fourth. In 1992, Young won his first USA Outdoor Track and Field Championships title and was unbeaten prior to the Barcelona Olympics.

Running in lane 4, Young appeared to have the slowest reaction to the gun off the field. Using a left leg lead, 13 strides to the second hurdle, he had pulled to just slightly behind the leader. Between the next two hurdles, he ran 12 strides, alternating to the right leg lead over the fourth hurdle. Relative to the hurdles, he had clearly a full stride or more behind. Running 13 strides the rest of the way, he passed the rest of the competitors to his outside between the next two hurdles.

Young was still powerful and tried to maintain that power into the final hurdle, catching the face of the hurdle with his lead leg heel, riding the hurdle to the ground. He maintained his powerful stride to the finish. Realizing he had the clear victory, he raised his right arm in celebration 10m before the finish, slowing his last four strides. He won with a new world record of 46.78. The record still stands. Only Young has ever perfected the 12 stride pattern to success.

It is well noted that Young, throughout the 1992 season prior to Barcelona, placed small pieces of paper with the numbers 46.89 in each running spike. He had mentally convinced himself that running under 47 sec was possible. In 1993, Young won his second US National Championships title and had 25 consecutive wins until he was beaten just two weeks before the 1993 World Championships. In the 1993 World Championships final, he again made a decisive move between hurdles 7 and 8 and held this lead until the finish.

Never "officially" retiring, Young simply marveled in the exploits of the newer talented group of hurdlers respecting their feats and his own achievements. Young is an artist with work on display through the Art of the Olympians. He was inducted into the US Track & Field Hall of Fame in 2006.



400 HURDLES
WORLD RECORD FOR LONGEST STREAK IN ATHLETICS
Edwin Moses

Men's 400m Hurdles World Record Progression

Time	Athlete	Date	Location
55.0	Charles Bacon (USA)	22.07.1908	London
54.0	Frank Loomis (USA)	16.08.1920	Antwerp
53.8	Sten Pettersson (SWE)	04.10.1925	Paris
52.6	John Gibson (USA)	02.07.1927	Lincoln
52.0	Morgan Taylor (USA)	04.07.1928	Philadelphia
52.0	Glenn Hardin (USA)	01.08.1932	Los Angeles
51.8	Glenn Hardin (USA)	30.06.1934	Milwaukee
50.6	Glenn Hardin (USA)	26.07.1934	Stockholm
50.4	Yuriy Lituyev (USSR)	20.09.1953	Budapest
49.5	Glenn Davis (USA)	29.06.1956	Los Angeles
49.2	Glenn Davis (USA)	06.08.1958	Budapest
49.2	Salvatore Morale (ITA)	14.09.1962	Belgrade
49.1	Rex Cawley (USA)	13.09.1964	Los Angeles
48.8	Geoff Vanderstock (USA)	11.09.1968	Echo Summit
48.1	David Hemery (GBR)	15.10.1968	Mexico City
47.82	John Akii-Bua (UGA)	02.09.1972	Munich
47.64	Edwin Moses (USA)	25.07.1976	Montreal
47.45	Edwin Moses (USA)	11.06.1977	Westwood, Los Angeles
47.13	Edwin Moses (USA)	03.07.1980	Milan
47.02	Edwin Moses (USA)	31.08.1983	Koblentz
46.78	Kevin Young (USA)	06.08.1992	Barcelona

World Record Progression in 400m Hurdles

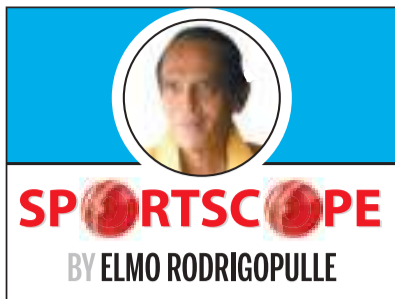
The first world record in the men's 400m hurdles recognized by the IAAF in 1912 was the performance by Charles Bacon at London 1908 Olympics. In a duration of 112 long years, the men's record had been improved on 20 occasions. Glenn Foster Hardin a US athlete who broke the world record three times was the record holder for over 21 years, between 1932 and 1953. He was also the winner of 400m hurdles at the Berlin 1936 Olympics.

Edwin Moses set his first record in 1976 and improved his own world record three times. He held the record from 1976 until 1992, when it was beaten by the current record holder Kevin Young with a time of 46.78 sec at the Barcelona 1992 Olympics. The women's world record has been improved on 17 occasions since 1974.

(The author possesses a PhD, MPhil and double MSc; his research interests encompasses Olympic Education, IOC and Sports; a recipient of National and Presidential Accolades for Academic and Sports pursuits)

Women's 400m Hurdles World Record Progression

Time	Athlete	Date	Location
56.51	Krystyna Kacperczyk (POL)	13.07.1974	Augsburg
55.74	Tatyana Storozheva (URS)	26.06.1977	Chemnitz
55.63	Karin Rossley (GDR)	13.08.1977	Helsinki
55.44	Krystyna Kacperczyk (POL)	18.08.1978	Berlin
55.31	Tatyana Zelentsova (URS)	19.08.1978	Podolsk
54.89	Tatyana Zelentsova (URS)	02.09.1978	Prague
54.78	Marina Makeyeva (URS)	27.07.1979	Moscow
54.28	Karin Rossley (GDR)	17.05.1980	Jena
54.02	Anna Ambrazienė (URS)	11.06.1983	Moscow
53.58	Margarita Ponomaryova (URS)	22.06.1984	Kiev
53.55	Sabine Busch (GDR)	22.09.1985	Berlin
53.32	Marina Stepanova (URS)	30.08.1986	Stuttgart
52.94	Marina Stepanova (URS)	19.09.1986	Tashkent
52.74	Sally Gunnell (GBR)	19.08.1993	Stuttgart
52.61	Kim Batten (USA)	11.08.1995	Gothenburg
52.34	Yuliya Pechonkina (RUS)	08.08.2003	Tula
52.20	Dalilah Muhammad (USA)	28.07.2019	Des Moines
52.16	Dalilah Muhammad (USA)	04.10.2019	Doha



Will Malinga follow Dhoni?

India's super hero and captain marvel Mahendra Singh Dhoni has quit playing T20 cricket and closed his glorious chapter in all forms of the game. We hope our own cricket sensation -the slinger that Lasith Malinga will take his time before bowing out himself. Some though ask the question when?

This is the question that all cricketers and cricket fans in the country are asking and seeking answers. There is a strong feeling, now that Malinga has decided to skip the lucrative Indian Premier League to be conducted in the United Arab Emirates. Is that a signal of things to come?

Malinga who has served Sri Lanka cricket very faithfully from the time former paceman Champaka Ramanayake spotted him playing softball cricket in the South, has brought Sri Lanka cricket to the spotlight. To him the hope was that playing if not captaining the country in the T20 World Cup would be a fitting way to bow out.

The T20 World Cup was penciled for action in Australia next month, but unfortunately for him and Dhoni, the Covid-19 struck and Australia who were to host the tournament were forced to postpone it. When it will next be called 'play' is of course anybody's guess.

With both Dhoni and Malinga in the twilight of their careers and with T20 cricket requiring a high level of fitness and quick movement on the field and extremely quick reflexes, the more the T20 World Cup is postponed they would not be fit as they would like to be.

And in addition Malinga who would have been a great attraction in the IPL has made it known that he has been forced to skip this money bag tournament due to personal reasons. Now that is sad on the never say die champion pace ace.

The most disappointed on hearing that Malinga is unavailable for the IPL will surely be the Mumbai India team, its captain Rohit Sharma and the Ambani Brothers the sponsors of the Mumbai Indians.

In the previous tournament with the result hanging on a thread with the game to be decided in the last over, Sharma the captain tossed the ball to Malinga who is renowned for being a master death over bowler.

He ran in and delivered his famous stinging Yorker that had the last man plumb in front that won his team the trophy for the second time and what jubilation it was to see West Indian Kieron Pollard carrying Malinga on his shoulders and the whole team doing the jig round the ground.

In the absence of Malinga, the IPL will look like some of the lights on the pylons refusing to light and with the wildly cheering Indian fans missing with the tournament to be played behind closed doors the tournament will be sans its usual excitement.

Chairman of the National Sports Council and coach of Mumbai Indians Mahela Jayawardena who is determined to help his team win the IPL for a third time left for the UAE to serve the quarantine period before the tournament begins.

With everything set in motion to conduct the delayed Indian Premier League tournament in an Arab country comes the disappointing news that several members of Dhoni's team Chennai Super Kings have been tested positive for the coronavirus.

Not only the players but a management official and his lady and two members of the social media have also tested positive.

The lucrative T20 IPL Tournament which was down to be played in March in India was shifted to the Arab country because the virus was spreading rapidly in India and there was no way that the tournament could be played there.

Dhoni's team arrived in the UAE on August 21 and underwent the mandatory six-day quarantine as per IPL guidelines. After some members tested positive the team will have to go through another week of quarantine thus delaying their preparations for the tournament.

The team can begin training after passing the tests and according to the rules they will not be allowed contact with anyone who hasn't undergone the quarantine period. The IPL is set for play on September 19 with the final scheduled for November 19.

Tharanga Paranavithane that stylish left hand opening batsman has decided to quit the big time game after a successful run with the bat.

He had the correct technique, temperament and the strokes that good opening batsmen poses and was nice to watch when he got going. He would have done better and scored a lot more runs had he been given more opportunities.

The 38 year old played 32 Test matches for the country making 1,792 runs which included two centuries and 11 half tons. In addition to his batting he was a wonderful team man always endeavoring to contribute for the success of the team.

Team members who played with him for the country speak highly of him and wish him well in his retirement and hope that he would not be lost altogether to the game, but contribute in some capacity.

He has hinted on taking to umpiring. That will be a good move and who knows he might end up as one of the elite members of the ICC.

erodrigopulle@gmail.com

WORLD CUP 1996 OVER-FLOWED WITH WINNERS

By **Dinesh Weerawansa**



The organizers of the Observer-Mobitel Schoolboy and Schoolgirl Cricketers of the Year have finalized the grand selection panel meeting for 2020 to be held within the next fortnight in Colombo.

It will be held under the patronage of the top officials of the Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association (SLSCA) and the Umpires Association. The SLSCA delegation will be led by its energetic President Thilak Waththuhewa, Principal of Nalanda.

No sooner the selections are done, arrangements will be made to conduct the 42nd Observer-Mobitel Schoolboy and Schoolgirl Cricketers of the Year 2020 Mega Show.

When going down the glorious history of the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year, both top awards in 1996 went to schools outside the Colombo city.

It was also encouraging to note the re-entry of Trinity College and St. Benedict's College among the winners since 1996. Trinity's Kumar Sangakkara was picked as the best batsman while Benedictine Pradeep Hewage was picked as the best fielder in the All-Island Contest. While their illustrious product Sangakkara carried away the batting honours, the Trinity team was picked as the best from the Central Province.

Since winning the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer event as the best batsman, Sangakkara made his Test and ODI debut in 2000 and cemented his place. He went on to represent Sri Lanka for 15 long years. In the meantime, he led the Sri Lanka team with distinction.

In that same year 1996, Nimesh Perera of St. Sebastian's, Moratuwa was unanimously picked as Observer-Bata Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year while Sri Piyaratne Maha Vidyalaya, Padukka captain Chandana Samarasinghe won the Outstation Schoolboy cricketer of the Year. The panel of umpires which formed the selection committee comprised the three umpiring associations - Association of Cricket Umpires (Sri Lanka), Central Province Cricket Umpires Association and Southern Province Cricket Umpires Association.

ARJUNA RANATUNGA WON THE TOP AWARD TWICE, ROSHAN MAHANAMA ON TWO SUCCESSIVE YEARS, ASANKA GURUSINHA ONCE, ARAVINDA DE SILVA WAS RUNNER-UP TO MAHANAMA IN 1984, MARVAN ATAPATTU, MUTTIAH MURALIDARAN AND KUMARA DHARMASENA. IN ADDITION, ARAVINDA DE SILVA, HASHAN TILLEKERATNE AND ROMESH KALUWITHARANA HAVE WON SEVERAL OTHER TITLES. SANATH JAVASURIYA FROM ST. SERVATIUS COLLEGE, MATARA WON THE OUTSTATION SCHOOLBOY CRICKETER OF THE YEAR AWARD IN 1988

Most Popular Schoolboy Cricketer

1. Lohan de Soyya (Dharmasoka College)	69,129
2. Shehan Fernando (St. Benedict's College)	68,894
3. Anuda Jayaweera (Ananda College)	68,801
4. Sukitha Manoj (St. Sebastian's College)	64,007
5. Thevindu Seneviratne (Royal College)	57,562
6. Ahan Wickramasinghe (Royal College)	53,409
7. Dunith Wellalage (St. Joseph's College)	47,996
8. Kanishka Rantillekege (Ananda College)	43,733
9. Ranudha Somaratne (Trinity College)	39,248
10. Dimuth Sandaruwan (Richmond College)	34,937
11. Nipun Dananjaya (St. Joseph Vaz College)	28,504
12. Navod Paranavithana (Mahinda College)	24,621
13. Bhanuka Manohara (Richmond College)	21,003
14. Ruchira Adikari (Anuradhapura Central)	20,991
15. Pawantha Weerasinghe (Ananda Sastralaya)	17,893
16. Ruwin Peiris (Trinity College)	17,716
17. Vanuja Kumara (St. Peter's College)	15,316
18. Ashen Daniel (St. Joseph's College)	14,818
19. Savindu Perera (Maris Stella College)	12,691
20. Dilmin Ratnayake (S. Thomas' College)	11,203
21. Matheesha Pathirana (Trinity College)	10,104
22. Nikil Sashmitha (Tissa Central Kalutara)	9,615
23. Abishek Anandakumar (Trinity College)	9,497

Most Popular Schoolgirl Cricketer

1. Nimesha Wijesundera (Marapola MV)	48,107
2. Renuka Damayanthi (Bandaranayake MV)	47,699
3. Suranja Lakmali (Gonapola BMV)	47,196
4. Sachini Nethmini (Wadduwa Central)	38,902
5. Janadi Anali (Anula Vidyalaya)	35,919
6. Umsha Himeshani (Devapathiraja Vidyalaya)	30,837
7. Kavisha Dilhari (Devapathiraja Vidyalaya)	22,399



Kumar Sangakkara became the best batsman in 1996

The Observer-Mobitel Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year has been the only contest that has had a run without a break for 42 years. These contests have inspired and encouraged the cricketers to better deeds and also gain entry to the national team since its inception in 1978/79.

In 1996 the world champion producing year, 10 out of 16 members in the squad had been past winners. Arjuna Ranatunga won the top award twice, Roshan Mahanama on two successive years, Asanka Gurusinha once, Aravinda de Silva was runner-up to Mahanama in 1984, Marvan Atapattu, Muttiah Muralidaran and Kumara Dharmasena.

In addition, Aravinda de Silva, Hashan Tillekeratne and Romesh Kaluwitharana have won several other titles. Sanath Jayasuriya from St. Servatius College, Matara won the Outstation Schoolboy cricketer of the Year Award in 1988.

Besides winning the top title, Nimesh Perera had a haul of over 100 wickets for the second successive year and also won the awards for the best bowler and was runner-up in the best all-rounder category. Nimesh had a collection of 134 wickets for 1,605 runs which gave him an attractive average of 11.97 a piece. He also batted brilliantly to collect 764 runs from 26 innings with two not-outs to have an average of 31.83 runs per innings.

In 1995, Nimesh Perera was runner-up in the Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year award to Thilan Samaraweera of Ananda who won the title for the second successive year. The result was reversed in 1996 with Perera being picked as the Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year and Thilan Samaraweera the runner-up.

If not, Samaraweera would have won the main title for the third time in 1996. Samaraweera, however, kept the title of best all-rounder which and Nimesh was runner-up.

Sri Piyaratne skipper Chandana Samarasinghe's elevation as Outstation Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year was almost a dream come true. In 1995, Sri Piyaratne Maha Vidyalaya in Padukka were picked as the best up-and-coming

rounder in 1996.

He had an aggregate of 1,192 runs from 27 innings with two not-outs to have an average of 47.92 per innings while in bowling he bagged 105 wickets giving away 1,469 runs for an average of 13.98 per wicket. He also captained Sri Piyaratne to 11 wins from 18 matches while five matches were drawn and two lost.

Two cricketers who toured England with the Sri Lanka under-15 team for the Junior World Cup in England also figured among the award winners. St. Anthony's Wattala wicket-keeper J. Sivanesharaja who distinguished himself well in England was picked as the runner-up in the best fielder's award in the Outstation Section while Lumbini Maha Vidyalaya's Ranil Dhammika was picked for the merit award in 1996.

Dhammika, while still being under-15, took 99 wickets that season conceding 896 runs for an average of 9.05 runs per wicket.

The statistical data provider for the Observer-Mobitel Schoolboy and Schoolgirl Cricketers of the Year 2020 is the popular cricket website batsman.lk which is playing a big role in this contest

under its CEO Kumara Gamhewage.

Unlike previous years, the overall champion team will not be named this time as the official final leg matches were not played owing to the Covid-19 interruption, although the provincial champion teams would be named. Owing to the worldwide Covid-19 epidemic the last few matches of the 2019/2020 Under-19 inter-school league including a couple of outstanding big matches were not played.

However, the glamour events will comprise the mega awards show including the Observer-Mobitel Schoolboy and Schoolgirl Cricketers of the Year 2020.

The battles for the Observer-Mobitel Most Popular Schoolboy and Schoolgirl Cricketers of the Year 2020 have become exciting battles for supremacy.

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.

42nd OBSERVER-MOBITEL Most Popular School Cricketer 2020

Vote for your favourite Schoolboy/Schoolgirl Cricketer and elevate him/her to win the prestigious OBSERVER-MOBITEL Most Popular Schoolboy/Girl Cricketer of the Year title.

Most Popular Schoolboy Cricketer 2020

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 Division II Division III
 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.

Win prizes in the weekly coupon draw:

- 1st Prize : Mobitel 4G Wi-Fi router
- 2nd Prize : Rs. 2,500
- 3rd Prize : Rs. 1,500
- 4th Prize : Rs. 1,000

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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SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

Sri Lanka tennis spread far and wide during lock-down

BY TB RAHAMAN

While tennis came to a halt the world over during the Covid-19 pandemic, nothing got in the way to stop the sport in Sri Lanka as the Sri Lanka Tennis Association (SLTA) continued working in other areas to spread the game.

They did plenty of development work and conducted educational programs in places like Matala and Kandy where kids came in large numbers to learn the fundamentals of the game while new courts were set up in the north and east of the island.

President of the SLTA Iqbal Bin Isaack said that three new hard

courts were built in Batticaloa and over 150 boys and girls have taken to the sport while land was allocated in Trincomalee and Jaffna to build tennis courts to encourage parents to persuade their children learn the art of the elite sport.

"All you need is a good racquet, shoes and balls and with regular practice a child can reach high

levels in the game through proper coaching. We have gone a long way during this corona virus period to take the game out of Colombo," said Isaack. They have also opened 12 centres in Trincomalee for training and playing and were given two blocks of land to build the centres.

There are five clubs in Trincomalee while children in Jaffna are already playing the game and many schools too have introduced the game to their children.

"We got permission from the relevant authorities to conduct tournaments. The clay court Nationals were just completed. There will be ten ranking tournaments to be played in the next few months.

"Tournaments will be conducted on October 17 in Batticaloa and the next day in Trincomalee.

"There will be a tournament in Kandy as well and many young players are expected to turn up," said Isaack.

He said beach tennis has also caught up among many enthusiastic players.

"It has come a long way and we are planning to conduct ten tournaments in the near future," said Isaack.

Sri Lanka played its first Davis Cup tie against Paraguay before the coronavirus broke out and there will be another tie to be played later on.

The tie against Paraguay was lost and according to Isaack the absence of Harshana Godamanna, who is their main player, was the reason.

"Godamanna had an issue with his passport and had he been available he would have won his match

while Sharmal Dissanayake also would have won the other Singles match and Sri Lanka would have finished on the winning side," said Isaack.

SLTA also held their AGM last week and as it is a four year term the same team of office bearers will continue working.

"After the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic many private companies are facing financial difficulties and are reluctant to come forward to sponsor the game. The government is also not supporting the sport very much, but development work in the game has not stopped," declared Isaack.



Iqbal Bin Isaack

TILLEKARATNE JUNIOR HITS HOME HIS PROWESS

BY DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Duvindu Tillekaratne, the son of former Sri Lanka captain and Test batsman Hashan, has come of age as he plucked a rich haul of 61 wickets at the concluded inter club Premier championships while playing for the Burgher Recreation Club (BRC).

Tillekaratne played in just nine matches for an average of 19.06 for the 61 scalps as he outsmarted the big names on the domestic set-up with his slow left arm orthodox spinners and has put himself on course to come under the microscope of the selectors.

"I feel very happy and satisfied with the way things have worked for me this season and this should boost my confidence to do better. It gave me a new experience," the soft spoken Tillekaratne told the Sunday Observer in an interview.

The 23-year old Tillekaratne kept his spirits alive despite the lockdown from the coronavirus and maintained his fitness levels and focus while staying at home to do justice to his talents as one of the most promising players in the country.

He took five five-wicket hauls and three match bags of 10 wickets which spoke volumes of his perseverance from last year when he took just 35 wickets from nine matches.

His best figures of 8 for 147 came against Colts CC while his best match bag of 13 wickets (6 for 63 and 7 for 55) was against NCC.

"Wicket-taking is not an easy job for any bowler and when you succeed you know it gives you that inspiration," said Tillekaratne.

He started his career at S. Thomas' College along with his twin brother Ravindu playing in the Under-19 age group before crossing over to Trinity College to represent the First Eleven U-19 team on an invitation from the school coach Sampath Perera.

"It was a life-changing decision to move to Trinity," said Tillekaratne.

"At S. Thomas' I bowled medium pace and I took to my present form of slow spin bowling at Trinity after a back injury forced me out of the game for five months. It was coach Sampath Perera who gave me the



Highest wicket taking bowlers at the recently concluded Premier league Tier 'A' tournament:

Duvindu Tillekaratne (BRC)
9 matches, 61 wickets (average 19.06)

Malinda Pushpakumara (CCC)
9 matches, 50 wickets (average 20.68)

Upul Indrasiri (Negombo CC)
9 matches, 50 wickets (average 28.10)

Asitha Fernando (Chilaw Mariams)
9 matches, 47 wickets (average 21.19)

Prabath Jayasuriya (Colts CC)
9 matches, 46 wickets (average 24.43)

right advice," recalled Tillekaratne who played three seasons for the Kandy school.

International umpire Kumara Dharmasena watches leading club bowler Duvindu Tillekaratne bowler

He has a second brother, Rajindu, who plays junior cricket for the Thomians.

Being the son of a famous Sri Lanka cricketer, the junior Tillekaratne gets plenty of advice from his father Hashan who has been a driving force.

"My dad would point out the mistakes I make in a match and I have learnt much from him. To have a father like him, gives me so much of confidence. He always wanted me to become a batsman. But this is not to say that I don't like batting.

"I am working on my batting as well and I already have two half centuries in First Class cricket," said Tillekaratne.

But despite becoming the best bowler in the 2020 season, Tillekaratne said he has much to learn from the senior bowlers like Malinda Pushpakumara and Prabath Jayasuriya besides learning some tips from veteran Rangana Herath when he entered the club scene.

Fitness training workshop for sports officers

The Sports Development Department of the Ministry of Sports will conduct a three-day Physical Fitness Training workshop at the Sports Ministry today commencing at 2 pm.

The workshop is for over 30 sports officers with the objective of upgrading knowledge on physical fitness training.

The Sports Development Department has over 147 sports officers and coaches working at district level. Of them one official selected from each district and one officer representing

each Province will attend the workshop.

The lectures will be conducted by the Director General of the Sports Medical Unit, Dr. Lal Ekanayake, the National Athletics coach Y.K. Kularatne and course coordinator Jayantha Siyamudali.

The workshop is about methods of physical fitness testing, how to improve physical fitness and how to prepare fitness training programmes which are most important areas for upgrading knowledge (DR)

Serena advances

NEW YORK AFP: Serena Williams continued her hunt for a record seventh US Open title with a straight-sets win on Thursday at Flushing Meadows.

Williams, the tournament's third seed, dispatched unseeded Russian Margarita Gasparyan 6-2, 6-4 under the roof of a near-empty Arthur Ashe Stadium on a wet New York evening.

The 38-year-old closed out the first set with ease before a slight wobble in the second when she was broken twice by Gasparyan, before progressing into the third round.



Serena Williams

"I'm just happy to get through it and try to focus on the next round," said Williams, who will take on 2017 champion Sloane Stephens in the last 32.

Williams is seeking a record-equalling 24th singles Grand Slam title at a subdued, spectator-free Billie Jean King US National Tennis Center in New York.

A tournament victory next week would also see her break away from Chris Evert, on six titles, as the most decorated US Open champion of the women's game in the modern era.

Williams' chances have been improved by the absence of several top players, included top-ranked Ashleigh Barty and Simona Halep, over coronavirus fears or injury.

She was handed a further boost on Wednesday when top seed Karolina Pliskova tumbled out of the tournament.

The Czech was stunned in straight sets by France's world number 50 Caroline Garcia.

Williams' American compatriot Sofia Kenin, the number two seed, continued her impressive form this year with a straight-forward 6-4, 6-3 victory over Canadian Leylah Fernandez to progress into the third round.

The reigning Australian Open champion Kenin is yet to drop a set at Flushing Meadows as she bids for her second Grand Slam title of the year, and of her career.

"I feel like I found a groove. I'm really focused on every shot," said the Moscow-born player who will take on 27th seed Ons Jabeur of Tunisia in the next round.

Sri Lankan to coach champion Auckland women's team



Amita Weerakoon (left - Director of Cricket TDCC) presents the team coach jacket to Hashan Goonetilleke in the presence of Stacey Nicholas (Women's and Girls' Chairperson)

Former St Joseph's College captain and NCC cricketer Hashan Goonetilleke has been appointed as the new head coach of Takapuna District Cricket Club (TDCC) the Premier women's team for the next two seasons in Auckland, New Zealand.

Goonetilleke who is a certified NZ Cricket Level 2 coach will take over the coaching role from Mark Steyn who has now been appointed as the TDCC Coach Development Manager.

He has played for Johnsonville CC (Wellington) and Hibiscus Coast CC (Auckland).

Goonetilleke also played for BRC, Ports Authority and Sebastianites CC at Premier level in the Sri Lankan club scene.

Takapuna District Cricket Club is one of the biggest and top performing cricket clubs in New Zealand with a playing membership of 1,050 that include 74 cricket teams from juniors, seniors to masters and an overall membership of over 1,500.



Andy Murray of Great Britain reacts at a changeover during his Singles second round match against Felix Auger-Aliassime of Canada AFP

Murray crashes out of US Open in round two

NEW YORK AFP: Andy Murray crashed out of the US Open second round in straight sets to 15th seed Felix Auger-Aliassime on Thursday.

The former world number one was demolished by the 20-year-old Canadian 6-2, 6-3, 6-4 inside Arthur Ashe Stadium in 2hr 8min.

Murray, playing in his first singles Grand Slam since the 2019 Australian Open, had rallied to win a thrilling five-set match against Japan's 49th-ranked Yoshihito Nishioka the first round

on Tuesday. But the Scotsman, who is trying to rebuild his career after an injury-ravaged three years, was unable to repeat the heroics against the big-serving 21st-ranked Auger-Aliassime who dominated from start to finish.

The Canadian smashed 24 aces and 52 winners in a one-sided affair.

Murray mustered just two aces and nine winners.

Winner Felix Auger-Aliassime amassed 97 winning points compared to Murray's 68.

BUSINESS

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MANAGING PEOPLE PAGE 27



CORE BENEFITS OF CUSTOMER RELATIONS PAGE 29



JANASHAKTHI LIFE RECORDS GROWTH PAGE 30

CSE roadmap for expansion



Dumith Fernando

The Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE) has launched a five-pronged strategy to enhance the attractiveness of the Stock Exchange and make it a leading market for trading in the region, said CSE Chairman Dumith Fernando in an interview with *Sunday Observer Business* on Friday.

He said the strategic plan backed by the new government with a ministry dedicated to develop the capital market will be a major boost to develop a vibrant market for all investors.

The CSE team met the State Minister of Money, Capital Market and State Enterprise Reforms, Ajith Nivard Cabraal last week for the first time to discuss areas to revive the capital market.

"The discussion focused on areas such as revitalising capital mobilisation and risk management, wealth generation for all citizens and setting up a trusted venue for trading and depository services," Fernando said. CSE development strategies are centered on re-rating valuations of CSE from being at the bottom of peer markets, attracting new listings to boost liquidity, develop and return the CSE to operating profitably.

TO PAGE 28

Weak dollar, the 'only support' for oil prices - Analyst



Oil prices are likely to continue creeping up simply due to a weak dollar, an analyst said on Thursday.

"As far as fundamentals are concerned, there is really not much to move oil around either way, which is why we have seen it pretty range bound, but without that continuing to grind higher because of a weaker dollar," said Vandana Hari, founder of Vanda Insights, an energy consultancy. "That's been the only support, I would say." Like most commodities traded internationally, oil is denominated in dollars, so a weaker greenback lends support to prices.

In March, a futures contract for US crude prices dropped over 100% and turned negative for the first time in history as demand collapsed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

There was a slight rebound in crude oil prices through May and June as economies reopened after lockdowns to contain the coronavirus. But oil demand has fallen in July and August in some countries such as India, while flatlining in others, she said.

On Thursday, international benchmark Brent crude oil futures were trading around \$44.50 a barrel at 10:36 a.m. HK/SIN, while US West Texas Intermediate futures were around \$41.65 a barrel. - **CNBC**

IMF FINANCIAL SUPPORT ON THE CARDS

GLOBAL LENDER ASSESSING CONDITIONS

By Lalin Fernandopulle



Financial support for Sri Lanka from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is on the cards as the global lender is assessing all conditions on the request of the government for a new financial support program, said a top official of the IMF Mission to Sri Lanka on Friday.

"We continue to engage with the Sri Lankan authorities and are considering the full set of options for engagement," IMF Mission Chief for Sri Lanka Masahiro Nozaki said.

On financial support, she said the Mission is assessing all condi-

tions on the request of the Government for a Rapid Financing Instrument (RFI), taking account of the new government's policies and efforts to address the daunting economic challenges posed by Covid-19.

The global lender said on an earlier occasion this year that it was mulling Sri Lanka's plan to replace the Extended Fund Facility (EFF) arrangement with a RFI as the EFF program with the lender was due to be completed this year. Sri Lanka's three-year extended arrangement was approved on June 3, 2016, of about SDR 1.1 billion (US\$1.5 billion, or 185 percent of quota in the IMF at the time of approval of the arrangement.

The government called for emergency financial support from the IMF under the rapid financing



instrument this year while expressing interest in a range of options for future engagement with the Fund.

A staff team from the IMF led by Manuela Goretti visited Colombo from January 29 - February 7, 2020 to meet the new administration and discuss its policy agenda. At the conclusion of the IMF staff visit to Sri Lanka in February this year the IMF noted, given the high level of public debt

and refinancing needs in the country, ensuring macroeconomic stability calls for fiscal consolidation, prudent monetary policy, and sustained efforts to build international reserves.

"Ambitious structural and institutional reforms remain critical to raise the country's growth potential and promote inclusiveness," the team said.

The IMF projected economic growth to rebound to 3.7 percent this year on the back of the recovery in tourism, and assuming that the novel Coronavirus will have only a limited negative effect on tourist arrivals and other economic activities.

However, growth during the first quarter this year was 1.6 percent and projections for the second quarter is negative growth.

Approval sought for PCR centre outside airport

BY AANYA WIPULASENA

To gear up for the re-opening of the Bandaranaike International Airport (BIA) for tourists, Tourism Minister Prassanna Ranatunga said he is seeking approval from authorities to conduct PCR tests on tourists at a centre outside the airport.

"We can only conduct PCRs for passengers of four flights per day if we conduct the tests within the airport. However, if we shift it to a location outside and close to the airport we could double that number," Minister Ranatunga told *Sunday Observer Business*.

He said the ministry presented a Cabinet paper to allow tourists through the green channel (or low risk) destinations to enter the country through the BIA and those from red channel (high risk) destinations to enter the country through the Mattala Rajapaksa International Airport.

The ministry has allocated Rs. 167.64 million to aid the tourism industry. TO PAGE 28

'Lanka should eye export-friendly goods to EU'

BY RAJITHA JAGODA ARACHCHI

As bilateral trade between Sri Lanka and the European Union has always been favourable to Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka should focus on manufacturing products which are export-friendly to EU nations, the Ambassador of the EU Delegation to Sri Lanka and the Maldives, Denis Chaiby told a gathering in Colombo last week.

The Delegation partnering with Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF) in Sri Lanka, co-



Denis Chaiby

organised a kick-off conference on their initiative 'Sustainable Supply Chains as drivers for global competitiveness'.

Stressing the importance of sustainability-related documentation, the initiative aims to raise... TO PAGE 28

Backpacker tourism can be beneficial for Sri Lanka

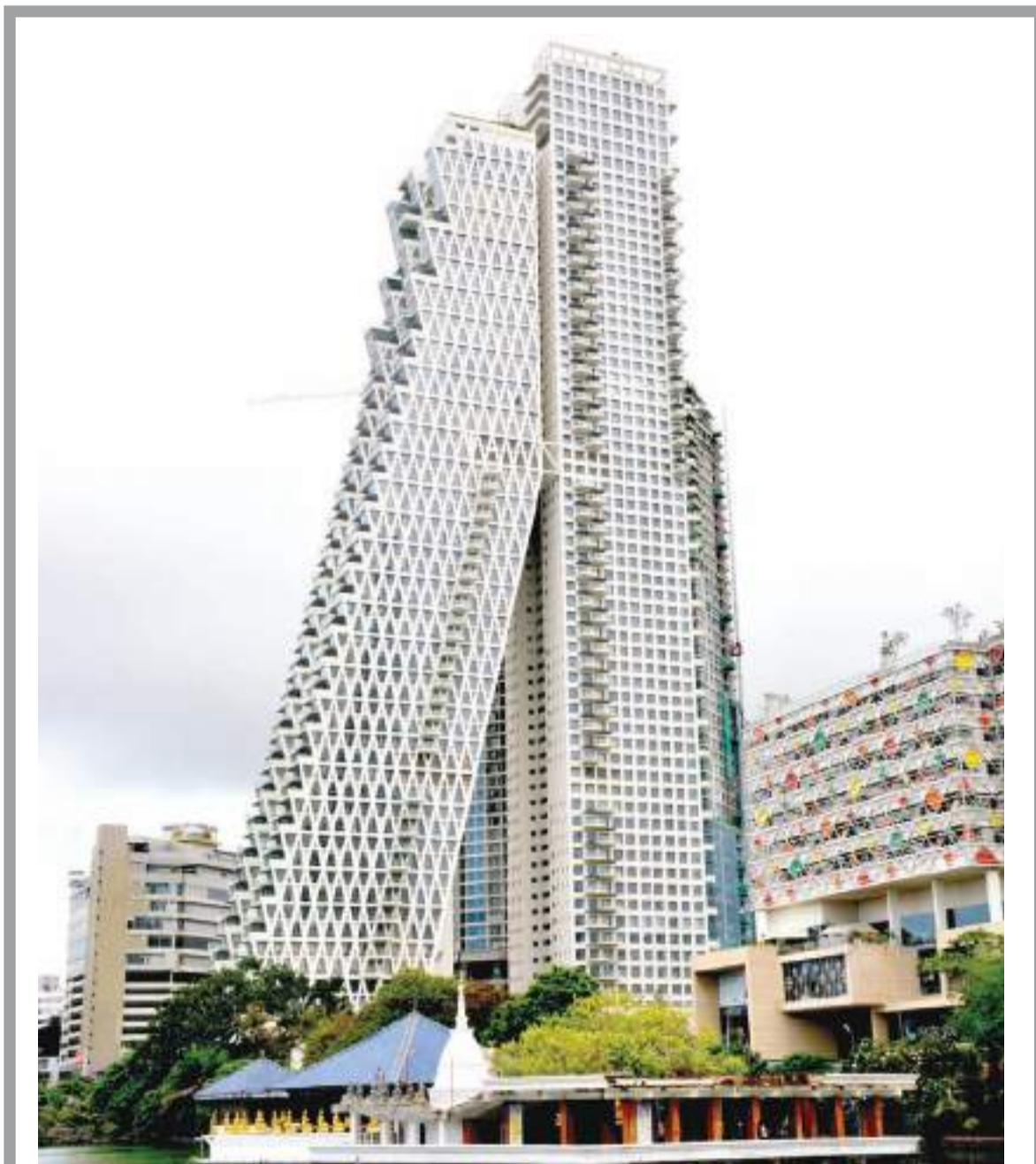
Tapping the rapidly growing backpacker tourism segment will be beneficial to Sri Lanka tourism which is again looking at getting back on its feet after nearly eight months of lull to bring in the much needed foreign exchange to the country, said a tourism sector expert.

Backpacking is a form of low-cost, independent travel, often staying in inexpensive lodgings and carrying all necessary possessions in a backpack. Sri Lanka hosts numerous homestay accommodations, beautiful guesthouses and small and medium sized family hotels which are spread throughout the island. These guesthouses and small hotels greatly depend on FIT's or Free Independent Travellers who travel to Sri Lanka mainly by identifying suitable accom-



modation offers through major online platforms, such as Booking.com, Agoda and Hostel World.

"Times, when travellers frequent street offices of international tour operators in expensive town locations overseas seem to be over, with the demise of one of the biggest tour operators... TO PAGE 28



The Altair commercial and residential building which is under construction in Colombo will be among the tallest buildings in the city. President Gotabaya Rajapaksa inspected work on the complex built on a 2.5 acre block of land adjacent to the Beira Lake, last week. Here work on the iconic tower in progress. Pic: Sarath Peiris

New development bank to support SMEs soon

The Central Bank will set up a national entrepreneurship development bank to support small and medium sector enterprises and startups which contribute a major share to the GDP, said Central Bank Governor Prof. W.D. Lakshman at

the Bank's 70th anniversary oration last week.

He said Sri Lanka has a poor history of development banking and added that the setting up of an entrepreneurship development bank will be a fillip for develop-

ment. "Discussions are under way in the bank to set up the entrepreneurship development bank and we hope to expedite work on it to enable funding for the sector," the Governor said.

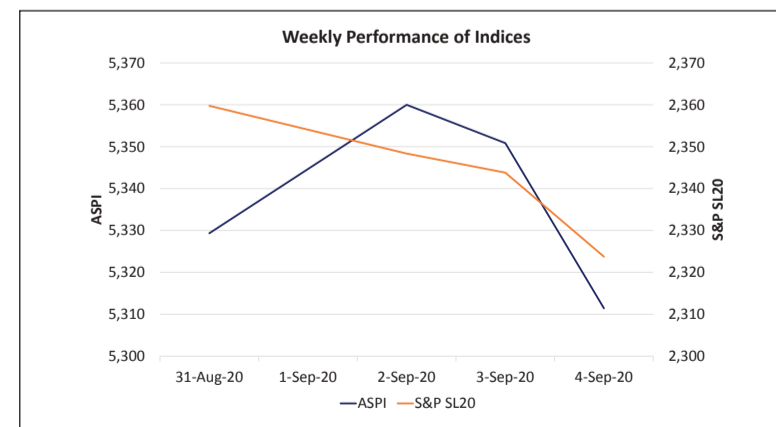
TO PAGE 28

Agrithmics unveils digital platform for agri industry

As an IoT enabled agri-tech solution for the small-hold farmers, factories and regional plantation companies primarily operating in Sri Lanka's tea industry, Agrithmics digitally integrates its procurement and payment disbursement operation while

improving efficiency and transparency of its process. The platform also enables a quick and simple payment system and ease-of-use and access by farmers and workers. A small-hold tea farmer connected via the Agrithmics platform has quick access to pay-

ments instead of the extensive 30 to 40-day waiting period that was the norm previously. The Agrithmics platform also adds value to B2B agricultural industries such as tea factories and regional plantation companies, which benefit... TO PAGE 28



EXCHANGE RATES

	US Dollar \$	Euro €	Japanese yen ¥	Pound sterling £	Chinese Yuan ¥
Aug 31 - Sep 4					
Monday	188.49	225.78	1.8042	252.80	28.001
Tuesday	-	-	-	-	-
Wednesday	188.13	225.17	1.7931	252.87	28.002
Thursday	187.47	223.03	1.782	251.16	27.944
Friday	187.44	223.36	1.7830	250.16	27.882

Business

Since business re-commenced operations after Covid-19 outbreak, we have experienced price wars across a few industries like never before in Sri Lanka; the hotel industry, supermarkets and credit card business are a few glaring examples today.

Business organisations use a wide range of tactics to ward off competitors to increase shattered revenue due to Covid-19. Increasingly, price is the weapon of choice to achieve short term goals. Price wars can create economically devastating and psychologically debilitating situations that take an extraordinary toll on an individual, a business, and industry profitability.

No matter who wins, the combatants all seem to end up worse off than before they joined the battle. Yet, price wars are becoming increasingly common and uncommonly fierce in the Sri Lankan market following global trends.

Most managers will be involved in a price war at some point in their careers regardless of which industry they are in. Professionals too face the same challenge in pricing given the multiple choices their clients have. Every price cut is potentially the first salvo, and some discounts routinely lead to retaliatory price cuts that then escalate into a full-blown price war.

That's why it's a good idea to consider other options before starting a price war or responding to an aggressive price move with a retaliatory move.

Common

Generally, price wars start because somebody somewhere thinks prices in a certain market are too high. Or someone is willing to buy market share at the expense of current margins. Price wars are becoming more common because managers view a price change as an easy, quick, and reversible action.

When businesses don't trust or know one another very well, the pricing battles can escalate very quickly. And whether they play out in the physical or the virtual world, price wars have a similar set of antecedents.

By understanding their causes and characteristics, managers can



Price wars in Covid 19 era

Every price cut is potentially the first salvo, and some discounts routinely lead to retaliatory price cuts that then escalate into a full-blown price war. That's why it's a good idea to consider other options before starting a price war or responding to an aggressive price move with a retaliatory move.



BIZ TALK with Kishu Gomes

make sensible decisions about when and how to fight a price war, when to flee one - and even when to start one. It's important for managers to understand why a price war is occurring - or may occur.

But it's also critical to recognise where to look for resources in battle. It's important to carefully analyse your customers, company, competitors, and other players within and outside the industry that may have an interest in how the price war plays out.

Good diagnoses involve analysing four key areas. They are 'customer issues' such as price sensitivity and customer segments that may emerge if prices change; 'company issues' such as a business' cost structures, abilities, and strategic positioning;

'competitor issues', such as a rival's cost structures, abilities, and strategic positioning; and 'contributor issues', or the other players in the industry whose self-interest or profiles may affect the outcome of a price war.

An analysis of competitors - their cost structures, abilities, and strategic positioning - is equally valuable. Industrywide price reductions may be appropriate under certain circumstances.

Pressure for short term results

But many unprofitable price wars take place because a company sees an opportunity to increase market share or profits through lower prices, while ignoring the fact that competitors will respond.

Market research may reveal that increases in sales following a price cut justify the action, but this same research often simply ignores competitors' price responses.

Businesses need to pay attention at the strategic level to the twin questions of who will respond and how. Smart managers project how competitors will set prices by carefully tracking historical patterns, understanding which events have triggered price changes in the past, and by tracking the timing and magnitude of price responses.

They monitor public statements made by senior executives and published in company reports. And they keep their eyes peeled for activity in markets: competitors who acquire a new technology, staff, information system, or distribution channel, or which form a new brand alliance, will probably make some kind of a price move that will affect other players in the industry. This sophisticated environmental scanning identifies possible adversaries and their likely implications.

In free markets, competition is the norm, not the exception, and that competition will limit your latitude for pricing. When competitors lower prices or new competition enters at a lower price, many a novice manager's gut reaction is to lower prices - but the cost of price concessions may be higher than the cost of customer losses.

Experience will temper these beginner instincts over time, but there must be easier and less costly ways to identify the proper reaction to competitive price moves than the school of hard knocks. Examine the relative price attractiveness to customers, not the absolute attractiveness, because customers make trade-offs between offers.

Examine the whole offer, not just the price, because, in aggregate, customers will choose offers that deliver them more value after comparing benefits and price. Companies can avoid a debilitating price war altogether by using a set of alternative tactics. Pricing is the easiest strategy and tactic but hardest on the company's bottom-line.

Aitken Spence among the top for transparency in corporate reporting

Aitken Spence PLC is among the top companies in Sri Lanka's first-ever assessment of transparency in corporate reporting by Transparency International Sri Lanka (TISL).

Aitken Spence has worked over many years to develop its internal procedures aligned to the international best practice in corporate reporting endorsed by the Company. The Group's reporting structure has always provided a balanced review of its performance with high levels of transparency while communicating material information in a concise and comprehensive manner.

"Aitken Spence considers external assessments to be mechanisms to identify opportunities for growth. This is another achievement that we take seriously as it sheds light on our corporate reporting practices and provides insights on how we can elevate our benchmarks for

external disclosures. We also thank Transparency International Sri Lanka for their detailed report and anticipate that this will further strengthen future corporate disclosures," said Deputy Chairman and Managing Director Aitken Spence, Dr. Parakrama Dissanayake.

"This review illustrates broader stakeholder expectations on addressing ethical business practices and aligning them to international benchmarks. We at Aitken Spence follow global benchmarks on reporting and business operations. Moreover, honesty and transparency are integral components of our core values and resonates with how we strive to operate as a responsible organisation that truly walks the talk," he said.

Aitken Spence has demonstrated leadership in transparency, accountability and good governance in diverse platforms.

Everyone knows HR



Recruitment and selection
by Janaka Kumarasinghe

CPM Sri Lanka honours Dilmah founder

The Institute of Chartered Professional Managers Institute (CPM Sri Lanka) granted the Certificate of Fellow Membership of the Institute of Chartered Professional Managers of Sri Lanka (FCPM) to founder of Dilmah Tea, Merrill J. Fernando recently.

Founder and President of the Institute of Chartered Professional Managers of Sri Lanka, Prof. Lakshman R. Watawala presented the certificate to Fernando. Governing Council Member Kosala M. Dissanayake and CPM Sri Lanka Director Dilshan Arsakularathna, the two sons of Fernando Malik and Dilhan Fernando were also present.

Prof. Watawala said, "It was a dual honour of granting the Chartered Fellowship in Management to recognise the outstanding contribution to the Sri Lankan tea Industry with the Dilmah brand and globalising Ceylon Tea to be the best in the world coupled with the philanthropic services to the less fortunate through the MJF Charitable Foundation".

In a related feature in the inaugural issue of Chartered Manager, Merrill J. Fernando's story and unique philosophy



Merrill J. Fernando with Prof. Lakshman Watawala.

of making business a matter of human service are shared with members of the Institute.

The Founder of Dilmah has been a vocal advocate of genuinely fair trade, and has lived his vision, being the first native Sri Lankan tea grower to offer his tea - grown, picked, perfected and packed at source - direct to the world.

He devoted his life to tea and recently celebrated 70 years in tea, now the most experienced Teamaker in the world.

Laugfs Gas launches promotional campaign

Laugfs Gas PLC launched the *Hasaralla Mawana Nil Della* campaign recently.

The objective of the campaign is to promote LPG as a safe and convenient domestic cooking fuel and improving the affordability and accessibility of LPG cylinders islandwide. Customers could contact the Laugfs Gas hotline to inquire about retailers participating in the campaign.

Throughout the campaign, customers will receive a free refill or Rs. 1,500 discount for every new purchase of a 12.5kg cylinder and a free refill or Rs. 1,000 discount on new purchase of a five kg cylinder. The campaign is also active in rural areas as Laugfs Gas has deployed teams to communicate and assist in delivery of this special campaign. Customers are able to place their orders via the Laugfs Gas hotline or through its online purchasing platform with the opportunity to pay via cash on delivery or through cards.

Director and CEO of Laugfs Gas, Chaminda Ediriwickrama said, "Through the *Hasaralla Mawana Nil Della* campaign, we want to promote the



Chaminda Ediriwickrama

conversion to LPG as the primary cooking fuel in the households of our nation. LPG is one of the cleanest sources of fuel for domestic use, however, the majority of households still continue to use alternative methods. Increased adoption of LPG as the primary cooking fuel, results in a cleaner atmosphere and better health for households."

The campaign was initiated as Laugfs Gas joins in the celebrations of its founding company, Laugfs Holdings Limited, as the group celebrates its 25th anniversary.

Chartered accountants meet State Minister Cabraal

A delegation, of the Institute of Chartered Accountants met State Minister for Finance, Capital Market and State Enterprise Reform, Ajith Nivard Cabraal recently to express their support for him, a fellow Chartered Accountant, in his future endeavours in the legislative body.

Cabraal said that the SLPP is a party that has already identified the people's pressing needs and issues, and are not 'suppliers of jokes and tall stories' as the past so called Yahapalana regime was.

He said that the Yahapalana period is an asset for the new government's project, because the people have given value to what he and the government of the day did for a *Suba Anagathayak* - prosperous future - before 2015, by contrasting that time with what the failed Yahapalana did.

Cabraal in the context of the launch of his book on the Bond Scam cover up in Sinhala, in particular, said that the JVP or many of the others who were slandering him on the pre 2015 bond issues in the Central Bank (CBSL), and other matters concerning his time at the helm of the bank, are unable to meet him and ask him any real questions based on the allegations they make.

He said that he has always been in the country and had not gone into hiding, but still finds that those who point fingers at him are unable to



From left: Dinesh Dharmadasa, President, CA Sri Lanka, Manil Jayasinghe, State Minister Ajith Nivard Cabraal, Indrajith Fernando and Shirantha Peiris.

come up with one credible allegation that he is unable to answer to, or disprove. On the contrary, he said, the people who come up to him at various forums and meetings, tell him that they now have a better appreciation of what the Central Bank did in his tenure during the *Suba Anagathayak* regime, in contrast to what the Central Bank was up to in the tenure of the disastrous Yahapalana government.

"The people tell me that the rupee was doing better, that the interest rates were much more positive to economic growth than in the

Yahapalana interregnum," he said. A Sinhala translation of the book, *The Bond Scam Cover Up - the Mother of all Cover Ups* will be launched soon. Among other things, the book exposes how the so-called forensic audit was commissioned by the perpetrators of the scam as another 'investigation' that was aimed at exonerating the perpetrators of the scam. The so-called forensic audit, set back the Sri Lankan taxpayer by a staggering Rs. 1,500 million.

Certain Assistant Governors of the CBSL aligned to the former premier assisted in the task of trying to

obfuscate the issue, and attempted to lay blame for imagined failures of the CBSL, on former governor Cabraal.

Almost all members of the former Monetary Board are compromised and may in some way be involved in the cover up of the bond scam, by acts such as commissioning the so-called forensic audit, he said. Minister Cabraal said all actors who were part of the scam should be brought to book, and not just those of Perpetual Treasuries and that monies embezzled should be recovered.

Tokyo Cement presents water purification plants

Three villages in Poonakary benefit

Three villages in Poonakary (aka Pooneryn) in the Kilinochchi district were gifted with purified drinking water facilities by Tokyo Cement Group in partnership with the Re-Awakening Lanka organisation.

Over two-thousand residents in Veravil, Valaippaadu and Veerapandiyamunai, in Ponnaveili Grama Niladhari Division within the Poonakary AGA Division in Kilinochchi will now gain access to clean drinking water thanks to this project. The project was carried out under the patronage and guidance of the Poonakary Divisional Secretariat.

Director, Tokyo Eastern Cement Co. and General Manager, Power and Energy, E. Kugapriya led the Tokyo Cement team which implemented the water purification solutions. St.

Anthony's Hydro Division supported the project by designing a customised water purification solution after studying the hydrology of the area. Tokyo Cement will also maintain and service the water purification plants for three years.

Tokyo Cement Group sponsored the project with Appé Lanka, a rural development project by Re-Awakening Lanka.

Founder and CEO of Re-Awakening Lanka and Appé Lanka, Mrs. Shaan Corea said, "In stage one of our project, 21 schools in the Poonakary Division were given safe drinking water within 18 months.

This was possible because so many people and organisations contributed in numerous ways to make it possible."



The water purification plant

Manager, Corporate Sustainability at Tokyo Cement, Salinda Kandapola said, "Our sister organisation, St. Anthony's Hydro Division

willingly supported us with their expertise in water purification technology which made this project a reality."

HR professionals and post-Covid19: Problems and prospects



The satisfactory way of managing the Covid-19 pandemic in Sri Lanka echoed the execution excellence to the whole world.

The right people in the right places handing the right things paved the way for right results. The key overarching factor is people. Managing them in getting the best out of them is the prime role of people professionals. In such a context, it is worthwhile to reflect on the challenges faced by people professionals in the subtle balancing act of satisfying employee expectations and sustaining enterprise efforts.

Overview

In an increasingly competitive world, people have become a cutting-edge factor. Is it just any people or right people? As the typical HR mantra says, the right person at the right job with the right targets in a right environment will produce right results within the right time. This will be more critical in post-Covid19 era where vision, understanding, confidence and agility (VUCA 2.0) form the foundation of the 'new normal' for people professionals.

The 'new normal' is interpreted in multiple ways in multiple perspectives. As Forbes magazine recently described, "The Covid-19 coronavirus is becoming the accelerator for one of the greatest workplace transformations of our lifetime". "How we work, exercise, shop, learn, communicate, and of course, where we work, will be changed significantly".

In focus

A people professional, also called a Human Resource (HR) professional can be viewed as a senior person engaged in Human Resources activities as an occupation. In other words, a manager with experience and quali-

fications, handling the responsibilities associated with the HR function of an organisation.

We often hear the rhetoric that every manager is an HR manager. There is a truth in it in the sense that every manager has a people management role to play. Yet, the reality is that a manager coming from a specific functional background might not have the ability to handle all the specific people management aspects.

There has to be a consistent approach with a clear policy framework. The point here is that, when every manager plays a 'people role', the people professional's role is becoming increasingly strategic. He/she has to act like an internal coach, guide, policy setter and an architect of strategy. They increasingly come to the forefront in adding value to their respective organisations.

Transition

People professionals are increasingly exposed to bear the brunt of Covid19 impacting on employees. Ensuring the continuity of their employment is key on one hand. Engaging them to the fullest to have the required productivity is key on the other hand. Exposing them to the challenging realities yet in a caring manner has become a huge challenge.

Covid19 have swiftly shifted us from mostly a 'rowing' world to much of a 'rafting' world. Why do I say so? Unlike in rowing, rafting is much riskier. It invites you to wear a life jacket and to be vigilant in passing through sharp stones with abundance of turbulence.

Instead of following a uniform set of instructions, you need to take on-the-spot decisions based on the situational realities. In essence, one needs to be fast, focused and flexible in a 'rafting' world.

One key aspect for people professionals is to demonstrate the essence of empathy.

They should be regularly in touch with the employees in listening to them, guiding them and communicating with them in an understanding manner. This is crucial for survival.

It reminds me of what Andrew Carnegie said sometime ago. "Take my key people and leave my factory and it will be full of dust and cobwebs; demolish my factory and leave my key people, and they will build a better factory".

It simply highlights the power of human spirit which needs to be preserved even in the midst of a severe pandemic. Such an endeavour needs strategically oriented people professionals with prompt actions.

Tips for people professionals

We can meaningfully adapt what



One key aspect for people professionals is to demonstrate the essence of empathy. They should be regularly in touch with the employees in listening to them, guiding them and communicating with them in an understanding manner. This is crucial for survival

Sejts and Crim, two researchers of organisational behaviour termed as 'ten Cs for employee engagement', in the context of the present pandemic disruption. The key focus in each C can further be expanded into possible initiatives in post-Covid19 era. Let's discuss the details with local realities in mind.

1. Connect

Leaders must show that they value employees. Recent letters addressed to employees by several corporate leaders in Sri Lanka is a case in point. This can be further enhanced by maintaining open channels so that employees can approach their superiors to discuss matters in a mutually beneficial manner. People professionals should be conscious of the fact that disconnect leads to disengagement, with dire consequences.

2. Career

Leaders should provide challenging and meaningful work with opportunities for career advancement. It may involve re-skilling, up-skilling or multi-skilling as people professionals often advocate. It will be very challenging in the post-Covid19 where employee aspirations and employer reality might mismatch. New modes of learning with more technology involvement will be the order of the day.

The current wisdom suggests us to show employees the way forward in terms of career advancements and options, in motivating them to per-

form in exceeding expectations. As one leading multinational claim, "We do not offer jobs, but careers, the careers that brand them for life". In transitioning to a post-Covid19 economy, this might be more of a project-based or contract-based path with results-based remuneration.

3. Clarity

There could be a great deal of confusion created among an insecure workforce. People professionals must communicate, communicate and communicate, as the conventional wisdom tells us. A clear vision, inclusive of employee wellbeing should be shared and supported.

This includes building an awareness on strategic priorities among the employees, in ensuring that they are clear about why they are doing what they do. People professionals should ensure that employees are aware of the challenging side of the business that they are in, and also to avoid unrealistic expectations.

4. Convey

Leaders should clarify their expectations about employees and provide feedback on their functioning in the organisation. Perform or perish should be the slogan in the post-Covid19 era. People professionals should develop productivity enhancement schemes which are transparent and equitable.

This also involves ensuring proper conduct of the performance appraisals by training the managers as to how to give constructive feedback objec-

tively. It will be very challenging to tolerate under-performers and as such being proactive in setting high expectation at the outset is what is required.

5. Congratulate

Leaders give recognition to others. Exceptional leaders do so a lot. Appreciating of good performance of employees by reward and recognition, in a timely fashion is something essential. Gone are the days of 'employee of the year' or 'employee of the quarter' or even "employee of the month". What matters is giving due recognition to the "employee of the moment". People professionals should develop cost-effective recognition schemes so that employees see they are being valued despite the economic challenges their organisation is going through.

6. Contribute

Leaders should ensure that employees know how their contribution matters. This can be done by introducing a transparent mechanism of objective setting and then connecting individual objectives to broad organisational objectives. Tested and proven mechanisms such as Balanced Scorecard can be handy in this respect. People professionals need to reinvent the conventional systems so that irrespective of whether work at office or work from home, the contribution of an employee is traced, tracked and taken care of.

7. Control

Leaders need to set the boundaries with the buy-in of the Employees. This involves setting the boundaries of activities with proper systems in place with the involvement of employees, so that they are a part of the decision-making process.

Modern day control is more viewed as a way of ensuring consistency through conformance, as opposed to coercive courses of action. Stringent controls on wastage is essential in cash-trapped conditions, where people professionals have to design and deliver learning initiatives to ensure proper controls are conscientiously being adhered to.

8. Collaborate

As it was the case often, great leaders are team builders. They create an environment that fosters trust and collaboration. By doing so, they ensure that teamwork is given due prominence with associated mechanisms such as team-based rewards to strengthen it. Such teams can be either physical or virtual in the post-Covid19 era. People professionals should promote collaboration with the message that economic challenges should not hamper team spirit.

9. Credibility

Leaders should strive to maintain organisational reputation and demonstrate high ethical standards. They should demonstrate being ethical in decision making, so that employees will strengthen their admiration of the organisation. Credibility can be compared to a glass tumbler. Once it is cracked, it is irreparable. This will be truly tested in a post-Covid19 era where people professionals have to tread carefully. Even in the case of layoffs as a last resort, doing it in the most humane manner might become a huge challenge.

10. Confidence

Good leaders help create confidence in a company by being exemplars of high-performance standards. It involves practising 'walking the talk' at all levels so that employees have better trust and confidence in their superiors. That has far reaching consequences, including better relationships and higher results. This is a key aspect in the post-Covid19 era where employees have to be given the assurance of survival through performance. Possible increment suppressions for senior executives already in some large conglomerated is a case in point. Yet, it will be more challenging in the SMEs that contributes to 52 percent to the Sri Lankan economy.

Way forward

The ten Cs discussed above should be appropriately blended with organisational priorities, with sound HR practices in place, especially in the post-Covid19 era. People professionals have an increasing strategic role to play in dealing with problems and prospects. The best way of summing up the above ten Cs is to link all of them to one 'big C'. CARE. Employee-care is the surest way to ensure customer-care, in the past, present and future as well.

Inflation decreases in August

Headline inflation decreased to 4.1 per cent in August 2020 from 4.2 per cent in July 2020.

This was mainly driven by the statistical effect of the high base that prevailed in August 2019. Food inflation (Y-o-Y) increased to 12.3 per cent in August 2020 from 10.9 per cent in July 2020, whereas Non-food inflation (Y-o-Y) decreased to 0.8 per cent in August 2020 from 1.5 per cent in July 2020.

The change in the CCPI measured on an annual average basis remained unchanged at 4.8 per cent in August 2020. Monthly change of CCPI recorded at 0.0 per cent in August 2020.

This was due to setting-off the price increase of 0.1 per cent in the Food category, with

the price decline observed in the Non-food category by the same magnitude.

Within the Food category prices of coconut, vegetables and turmeric increased in August 2020.

However, prices of fresh fish and limes recorded significant declines during the month. Within the Non-food category, prices of items in Health (payments to medical laboratories) sub-category declined during the month.

The core inflation (Y-o-Y), which reflects the underlying inflation in the economy, remained unchanged at 3.2 per cent in August 2020. However, annual average core inflation declined further to 3.8 per cent in August 2020 from 4.0 per cent in July 2020.

Finnfund and Norfund invest \$ 30 m in Softlogic Life

Softlogic Life Insurance PLC inked landmark deals with Development Financial Institutions, the Finnish Fund for Industrial Cooperation Ltd (Finnfund) and the Norwegian Investment Fund for Developing Countries (Norfund) recently.

They have collectively signed a USD 15 mn Tier II Subordinated Debt transaction which will provide funding to further develop the business objectives of the company.

Norfund and Finnfund are impact investors funded by the Governments of Norway and Finland and private capital markets whose objectives are to fund sustainable development through responsible and profitable businesses across the globe. What makes the transactions even more significant are that they are being executed amidst the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic that has impacted the entire world.

In March, Softlogic Life also concluded a Financial Reinsurance transaction of USD, 15 mn with Münchener Rückversicherungs-Gesellschaft - MunichRe, a provider of reinsurance, primary insurance, and insurance-related risk solutions in the world, based on the top quality portfolio of the company.

"These investments by Norfund, Finnfund and MunichRe are a testament to the solid work we have put into building Softlogic Life into a formidable business in Sri Lanka's insurance industry. We like to think of it as an endorsement that we have done something special," said Chairman of SoftlogicLife Insurance, Ashok Pathirage. "We are always keen to develop our operations by utilising international expertise and together with Leapfrog Investments who are shareholders of the Company we are continuously assessing possibilities to



Ashok Pathirage

improve our capabilities even further. We remain fully confident of Sri Lanka's growth prospects and see the low penetration in the life insurance industry as a great opportunity for future growth.

"During 2019 one in every three life insurance policies sold in the market was from Softlogic Life, which is a

great testament to the customer segments that we cover and the extent of our product diversification," he said.

The investment marks one of Norfund and Finnfund's first investments in Sri Lanka's insurance industry, where, like other developing markets across Asia, they will be looking to provide expansion capital to sustainable businesses like Softlogic Life in the financial sector.

Regional Director Asia, Norfund, Fay Chetnakarnkul said, "Norfund invests in financial institutions to strengthen their ability to contribute to increased access to capital for companies and previous unbanked people."

Investment Manager, Finnfund, Ulla-Maija Rantapuska said, "Softlogic Life's leadership team has over the years consistently delivered, and together, we hope to continue contributing to its growth journey."

CSBA hails setting up ministry for capital markets

The Colombo Stock Brokers Association (CSBA) extends its wholehearted support and best wishes to the new government, Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, and newly-appointed State Minister Ajith Nivard Cabraal for Finance, Capital Markets, and State

Enterprise Reforms, a media release from the CSBA stated.

"The Colombo Stock Brokers Association also extends its gratitude to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa for seeing and acting upon the need for a separate

ministry for capital markets for the first time in the history of Sri Lanka.

"Considering the past few years that the Sri Lankan economy and stock broking industry has faced many challenges, the CSBA eagerly looks forward to playing a significant part in developing the national

economy, and hopes to play a key role in the growth story of Sri Lanka.

The CSBA is keen on working closely with the new government to expand and popularise equity investments and related products among the general public of the country and promote much sought

after foreign portfolio investors. "President of CSBA Kosala Gamage said, "Over the past few years, Sri Lanka has had to face many challenges.

However, with the appointment of the new cabinet of ministers, we at CSBA see a bright and prosperous

future ahead. We are keen on working closely with the State Minister and aiding his agenda for the industry.

We look forward to playing an instrumental role in making Sri Lanka a thriving nation again," the statement added.

Business

Backpacker tourism... Continued from page 25

Thomas Cook, which left thousands of employees in the lurch," he said, adding that backpacking - once a marginal form of travel undertaken only through necessity, has since become a mainstream form of tourism.

While backpacker tourism is generally a form of youth travel, primarily undertaken by young people during gap years, it is also undertaken by others during a career break or retirement. Backpackers are from Europe, the English-speaking world and Asia.

Backpacking gives you the opportunity to travel and see a lot of the world on a budget. You might need to lower your usual living standards a little with eating street food and sharing a dorm and bathroom with other people. But it is a great way to see different environments at a low cost.

For many low-income communities in the developing world, the economic benefits of hosting backpackers outweigh the negative impacts.

Since backpackers tend to consume local products, stay in small guest houses, and use locally owned ground transport, more of their expenditure is retained in the

country than in conventional mass tourism.

Businesses that cater to backpackers are usually locally owned and profits are retained within the country rather than flow overseas to international hotel groups. Despite the problems of the backpackers' negative social impact, there are significant, positive economic impacts. There is a growing body of research showing that, for many low-income communities in the developing world, the economic benefits of hosting backpackers outweigh their negative (often social) impact.

This local economic development aspect is also now being recognised by some governments such as Malaysia and South Africa, which are actively encouraging backpackers and supporting locally owned businesses and 'home-stays'.

Research in Indonesia, Vietnam, Thailand and Malaysia since the mid-1990s shows that as backpackers consume local products (food, coffee, beer and cigarettes), stay in small guest houses, and use locally owned ground transport, more of their expenditure is retained in the country than in con-

ventional mass tourism. Economic leaks from backpacker tourism are also significantly less than for conventional (foreign-owned) tourism, since backpacker businesses are usually locally owned and profits are retained within the developing country rather than flowing overseas to international hotel groups.

Local people have often been very positive about how having their own backpacker business has changed their lives for the better. In Yogyakarta, Indonesia, one guest house owner spoke with great pride of how she could now afford to send her children to school as a result of her backpacker business.

Hosting backpacker tourism is not the silver bullet for poor communities, but it can play an important part in international tourism in the global south.

"All CEOs of the top listed FANG blue chips in the world, such as Facebook, Amazon, Alibaba, Netflix and Google, enjoyed being backpackers in their youth.

Looking to the future and not looking down on low-budget travellers might be the wise way forward," he said.

Approval sought... Continued from page 25

The cash will be allocated to short term programs that are expected to end by December.

"We have allocated Rs. 18.96 million to develop 12 tourist spots in Kurunegala, Matale, Mannar, Kandy, Badulla, Kegalle and Ampara and another Rs. 2.88 million to develop tourist villages," the Minister said.

New websites will also be set up for the tourist villages - that include Mederipitiya South, Heeloya and Heelogama.

Under the program the Tourism Ministry will develop forts in Mannar, Kalpitiya and Batticaloa, and also allocate Rs. 14.50 million to refurbish railway stations in Ella, Hatton, Galle,

Unawatuna, Bentota, Negombo, Kandy and Kalutara. "The ministry is continuing the program to grant Rs. 20,000 to guides and Rs. 15,000 to drivers who were affected by the Covid-19 pandemic," the Minister said, adding that the ministry is ready to welcome tourists within 24 hours of the reopening of international airports.

Agrithmics unveils... Continued from page 25

...from its end-to-end process automation integration and produce procurement transparency.

Agrithmics has been adopted by some of the biggest players in the tea industry, including three elite principal Tea Factory Groups in Sri Lanka, with a base of approximately 40,000 active farmers and workers benefiting from the features of this novel platform.

"Although our primary focus will be the tea industry, our mission is to enable the service for all farmers across the country," said the Chief Executive Officer of Agrithmics, Prashanth Premakumar.

He said that Agrithmics has plans to grow beyond the tea sector, showing its potentially strong utility and value across a spectrum of crops.

Managed by BOV Capital, The Digital Innovation Fund plans to attract sector-agnostic digital startups that disrupt or transform industries or even create new sectors. The focus is on fields related to SAAS, Big Data, AI, IoT, Fintech, Health tech, and the Last Mile.

"Post Covid, our investment thesis has not changed much, but we are now looking for startups with tailwind and strong founding teams able to pivot quickly," he said.

'Lanka should... Continued from page 25

...awareness among Sri Lankan exporters to increase the global competitiveness of Sri Lankan products and to facilitate market access to the EU and US.

"The net trade balance between Sri Lanka and the EU is over USD 2.1 billion in favour of Sri Lanka. We are happy about it and it is not our objective to change it," Chaibi said.

Highlighting certain guidelines and requirements to export Sri Lankan products to the EU, the Ambassador said, "If you take China and Sri Lanka trade balance, Sri Lanka imports products worth USD 4 billion from China and exports goods worth USD 200 million. Therefore, it is still worth trying to comply with EU standards. The EU market is three times bigger than the Chinese market."

Responding to a question raised by a representative from a local chamber, Chaibi outlined the situation in Europe after Covid-19 and its economic impact.

"I do not see that the European business community taking advantage of Covid-19. If you look thoroughly many businesses which did not have an online presence in Europe are closed for good," he said.

A series of training, assessments and certification will be conducted targeting the sectors such as apparel, and agriculture and Sri Lankan companies' representatives will be trained on how to comply with global and EU related sustainability standards under this program.

Chief Delegate of German Industry and Commerce in Sri Lanka, Andreas Hergenroether said, "The primary reason for the delegation to partner the initiative was to support Sri Lankan exporters to obtain broader market access."

Representatives of entities that engage in fair trade practices including the COO of MAS Holdings, Shirendra Lawrence, Director of DSI Group, Dilshan Rajapaksa and General Manager of Aqua Dynamics, Lalindra Fernando were also present.

CSE lays out... Continued from page 25

The CSE's price to book valuation which is .9 times is low compared to India's 2.8 percent, Vietnam's 1.9 percent and Pakistan's 1.5 percent.

"We are at the bottom of rating and the question is how do we rate valuations to rebuild confidence for investors," the CSE chief said, adding that the current low interest rates will help boost the market.

He said the CSE will engage with the Government to look at obtaining certain incentives and tax treatments.

The CSE will focus on promotion strategies and reviving over-

seas marketing programs and improve investor relations practices to impart information.

The Stock Exchange aims at attracting large entities to inject more liquidity to the market through larger companies.

"We have developed a survey on impediments to listing in the CSE. We will focus on attracting listings of tech sector firms which are not at a satisfactory level," Fernando said, adding that the CSE anticipates at least three large companies listing IPOs.

As of April this year the CSE comprised 290 listed entities with a market capitalisation of around Rs.

2,748.10 billion. The number of companies with a market capitalisation of over Rs. 10 billion in the CSE has increased from 44 a decade ago to 53 today and the number of entities with a market cap of over Rs. 50 billion has reduced from 12 to 11 during the corresponding period.

However, the CSE chief is upbeat about the growth of the market with interest rates on a downward trajectory.

"Digitisation is a major component of the expansion drive to get more retail investors on-board," Fernando said.

Trading activities at the CSE will

be digitised from September 17 to offer an efficient service. A digital app will be launched to enable investors to on-board digitally. The app will help investors to operate even during a lockdown scenario. The move will enable telcos to generate customer leads.

The CSE plans to open branches in the Western Province and increase financial literacy. The Stock Exchange will improve trust with key stakeholders such as issuers, investors and the public. The number of referrals from CSE to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on market surveillance has dropped to 70 percent and cli-

ent complaints to 70 percent which shows that there is more trust in the market.

"We are currently working with the SEC on setting up an independent client dispute resolution mechanism, the Delivery Versus Payment settlement method to be delivered by the first quarter next year and the Central Counterparty to reduce settlement risk," Fernando said.

The CSE chief said the CSE has to return to operating profitably and added that new products such as education certificates, gold based products and mortgages as securities will be explored.

INVITATION FOR BIDS



AIRPORT & AVIATION SERVICES (SRI LANKA) LIMITED

BID NO. : 084/T/2019

SUPPLY OF 03 NOS. VHF AIR BAND TRANSCEIVERS WITH OUTDOOR ANTENNAS FOR BATTICALOA AIRPORT, BATTICALOA

Bids are invited by the Chairman, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited for the **Supply of 03 Nos. VHF Air Band Transceivers with Outdoor Antennas for Batticaloa Airport, Batticaloa.**

Bids should be submitted on Documents obtained from the Division of Supply Chain Management, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake on a **cash payment of Rupees Five Thousand (Rs. 5,000.00) being a non-refundable Bidding Document Fee**, together with an official letter of request, issued by the Bidder.

Bidding Documents may be purchased **between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on any working day from 08.09.2020 up to 05.10.2020** from the Office of Supply Chain Management Division, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake. The Bidding Documents will be available for inspection free of charge at the above address.

Bids should be deposited in the box provided for this purpose at Supply Chain Management Division, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake. If Bidders so desire, they may personally hand over the Sealed Bids to above address.

Bids will be closed at **2.00 p.m. on Tuesday the 06th October 2020** and will be opened immediately thereafter at the Supply Chain Management Division, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake. Bidders or their duly authorized representatives may be present at the time of opening of Bids.

An on demand **Bid Bond** equivalent to **Sri Lankan Rupees Three Hundred Thousand (Rs. 300,000.00)** in the form of a Bank Guarantee issued by a Bank approved by the Central Bank and operating in Sri Lanka and payable to Chairman, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited should be submitted with the Bid. A refundable Cash Deposit is also acceptable.

Any further information could be obtained from the Division of Supply Chain Management, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake on Telephone Nos. 011-2264103 / 011-2264102, E-mail : head.scm@airport.lk or by visiting our Website : www.airport.lk

Chairman

**Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited
Bandaranaike International Airport,
Katunayake.**

INVITATION FOR BIDS



AIRPORT & AVIATION SERVICES (SRI LANKA) LIMITED

BID NO. : 188/T/2019

SUPPLY OF MATERIALS AND TAILORING OF UNIFORMS FOR FIRE STAFF OF AIRPORT & AVIATION SERVICES (SRI LANKA) LIMITED FOR TWO YEARS PERIOD

Bids are invited by the Chairman, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited for the **Supply of Materials and Tailoring of Uniforms for Fire Staff of Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited for two years period.**

Bids should be submitted on documents obtained from the Division of Supply Chain Management, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake on a **cash payment of Rupees One Thousand and Five Hundred (Rs. 1,500.00) being a non-refundable Bidding Document Fee**, together with an official letter of request, issued by the Bidder.

Bidding documents may be purchased **between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on any working day from 08.09.2020 up to 05.10.2020** from the Office of Supply Chain Management Division, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake. The Bidding Documents will be available for inspection free of charge at the above address.

Bids should be deposited in the box provided for this purpose at Supply Chain Management Division, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake. If Bidders so desire, they may personally hand over the Sealed Bids to above address.

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An on demand **Bid Security** equivalent to **Sri Lankan Rupees One Hundred and Thirty Seven Thousand Two Hundred and Sixty (Rs. 137,260.00)** in the form of a Bank Guarantee issued by a Bank approved by the Central Bank and operating in Sri Lanka and payable to Chairman, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited should be submitted with the Bid.

Any further information could be obtained from the Division of Supply Chain Management, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake on Telephone Nos. 011-2264103 / 011-2264102, E-mail : head.scm@airport.lk or by visiting our Website : www.airport.lk

Chairman

**Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited
Bandaranaike International Airport,
Katunayake.**

New development...

Continued from page 25

The setting up of a permanent credit guarantee institution is also in the pipeline according to the Governor for which the Bank has commenced discussions.

"These are avenues through which Central Banks in developing states have actively supported domestic industries to grow and expand into global giants," the Governor said, adding that Central Banks provide capital to development institutions as industrial and agricultural development banks.

SMEs make up for around 80 percent of all businesses in the country and are found in all sectors of the economy, primary, secondary and tertiary providing employment to people of various skills. SMEs in industrial activities account for around 20 percent of establishments and around 90 percent in the service sector.

A development finance institution (DFI) also known as a development bank or development finance company (DFC) is a financial institution that provides risk capital for economic development projects on a non-commercial basis. They are often established and owned by governments or charitable institutions to provide funds for projects that would otherwise not get funds from commercial lenders. Some development banks include socially responsible investing and impact investing criteria into their mandates. Governments often use development banks to form part of their development aid or economic development initiatives.

The Governor also said that Central Banks maintain exchange rates at appropriate levels to support exports, capital controls and development finance systems to achieve development goals. "These methods are used to bring down the government's borrowing costs, to promote development of particular sectors and stimulate structural transformation of economies," the Governor said, adding that the past decade in Sri Lanka was marked by building up of depreciation pressure from time to time due to domestic and external factors.

The Governor said that the Central Bank has intervened in the foreign exchange market to bring about a relatively more stable exchange rate regime since the change of government last year.

"If not for intervention in the foreign exchange and other markets there would have been widespread panic in domestic markets," the Governor said. However, he said that greater success in the intervention calls for action elsewhere in the economy in areas such as export oriented and import replacing production and sources of inflow of foreign exchange.

"The search for an alternative development policy framework would depend heavily on productive and efficiently run State owned enterprises and public institutions," he said.

Business

Core benefits of customer relations

by
Hemantha Kulatunga



Customer relations is an important paradigm in business that promotes customer satisfaction and loyalty. The process fundamentally involves managing communication, resolving issues and complaints amicably, and building lasting relationships with clients.

Relationships are important for repeat buying, references, and recommendations from customers which provide essential assistance in the long run to a business entity. Most companies dedicate and focus on relationship management to build a strong reputation in the market as a customer-oriented business entity.

The actual and most important purpose of customer relationship management is to strengthen customer loyalty.

A customer may be satisfied with the service provided by the company without being loyal. Therefore, the organisation must distinguish loyalty from satisfaction clearly. Loyalty brings the customer again to the company without buying from the competitor.

An important factor is that it is always easier to keep existing customers than finding new ones. Besides, it is easier to cross-sell and increase revenue when the company has a loyal customer base.

The cost of attracting a new customer can also be several folds higher than bringing back existing patrons. Repeat customers are more likely to recommend the company to others and the effectiveness in such an act is tremendous.

In the prevailing modern trade scenario, companies use various strategies to build strong relationships. While the most vital action in

building a relationship is the first interaction with a customer whether it is physical or digital, companies concentrate on providing training to the frontline staff for this purpose. In any business situation, from the time of the doorman's greeting, until the customer leaves the premises, the entire staff that meets him must be comprehensively aware of the importance of relationship building.

However, there are other important tools available for an organisation to engage customers. Using feedback forms, training of staff on handling disputes or other issues, responding to customers directly, and developing and encouraging a service culture are some of them. The creation of customer loyalty points, which are widely practiced by many large organisations in Sri Lanka is an effective tactic.

This practice can be introduced to any organisation irrespective of size. Offering discounts and free-product coupons, competitions, and extended warranties are some other forms of strategies by established companies with significant impact.

Experts have recently found that a customer abandons a product or a company due to poor customer relations. Therefore, proper attention must be paid to enhance service to build a lasting connection. In a competitive market, a strong personal relationship can be the difference between the successes of the organisation and the competitors. If your competitor provides a better and friendlier service, the customers, most likely, will leave and take their money to your competitor. Hence, in this fiercely competitive market, companies must take the departure of even a single customer seriously. If you neglect this move, customers will switch ships.

A sound relationship gives an assurance of a customer's return and repeat sales due to the loyalty created. A happy customer will come back for more purchases whereas an unhappy customer will seek assistance from



A good relationship and the trust established can increase sales not only from repetition but also from cross-sales. A customer purchasing a specific product may be encouraged to purchase a different item with the loyalty created through the relationship

elsewhere for his needs. Good rapport with incoming customers can help the organisation by way of new connections.

More connections in the pipeline will make it easier to communicate about your products or services. More connections and relationships can also help increase word of mouth communication by clients who keep on recommending your products to others. This is a very successful model of effective advertising.

However, on the other hand, one must realise that usually, people are also good at spreading bad news if they are unhappy about a product. This can be serious and lead to market rejection if not handled with caution. A single person can cause grave damage to the reputation of a product or a company through bad and negative comments. This is the reason for many marketing organisations to carry out customer satisfaction surveys to ascertain the level of custom-

er's actual response. The information from these surveys can be immensely helpful to raise the level of service.

A good relationship and the trust established can increase sales not only from repetition but also from cross-sales.

A customer coming to purchase a specific product may be encouraged to purchase a different item with the loyalty created through the relationship.

When your staff is consistent in maintaining a honest and friendly attitude while selling a product or delivering a service, the customer is certain to come again. In an aggressively competitive and unpredictable market such as in Sri Lanka, provid-

ing the best possible service will result in a secure customer base. It also will strengthen the brand of the organisation.

Companies must take the maximum effort to exceed the service expectations as the relationships are one of the most important factors in the success of an organisation engaged in any business. Customers always look for proactive service that creates a good impression of the organisation.

Real-time assistance, by way of personal involvement or online live chat, is a key factor in providing a good experience to the customer. The company can obtain feedback information to understand the cus-

tomers' needs better and provides an opportunity to deliver a great service experience through this.

Everybody, by their own experience, knows that customer happiness and satisfaction are important to an organisation.

Therefore, interacting with the customer on a personal level is immensely important to establish a trustworthy inter-connection. Personalisation can increase loyalty which provides a high conversion rate.

Nevertheless, personal involvement with a customer must be done cautiously as the personalities differ. The staff must be trained to match their tone with the customer's personality.

The factor to understand is that some customers prefer long conversations while others like briefings. Recognising customer preferences to understand their needs is essential.

Integration of customer service etiquette is vital for an organisation to extend an exceptional service.

The staff must be trained adequately to interact with customers. They must be convinced to genuinely engage customers by always using positive words or phrases, active listening, to offer gratitude and show empathy.

Today, companies use Customer Relationship Management (CRM) management tools to optimise revenue and profits and enhance customer satisfaction.

CRM software enables companies to streamline customer communication. By using these software programs, companies can easily segment clients in a better way for augmented revenue, retention, and faster communication.

Making the customer feel special can be a huge impact on a company's name. Hence, going the extra mile to deliver and exceed customer expectations is imperative. To improve the brand, the organisation has to offer reasons to customers to emotionally connect.

Singer introduces kitchen solutions

Partners with Malaysia's Signature Group

Singer has entered into a partnership with Signature Group, one of Malaysia's largest Kitchen Cabinet and Wardrobe manufacturers.

Singer aims to begin manufacturing Signature Kitchen systems and products in Sri Lanka through this partnership.

This collaboration is expected to reinforce Signature brand's presence in Sri Lanka.

To showcase the new partnership, Singer will display Signature's innovative product portfolio in Sri Lanka for the first time at Singer Homes, Ratmalana and will expand to 30 more outlets in phase 1.

Singer will manufacture Signature Kitchen systems at the state-of-the-art Singer factory complex.

CEO of Singer Sri Lanka, Mahesh Wijewardene said, "We are extremely delighted by this partnership with Signature which allows us to bring world-class kitchen solutions to the door-steps of Sri Lankans.

As a widely known household brand in Sri Lanka, Singer is well equipped to enter into Kitchen manufacturing with the acclaimed Signature brand." Malaysia's Signature Kitchen is renowned for staying abreast with innovative and contemporary



Signature Kitchen design

European designs in kitchens and wardrobes with over 25 years of expertise and a strong presence in 15 countries. Group Managing Director of Signature International, Berhad, Tan Kee Choong said, "Singer's islandwide presence in

Sri Lanka and strength in manufacturing has made it a strong candidate to this partnership. The Signature team is working hand-in-hand with Singer to share the industry's best practices, coupled with innovation and creativity."

Prime Grand unveils 37th floor

Prime Grand, the flagship ultra-luxury condominium project of property developer Prime Group, recently unveiled its 37th floor to an exclusive gathering.

The 160m tall residential tower, set to be the only high-rise in Colombo 7, will redefine the city's skyline while introducing a rare collection of exquisite two to four-bedroom ultra-luxury, private residences. The project is slated for completion in the second quarter of 2022.

Chairman Premalal Brahmanage said, "Prime Group has always been extremely agile in operation and in addressing fast-evolving consumer needs, with innovative thinking at the fore. Unveiling the 37th floor of Prime Grand's game-changing, ultra-luxury living space is the culmination of this winning mentality and hard work.

"We are glad to say that this event afforded prospective buyers the opportunity to not only experience the premises and the breath-taking views from the top, but also to solve all their legal, financial and engineering queries in one setting," he said.

Meticulously designed over 40,000 sq ft to maximise city views, the building draws inspiration from its natural surroundings using timeless, quality materials, captivating colour palettes and intentional sustainable design.



Guests watching the sunset from the 37th floor of Prime Grand, Ward Place

Prime Grand's offering of 332 simplex and duplex condominium residences are complemented by four stories of double height park-

ing, where one residence is allotted a minimum of two parking slots, and three levels of curated indoor and outdoor services and amenities.

APHNH calls for greater support for female healthcare workers

In commemoration of Women's Equality Day, the Association of Private Hospitals and Nursing Homes (APHNH) called for greater recognition and support towards female healthcare professionals and reiterated its commitment to enhance the education and advancement of women in the healthcare sector.

Particularly in the context of increased risks for healthcare professionals owing to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, APHNH President Dr. Lakith Peiris said that most gender-specific issues had been further exacerbated.

"Like in many other critical sectors of the Sri Lankan economy, women play a vital role in the healthcare sector. It is therefore essential that all Sri Lankans make an effort to understand the challenges they face, appreciate their contributions and actively pursue policies that address these issues," he said. According to the World Health Organisation (WHO) data from 2019, women make up 67%

of the health workforce - particularly in nursing and midwifery sectors - across 104 countries surveyed.

According to APHNH estimates, women make up close to 70% of the private health sector locally, while analysis carried out by the Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs in 2016 indicate that females hold 62% of health and social work jobs in Sri Lanka.

Given global and domestic trends towards an ageing population and parallel increases in Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and chronic illnesses, Dr. Peiris said that already prevailing shortages in nursing professionals would drastically spike with increasing demand for such services.

The ratio of nurses to the population in Sri Lanka stood at approximately two nurses per 1,000 Sri Lankans in 2015, up from about one nurse per 1,000 in 2005 (Ministry of Health, 2018). According to the WHO, an estimated shortage in nursing pro-

fessionals between 5000 and 6000 has been projected for the year 2030.

A main contributory factor to this shortage is the high female employee attrition rate. According to employee data from APHNH, female healthcare workers are typically compelled to leave their jobs after marriage or childbirth due to domestic responsibilities, leading to an estimated turnover rate close to 30%.

APHNH recommends that industry members look into constructing crèches or similar childcare facilities at their institutions, with the hope this will not only improve female employee retention rates, but also facilitate full and equal participation of women in the industry. Similarly, the association plans to introduce improved educational services for paramedical service providers, which is expected to generate an increase in qualified nurses and in other critical roles dominated by females.

APHNH has developed a National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Level



Women play a vital role in the healthcare sector

6 for nursing, which has been approved by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission (TVEC) and the National Apprentice and Industrial Training Authority

(NAITA). This is an internationally recognised qualification.

Similar APHNH training initiatives for nurses include a three year nursing program, a one year nursing

assistant program, and a four-month gap filling programme. Fur, APHNH also plans to introduce Pharmacy Assistant and Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT) training programs into their expanding educational curriculum. APHNH has also initiated in-service training for different fields.

"As an association and on behalf of all Sri Lankans, we once again express our heartfelt gratitude for their life-saving work and pledge to continue driving progressive policies that support female healthcare professionals. One of our key areas of focus will be the provision of comprehensive childcare facilities which has been among the most immediate concerns for women in the industry.

Additionally, we will continue to collaborate with the Government and all other stakeholders on any further initiatives that will ensure equal opportunity and fair treatment of female healthcare professionals," Dr. Peiris said.

Business

99X Technology launches knowledge portal

Geared to educate tech community on building market winning products



99X Technology CTO Hasith Yaggahavita (left) and Chief Product Officer Chatura de Silva at the ideation stages of the Winning Product portal

Building a software product sounds simple and straightforward but launching one that can win in the global marketplace is far from easy. Understanding this, software product engineering specialist 99X Technology has taken its knowledge, amassed over nearly two decades of building over 150 software products for independent software vendors (ISVs), and put it all together in an online portal aptly titled 'Winning Product'.

A fully volunteer-driven initiative by the product engineers of 99X Technology, winningproduct.com is an interactive site that covers all stages of the product lifecycle - from exploring an idea right down to retiring a product. It has been created to be a one-stop shop for anyone interested in any aspect of building a market-winning software product, whether it is a mature product company or an entrepreneur with a bright idea.

Every piece of information on the site has been tried and tested by the product engineers of 99X Technology. It is also community driven and invites anyone interested in contributing to the space to do so, bringing together the best practices from more success stories and even failures. The model identifies 87 process areas within eight key stages in the product life cycle. Each of these 87 areas include supporting links, how-tos and measurements.

"Over the years, we have been through dozens of product life cycles with our ISV customers and we've understood that there isn't a single formula to create a winning product. Yet, we believed that the experience we have gained through co-creating products with ISVs, illustrated through systematic sets of activities, was something that was worth sharing with the global community," said 99X Technology CTO Hasith Yaggahavita.

99X Technology Chief Product

Officer Chatura de Silva said, "Our goal with the Winning Product portal is for it to act as a guide along the path to success at any point of creating a software product, from the business value proposition to the technical detail, even aspects related to financing. It has been a tremendous undertaking by our product engineers and we are incredibly proud to release this publicly."

The Winning Product initiative of 99X Technology is also in line with the Sri Lanka Association of Software and Services Companies' (SLASSCOM) vision to champion the creation of world-class tech products and helps position Sri Lanka as a pioneer in building tech products for global players.

Apart from the released knowledge base, an assessment tool and a certification model for product consultants will be added in the near future. The knowledge base helps product engineering teams learn and understand the activities involved in building a winning product. The assessment tool will help teams understand where they stand in terms of product engineering practices. This will be strengthened by the certification model, to help teams get their team members certified as product consultants.

"I must extend my gratitude to the over 60 volunteers who, for over a year, contributed to building the Winning Product portal. Our team consisted of product engineers, UI/UX engineers, QA engineers, project leads, interns and more. They helped immensely in gathering data, proofreading, and most importantly, reviewing the content thoroughly multiple times," said 99X Technology Associate Technical Architect and AWS Community Hero Manoj Fernando.

The team is keen for it to be community-driven and welcomes all those interested to contribute to the portal.

Janashakthi Life records profit growth despite Covid-19

Janashakthi Insurance PLC (Janashakthi) reported earnings for its second fiscal quarter (Q2) of 2020. Janashakthi's consolidated pre-tax profits showed a remarkable year to date growth of 44%, recording a Profit Before Taxation of Rs. 427.37 million.

Consolidated Net Income also showed a growth of 15% with Rs. 3.28 billion in comparison to the previous year's Rs. 2.85 billion. Earnings per share showed a growth of 68% from Rs. 1.04 to Rs. 1.75.

The increase of 49% in investment income including realised gains and fair value gains significantly contributed to achieve this total Net Income, supported by 44% growth in Total Other Revenue, growing from

Rs. 1.16 billion to Rs. 1.68 billion. Janashakthi delivered a Gross Written Premium (GWP) of Rs. 1.66 billion in the period under review. As of June 2020, the company had total assets of Rs. 23.47 billion compared to Rs. 21.73 billion in Q2 2019.

"Due to the unprecedented impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, 2020 has proven to be an exceptionally challenging year for the economy. Janashakthi continued to serve our customers through these unprecedented times, thanks to the dedication of our field sales force and having our digitisation initiatives already in place to deliver a frictionless service experience. I am pleased to note that amidst a difficult quarter, we

have delivered significant profit growth in the period under review," said Chairman of Janashakthi Insurance, Prakash Schaffter.

"As we continue to set trends and drive the new normal of the life insurance industry in Sri Lanka, we strive to raise the bar on service excellence with increased levels of digitisation in our operations as well as our customer interactions. We will continue to honour our commitment as a purpose driven insurer, with reaffirmed assurance to provide solutions that cater to the ever-evolving customer needs. We are confident that this is the way forward for greater cost efficiencies and resilience," he said.



Prakash Schaffter

APIIT ties up with Deakin University

Deakin University, Australia and Asia Pacific Institute of Information Technology (APIIT) Sri Lanka have partnered to offer a pathway which provides students enrolling at APIIT Sri Lanka the option of transferring to Deakin University in Australia after the first year of study at APIIT to complete the Deakin University Bachelor of IT and Bachelor of Commerce degree programs.

Head, School of Computing, APIIT Sri Lanka, Dr. Priyantha Kumarawadu said, "Sri Lankan students who are aiming at a world ranked university in Australia can get direct entry to the second year

of the undergraduate degree program at Deakin University after completing the first year at APIIT Sri Lanka."

Those who complete the first year of study in the BSc (Hons) International Business Management degree at APIIT Sri Lanka may avail themselves of the option of completing Deakin's Bachelor of Commerce degree in one of seven majors.

Associate Dean, International, Faculty of Business and Law, Deakin University, Prof. Alexander Newman said, "Deakin's School of Business and Law is ranked in the Top 1% of Business

Schools worldwide. Through our partnership, we look forward to welcoming APIIT students into the Bachelor of Commerce and the Bachelor of Business degrees at Deakin."

Pro Vice Chancellor-International Research Partnerships, Deakin University, Prof. K Baskaran said, "Deakin University, Australia and APIIT Sri Lanka have come together to help mitigate some of the immediate challenges in a post Covid environment. APIIT will offer a pathway to Deakin programs in Computer Science, Software Engineering and Cyber Security."

Shop Cuban turns two

Shop Cuban is a Sri Lankan lifestyle brand that strives to offer reliable, exclusively curated designs to suit one's tropical needs.

Starting as a hobby in 2018 with merely two t-shirt designs, the brand has now expanded to have a product range of clothing and accessories.

Founded by Nuwan Perera, with a background in Sales and marketing and Kavita Amaratunga, with a background in psychology, the couple is working hard on expanding their product range with more designs. The pair is extremely passionate in finding sustainable ways of improving their business and giving back to the community.

The brand has evolved so much over the past two years, and now offers over 25 products all being centered around Sri Lanka and its

tropical beauty. Understanding the struggle of managing and growing a startup, the company tries its level best to always support and build other small businesses as much as possible, hence all Shop Cuban products are sourced from local suppliers.

Using social media as its primary platform, the brand has reached a significant audience not only among Sri Lankans, but also tourists from around the world that have visited Sri Lanka and understand the context behind their slogans. Shop Cuban delivers worldwide and have since shipped to many countries including Australia, Canada, Dubai, UK and USA.

The core concept behind Shop Cuban was to create bold, creative and humorous statement pieces that are relatable to Sri Lankan culture.



Kavita Amaratunga and Nuwan Perera

Insee Cement commends Army personnel

Insee Cement Sri Lanka is expanding its multifaceted approach to counter the spread of Covid-19 across the island by commending the selfless efforts of Sri Lanka military personnel who stepped in to fight the spread of the virus from the frontlines.

The company signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Sri Lanka Army in July offering military personnel a concessionary rate for Insee Santha cement as a gesture of gratitude to personnel across all ranks of the army.

The MoU was signed by Brigadier Tikiri Disanayake who heads the Directorate of Army Welfare, and Jan Kunigk, Executive Vice President - Sales, Marketing and Innovations at Insee Cement at the Army Headquarters, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte.

"From distributing relief and contact tracing to running quarantine centers across the country, the Sri Lanka Military has been exemplary in their efforts to fight and contain COVID-19 in the country," Jan Kunigk said.

"We are honoured to be part of this project implemented by the



Directorate of Army Welfare to offer Santha cement at a subsidised rate to all Army personnel, and will continue to play our role as a responsible corporate that is in the frontlines, lead-

ing the re-building of our nation," he said.

Army personnel could purchase subsidised Insee Santha cement by coordinating with Army Welfare

shops in Panagoda, Anuradhapura, Pallekele, Minneriya, Boossa, Ampara, Diyatalawa and the Army Headquarters at Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte.

HNB partners with Hayleys Agri.

HNB PLC has partnered with Hayleys Agriculture to offer customers, convenient leasing solutions and attractive benefits for Kubota, Agrotech and Farmtrac range of agricultural machinery.

The partnership which offers HNB customers discounts on tractors, transplanter and harvesters was inked at Hayleys Agriculture Office at Deans Road, Colombo.

HNB Head of Personal Financial Services, Kanchana Karunagama and Hayleys Agriculture Holdings Limited Managing Director, Jayanthi Dharmasena

graced the ceremony as guests of honour.

"We are excited to partner with Hayleys Agriculture to offer our loyal customer base unparalleled discounts and an assortment of special benefits on agricultural machinery.

"Partnerships of this nature provide us with the opportunity to deliver flexible and innovative leasing solutions customised to meet the specific needs of our customers and provide them with the opportunity to expand their business," HNB Head of Personal Financial Services, Kanchana Karunagama said.

Edgeng presents sanitising foot trays to Govt. Depts



Edgeng Lanka Directors Shihan Ganegoda and Don Sidantha Ganegoda present the foot sanitising trays to the officials of the Department of Immigration and Emigration, the Department of Registration of Persons and the Ministry of Defence. (Pic: Samantha Weerasiri)

Edgeng, a systems components manufacturer for the local and global market, donated Edgeng Max sanitising foot trays to the Department of Immigration and Emigration, the Department of Registration of Persons and the Ministry of Defence at Suhurupaya, Battaramulla last week.

Edgeng CEO and Managing Director Don Sidantha Ganegoda said the

world is not completely out of the woods in combatting the killer virus which is why the company built the foot tray as a precautionary measure to help keep the virus at bay.

"We must not be complacent about the disease which could have another wave any time if adequate precaution is not being taken," he said.

Low-cost trucks from Ishara Lorry Body Builders



Harshi Ishara Manamendra

Ishara Lorry Body Builders of Pitakotte has introduced a low cost truck body for those hoping to launch or improve their food business.

Managing Director of Ishara Lorry Body Builders, Harshi Ishara Manamendra said, "Even though these types of food trucks are popular in other parts of the world, it has been introduced in Sri Lanka for the first time by Ishara Lorry Body Builders."

"Shifting businesses to the mobile sphere has become more important than ever. We have introduced a

range of products to suit customers' budgets. We provide height extendable and size expandable food trucks using hydraulics and food trailers built to solid engineering standards. Apart from standard lorry bodies, we build half beds, flat beds and vehicle carriers," she said.

"Eating street food from a food truck is a different kind of an experience which includes seeing the food being prepared and indulging in the experience with all your senses while having the food. Therefore, we

designed the kitchens with the customer experience in mind. Two people can work in these trucks which include high pressure stoves, grills, prepping area, water tank, waste water tank, kitchen canopies, generator, solar power, refrigerator, CCTV, plumbing and wiring. We can customise designs while ensuring high safety standards," said Manamendra, a mechanical engineer by profession.

"The bodies are designed and fabricated by our own technical staff," she said.

Business

EMERITUS PROF. ASANGA TILAKARATNE: An outstanding luminary

BY P.D. PREMASIRI

As a senior colleague in the field of Buddhist Studies I have observed with much appreciation the progress of Prof. Asanga Tilakaratne's career for the past forty years. Two years after his graduation he obtained the East-West Centre Fellowship awarded by the East-West Centre Honolulu Hawaii to outstanding graduate students from Asia and the Pacific for studies at the University of Hawaii.

Throughout his academic career he has been a recipient of numerous awards and distinctions.

Tilakaratne belongs to the contemporary line of Sri Lankan academics whose excellence in the area of Buddhist Studies was a consequence of a systematic combination and integration of expertise in Oriental and Occidental learning traditions.

Although Tilakaratne began his academic career acquiring foundational knowledge in Oriental languages such as Pali and Sanskrit through his *Tripitakavedi* studies at the Buddhavaravaka Bhikshu University, Anuradhapura, he later focused attention beyond mere language learning to the wider and intellectually more stimulating area of philosophy. There is no doubt that his roots for future engagement in more profound academic research, was strengthened by the *Pracina Pandita* examination he completed as early as 1975 with Pali, Sanskrit and Sinhala as the principal subjects.

He completed his Master of Arts Degree in Western Philosophy at the University of Hawaii in 1986. This was followed by a period of rigorous engagement in research in the area of Comparative Philosophy for six years at the University of Hawaii which

enabled him to earn the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in 1992. His thesis topic for the Doctoral degree was Transcendence, Ineffability and Nirvana: An Analysis of the Relation between Religious Experience and Language According to Early Buddhism.

In his thesis he challenged a widespread mistaken assumption about the concept of Buddhist Nirvana. Most scholars, particularly of the Western world have attempted to interpret Buddhist Nirvana as conceptually indistinguishable from the ultimate goal of the Judeo-Christian traditions or the theistic, mystical, idealistic, or monistic traditions of Indian Philosophy. Tilakaratne has to his credit a considerable number of published books authored solely by him or in conjunction with other scholars both in Sinhala and English, of which his own work *Nirvana and Ineffability: A Study of the Buddhist Theory of Reality and Language* which was based on his Doctoral thesis, published in 1993 is outstanding.

Much earlier, in 1979 he won the State Literary Award for the best Sinhala publication under the category of Buddhism for his *Minis Getalu Pilibanda Bauddha Vighrahaya* (An Analysis of Human Problems from a Buddhist Perspective). His 2001 publication in Sinhala, *Sunyavadayehi Darsanaya ha caranaya* (Theory and Practice of Emptiness) won the State literary award for the best publication in the category of philosophy for 2001.

He has either been the editor or co-editor of nearly sixteen other scholarly publications. He has also made valuable contributions by way of translation of works of other distinguished scholars from English to Sinhala and vice versa. The research

Tilakaratne began his academic career acquiring foundational knowledge in Oriental languages such as Pali and Sanskrit through his Tripitakavedi studies at the Buddhavaravaka Bhikshu University, Anuradhapura, he later focused attention beyond mere language learning to the wider and intellectually more stimulating area of philosophy.



papers he has published in English in reputed journals run into nearly ninety.

Despite the fact that he derives his inspiration for all his writing from his deep commitment to fundamental principles of Buddhist thought, he has not failed to exhibit his spirit of tolerance and understanding concerning other ideological standpoints. He has taken precaution to avoid being open to sectarian bias and dogmatism. The contributions that Tilakaratne has made to disseminate knowledge in the sphere of Buddhist studies is tremendous. In October 2019, being the keynote speaker at an international research conference organised by the Faculty of Finance and Management of the University of Colombo he delivered a lecture on 'Need for Paradigm Shift: A Metta-Based Approach to Business Management'.

Tilakaratne has had an illustrious career as a University teacher. He taught undergraduates of the University of Hawaii subjects such as Buddhist Philosophy, Western Philosophy, and Logic and Critical Thinking while he was enrolled there as a Doctoral student in 1986. From 1989

to July 1992 Asanga had taught undergraduate courses in the Philosophy and Religion Departments of the University of Hawaii and the Chaminade University of Hawaii. He joined the Postgraduate Institute of Pali and Buddhist Studies as a Senior Lecturer and served continuously from July 1992 except the period from September 1999 to September 2000. He had also served intermittently as visiting lecturer at the University of Ruhuna, the University of Peradeniya, and the University of Colombo. He finally joined the University of Colombo as Professor of Pali and Buddhist Studies.

There is much to say about Asanga's social contributions. He has proved himself to be an efficient administrator, participant member in various Committees and academic and administrative bodies in the university systems of Sri Lanka and abroad.

I sincerely wish that he will be blessed with long life and unflinching energy to continue his academic and other services to the community.

The writer is Emeritus Prof. of Pali and Buddhist Studies, University of Peradeniya.

Emerald donates PPE to frontline medical staff



Executive Director, Emerald International, M.M.M. Ihsan makes a token presentation of the face masks to Director-General of Health Services, Dr. Anil Jasinghe.

Emerald International, a manufacturer of menswear, donated PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) to the medical teams on the frontlines recently.

The PPE, developed by Emerald International in keeping with international tech protocols for protective gear, were manufactured using internationally recognised quality material. Comprising gowns and headgear, they were designed to ensure comfort, durability and protection.

It was also the occasion for the launch of Emerald International's premium grade NMRA (National Medicines Regulatory Authority)-approved 'Protect by Emerald' face masks. The masks were developed, using Emerald's expertise and know-how acquired over 60 years in the market as a manufacturer of menswear.

The face masks are made using five-ply reusable fabric with a BFE (Bacterial Filtration Efficiency) of 98%. The masks are equipped with a water repellent outer layer along with an inner layer made of vapour absorbing fabric that takes the moisture away from the body. Hence, the masks, classed as water repellent and breathable are designed to fit the facial structure with a comfortable 3D shape devised evenly to minimise voice distortion.

Emerald International also feted Dr. Anil Jasinghe for his exceptional commitment towards the fight against Covid-19. Dr. Jasinghe was gifted with the 'The Perfect Shirt' by Emraan Mohamed, Marketing Manager of Emerald International.

INVITATION FOR BIDS



AIRPORT & AVIATION SERVICES (SRI LANKA) LIMITED

BID NO. : 179/T/2019

SUPPLY OF PASS ISSUING ITEMS AT BANDARANAIKE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, KATUNAYAKE

Bids are invited by the Chairman, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited for the **Supply of Pass Issuing Items at Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake.**

Bids should be submitted on Documents obtained from the Division of Supply Chain Management, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake on a **cash payment of Rupees Four Thousand (Rs. 4,000.00) being a non-refundable Bidding Document Fee**, together with an official letter of request, issued by the Bidder.

Bidding Documents may be purchased **between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on any working day from 08.09.2020 up to 05.10.2020** from the Office of Supply Chain Management Division, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake. The Bidding Documents will be available for inspection free of charge at the above address.

Bids should be deposited in the box provided for this purpose at Supply Chain Management Division, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake. If Bidders do so desire, they may personally hand over the Sealed Bids to above address.

Bids will be closed at **2.00 p.m. on Tuesday the 06th October 2020** and will be opened immediately thereafter at the Supply Chain Management Division, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake. Bidders or their duly authorized representatives may be present at the time of opening of Bids.

An on demand **Bid Guarantee** equivalent to **Sri Lankan Rupees Three Hundred and Ninety Four Thousand (Rs. 394,000.00)** in the form of a Bank Guarantee issued by a Bank approved by the Central Bank and operating in Sri Lanka and payable to Chairman, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited should be submitted with the Bid.

Any further information could be obtained from the Division of Supply Chain Management, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake on Telephone Nos. 011-2254103 / 011-2264105, E-mail : head.scm@airport.lk or by visiting our Website : www.airport.lk

**Chairman
Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited
Bandaranaike International Airport,
Katunayake.**

INVITATION FOR BIDS



AIRPORT & AVIATION SERVICES (SRI LANKA) LIMITED

BID NO. : 133/T/2019

SUPPLY OF NETWORK SWITCHES AT BANDARANAIKE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, KATUNAYAKE

Bids are invited by the Chairman, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited for the **Supply of Network Switches at Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake.**

Bids should be submitted on Documents obtained from the Division of Supply Chain Management, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake on a **cash payment of Rupees One Thousand and Five Hundred (Rs. 1,500.00) being a non-refundable Bidding Document Fee**, together with an official letter of request, issued by the Bidder.

Bidding Documents may be purchased **between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on any working day from 08.09.2020 up to 05.10.2020** from the Office of Supply Chain Management Division, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake. The Bidding Documents will be available for inspection free of charge at the above address.

Bids should be deposited in the box provided for this purpose at Supply Chain Management Division, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake. If Bidders are so desire, they may personally hand over the Sealed Bids to above address.

Bids will be closed at **2.00 p.m. on Tuesday the 06th October 2020** and will be opened immediately thereafter at the Supply Chain Management Division, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake. Bidders or their duly authorized representatives may be present at the time of opening of Bids.

An on demand **Bid Security** equivalent to **Sri Lankan Rupees One Hundred and Twenty Thousand (Rs. 120,000.00)** in the form of a Bank Guarantee issued by a Bank approved by the Central Bank and operating in Sri Lanka and payable to Chairman, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited should be submitted with the Bid.

Any further information could be obtained from the Division of Supply Chain Management, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake on Telephone Nos. 011-2254103 / 011-2264106, E-mail : head.scm@airport.lk or by visiting our Website : www.airport.lk

**Chairman
Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited
Bandaranaike International Airport,
Katunayake.**

INVITATION FOR BIDS



AIRPORT & AVIATION SERVICES (SRI LANKA) LIMITED

BID NO. : 001/T/2020

SUPPLY OF CHEMICALS, TREATMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF WATER QUALITY FOR COOLING TOWERS AT BANDARANAIKE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, KATUNAYAKE

Bids are invited by the Chairman, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited for the **Supply of Chemicals, Treatment and Maintenance of Water Quality for Cooling Towers at Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake.**

Bids should be submitted on Documents obtained from the Division of Supply Chain Management, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake on a **cash payment of Rupees Two Thousand and Five Hundred (Rs. 2,500.00) being a non-refundable Bidding Document Fee**, together with an official letter of request, issued by the Bidder.

Bidding Documents may be purchased **between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on any working day from 07.09.2020 up to 05.10.2020** from the Office of Supply Chain Management Division, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake. The Bidding Documents will be available for inspection free of charge at the above address.

Bids should be deposited in the box provided for this purpose at Supply Chain Management Division, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake. If Bidders do so desire, they may personally hand over the Sealed Bids to above address.

Bids will be closed at **2.00 p.m. on Tuesday the 06th October 2020** and will be opened immediately thereafter at the Supply Chain Management Division, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake. Bidders or their duly authorized representatives may be present at the time of opening of Bids.

An on demand **Bid Guarantee** equivalent to **Sri Lankan Rupees One Hundred & Twenty Thousand (Rs. 120,000.00)** in the form of a Bank Guarantee issued by a Bank approved by the Central Bank and operating in Sri Lanka and payable to Chairman, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited should be submitted with the Bid.

A Bid Briefing will be held on **23.09.2020 at 10.00 a.m.** at the Conference Room, Maintenance Building, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake.

Any further information could be obtained from the Division of Supply Chain Management, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake on Telephone Nos. 011-2254103 / 011-2264104, E-mail : head.scm@airport.lk or by visiting our Website : www.airport.lk

**Chairman
Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited
Bandaranaike International Airport,
Katunayake.**

Advertorial

SLT wins Gold at JASTECA Awards 2019

Sri Lanka Telecom (SLT), the National ICT Solutions Provider in Sri Lanka won the Gold award at the prestigious JASTECA, 55 Akimoto Awards Ceremony 2019. Sri Lanka Telecom's, Outside Plant Maintenance Centre (OPMC) Kurunegala won this award under medium category. This awards ceremony was held at Hotel Galadari, Colombo and this was conducted for the 24th consecutive year.

JASTECA Awards ceremony is annually organized by the Japan Sri Lanka Technical & Cultural Association (JASTECA) to recognize and reward the overall performance excellence of organizations, strictly evaluating applicants upon a broad range of criteria as per 5S standards. A large number of companies took part in the 2019 competition.



From left: Mrs Thilini Amarasinghe, Senior Engineer and Nandana Niyangama, Manager, OPMC, Kurunegala of SLT receive the award.

AIA partners Ninewells Hospitals

Free insurance cover for new parents

AIA has partnered Ninewells to provide financial protection and security to families that step into parenthood by way of providing an Rs. 1 million worth of Worldwide Personal Accidental Life Insurance cover free.

AIA's Chief Executive Officer Nikhil Advani said, "As a parent, I know, having a baby is the most amazing moment for a couple, bringing great joy and a lifetime of happiness."

"We want these new parents to know that they can count on AIA to be there for them throughout their life journey together."

"We are happy to partner Ninewells which is one of the country's best maternity hospitals to add value to their customers by giving them free insurance coverage at a time when it becomes most meaningful to them."

AIA's role surpasses that of an insurance payer to a life partner and



AIA CEO Nikhil Advani and Ninewells Chief Operating Officer and Medical Director Dr. Vibash Wijeratne presents the first complimentary AIA Life Cover to a new parent at Ninewells.

that is why we want to be there for people in life's most wonderful times,

just like we are there for them when things get tough."

Ninewells Chief Operating Officer and Medical Director Dr. Vibash Wijeratne said, "Adding a new member to the family is the most joyful experience but it comes with it a huge responsibility and while we do our best to ensure the best medical attention and care, it is great to have a partner such as AIA on board to offer financial peace of mind and protection."

Director Marketing, Nilantha Rathnayake said, "Ninewells is the market leader in women and childcare in Sri Lanka and provides a wide spectrum of treatments for women and children."

"As a hospital committed to adding value to our customers, we are delighted to have AIA onboard to offer our new parents a gift that will truly make a difference to their lives while guiding them towards financial protection at this significant milestone of their lives," he said.

Cemex HRM offers mobile based attendance solution to Carekleen

Carekleen (Pvt) Ltd is a leading commercial and residential cleaning company specializing in janitorial services with a team of over 3500. Cemex HRM tied up with Carekleen to provide a cloud and mobile based attendance monitoring solution for their cadre dispersed in over 900 corporate customer locations throughout the country.

"Being in the industry for over 36 years, we have always had a concern on keeping track of our cadre that has been deployed to various customer locations."

Given the widespread network of clients and inherent issue of high labour turnover in the industry, it was not practical to invest in attendance equipment at all the locations. We were delighted when Cemex was able to offer a solution to one of our biggest problems of tracking attendance of our staff across the country. Since onboarding Cemex, we have already seen the benefits of their solution.

We have cut down on additional expenses and this has had a direct impact on our bottom-line savings almost immediately.

The ease of registering new employees remotely has also reduced our time taken to register



new employees drastically" stated Jehan Fernando, Managing Director, Carekleen Pvt Ltd.

Director of Cemex HRM, Ziyam Kamil said, "After Covid19, we had to reinvent ourselves to keep up with current Work from Home (WFH) requirements and emerging

problems faced by our clients. We took the lockdown period to re-innovate our cloud-based HR product and came up with features that support our clients in this new normal."

For Carekleen, we deployed a mobile based attendance app, where the supervisors and managers are able to use the app to log the attendance of their staff, and the data is sent in real time to our cloud HR software to process the attendance, with GPS location based tracking to ensure accuracy of the attendance.

The future of workplace has now changed and Cemex HRM has adapted to be able to support these new requirements."

Cemex Software (Pvt) Ltd, is a startup focusing on a Cloud based Human Talent Management software, powered by the reliable Microsoft Azure Cloud. Cemex HRM's current customer portfolio caters from a 15-staff operation to a 2,000+ workforce.

The company is backed by their parent company Cenmetrix, with over 15+ years' market experience. Get in touch with Cemex HRM at www.cemexHRM.com to find out how your company's employee experience can be enhanced.

Nimal Lokuge - Chairman, Agstar

Nimal Lokuge has been appointed Chairman of Agstar PLC following the retirement of its long-time Chairman Rohan Karunaratne.

Lokuge, who was part of the nucleus as a Director when Agstar PLC commenced operations in 2002 will lead the forays of the rising star in agriculture overseeing what is evidently emerging as an agri-centric Sri Lanka in the 2020's.

Lokuge was also a founder director of Sierra Construction.

Rohan Karunaratne as the Founder of CIC Agri Business, spearheaded the setting up of new agricultural ventures in fertilizer, seed, planting material, biotechnology, agro consultancy and agri technology.

His contribution to the develop-



Nimal Lokuge

ment of the country's agricultural industry included the development of public/private partnerships in agriculture by transforming the management of large State-owned farms.

OPPO turns five

OPPO recently completed five years of operations in Sri Lanka. Having made its foray into the local market in 2015 primarily targeting the Social Media savvy millennial, OPPO has managed to elevate itself to be one of Sri Lanka's most sought after brands appealing to all demographics with its elaborate portfolio of affordable yet sophisticated devices.

Bob Li CEO, Xinda Lanka (Pvt) Ltd (OPPO Sri Lanka) said: "We are humbled by the success OPPO has achieved in the Sri Lankan market over the last five years."

We thank our Customers, distributors, partners, stakeholders and especially our loyal clientele for placing their trust on us."

A highlight of OPPO's tenure in



Sri Lanka includes emerging the winner of title "Sri Lanka's Most Popular Smartphone Brand of the Year" in a poll conducted in 2018 by prominent local tech & mobile community Android Wedakarayo. OPPO broad-

Standard Chartered donates USD 500,000 to combat Covid-19

Standard Chartered Sri Lanka donated USD500,000 (approximately Rs. 92.5 million) to support the fight against Covid-19 in the local community. The donation, which will flow through the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLRCS), is in keeping with its brand promise to be 'Here for good' and is part of the Bank's wider response to the Covid-19 global pandemic.

The funding is made up of two parts: USD300,000 from Standard Chartered PLC will support emergency relief activities that target the control and containment of coronavirus, precaution against infection, and public awareness to combat misinformation on Covid-19.

These funds are part of the Group's USD5 million donation to Red Cross to support urgent medical and humanitarian support in countries across Africa and Asia from its USD50 million Covid-19 Global Charitable Fund; and USD200,000 from Standard Chartered Sri Lanka for the procurement of approximately 13,000 Covid-19 testing kits to assist in identifying suspected patients of the virus.

Bingumal Thewarathanthri, CEO, Standard Chartered Sri Lanka said: "Standard Chartered Sri Lanka is proud to be able to contribute to the fight against Covid-19 in Sri Lanka and we are glad to partner with

Red Cross programs that reach the most vulnerable people in our communities. By working together, we are able to support the delivery of rapid and effective relief that aims to address some of the current and future challenges created by the Covid-19 pandemic. In addition to supporting our communities at this time of need, we have also gone an extra mile in contributing to the country's economy in a holistic fashion in the wake of this pandemic."

Dr. Mahesh Gunasekara, Director General at the SLRCS said: "Thanks to the generosity extended by Standard Chartered, we will be able to enhance the testing capacity of the country, which is vital to help keep people safe from Covid-19."

It will also enable us to increase a plethora of coronavirus prevention activities including supporting safe environments for schoolchildren and raising awareness island-wide to combat the epidemic. We will continue supporting people most at risk in Sri Lanka, working alongside authorities in the face of this devastating Covid-19 pandemic."

Standard Chartered Group has put in place a range of measures to support clients and communities during the Covid-19 pandemic. Its USD 50 million Covid-19 Global Charitable Fund commits USD 25 million for immediate emergency relief.



President Gotabaya Rajapaksa symbolically accepting the donation from Bingumal Thewarathanthri, CEO, Standard Chartered Sri Lanka (3rd left), in the presence of Dr. Mahesh Gunasekara, Director General, Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (left), Major General Suresh Sallay, Director of State Intelligence Service (second left), Major General Dr. Sanjeewa Munasinghe, Secretary to the Ministry of Health (third right) and Anuk De Silva, Head of Corporate Affairs, Brand & Marketing, Standard Chartered Sri Lanka (right).

New office-bearers of Photographers' Institute

The 26th Annual General Meeting of the Institute of Sri Lankan Photographers was held at OPA auditorium, Prof Stanley Wijesundara Mawatha, Colombo 7 recently.

The chief guest Rear Admiral Dr. Lalith Ekanayake, former Director General of Health, Sri Lanka Navy delivered the keynote Address on the theme 'Wildlife Photography'.

Wilfred Hemachandra and Ranjith de Silva were awarded with the Institute's Honorary Fellowship during the ceremony. Denzil Fernando was elected again as the President of ISLP for the year 2020-2021. The following were



elected for the Council: Varuna Kariyakaravana (Treasurer), Aruna Kirtisingha, Trevis Batcho, Danesh Thaminda, Bandu Gunaratne (Secretary), Mithra

Weerakone, Rohan Fonseka, Felix Perera, I.A. Seneviratne, Athula Jayasundara, Arosha Amarasekara and Prasada Gunaratne.

Pan Asia Bank launches new Current Account

Demonstrating its identity as a 'Truly Sri Lankan Bank' that responds to the needs of SME customers, Pan Asia Bank has launched a new Current Account to coincide with its 25th anniversary. The newly-launched Current Account invites customers to experience the difference of bearing no additional fees until December 31, 2021. When customers open this Current Account they do not have to pay any charges other than inward cheque return charges.

All other charges such as Internet banking, cash orders, cheque



books, stop payment, balance inquiry, monthly service, monthly statement and outward cheque returns etc will be waived off. To be eligible for the promotion, customers must open the Current Account during the valid promotion period from September 1 to December 31, 2020 and enjoy benefits until December 31, 2021.



Assistant General Manager, Retail Credit of Pan Asia Bank, Shiyani Perera

SPECTRUM

SEPTEMBER 6, 2020



A PASSION for honey bees

By
Rajitha
Jagoda Arachchi



"IF THE BEE DISAPPEARED OFF THE FACE OF THE EARTH, MAN WOULD ONLY HAVE FOUR YEARS LEFT TO LIVE."
- EINSTEIN



In life, everyone has a passion of his own; a passion which brings you the happiness of life, a sense of content which differs from one person to another. It may be music, art or even cooking. But for Raja Anton in Bandarawela,

it has been bees for decades. Anton lives in the heart of Bandarawela, an area acknowledged as a hotspot that yields the best quality bee honey in the island (Badulla, Haputhale, Diyathalawa and Welimada are also considered areas that harvest good bee honey). Honey collected from these areas is weightier, tastier and higher in quality. Anton's love for bee farming began at a very young age. In an era when Google was yet to be invented, he met people who had more experience in the subject and learnt the nitty-gritty of apiculture.

THE COLONY

A healthy beehive is home to more than 20,000 bees, Anton said. 'The Queen' is recognised as the chief in a beehive while male bees are connected to her for reproduction. The queen plays a vital role in the colony as she is the only female bee in a colony with fully developed ovaries. On an average a queen in the prime of her female-hood can lay 1,000 eggs per day. While the queen and male bees keep the colony populated, female bees are busy sustaining the colony, bringing nectar from flowers as food for the entire colony.

Currently, there are about five bee colonies in Raja Anton's house. It is desirable to maintain an appropriate number of bee boxes as it is hard for bees to find food when there is competition among colonies for food, he said.

Anton then opened a bee box and took out a wax comb. It was filled

with hundreds of bees instead of honey.

"Do you see the queen?" he asked moving his finger around the wax comb.

It took a few seconds to see the queen, a comparatively large bee (with a longer abdomen) amid a mass of servant (female) bees. As Anton said, the average life expectancy of a queen is 10 years. However, after two years the fertility of the queen begins to decline.

WAY OF LIFE

"Adopting bees are not like having a dog or a cat in your home. A dog or a cat would adapt to our lifestyle. But bees would never do that," Anton said.

With decades of experience in beekeeping, Anton is clever in building bee boxes. He says, bees prefer to spend some quality time in the beehive to relax. Thus to provide maximum comfort to the little creatures, Anton builds bee boxes with a small platform for them to rest, like a veranda in modern homes.

THE AMBROSIA

The red gum flower is a favourite of the bees for its nectar. August to October is the season for bee farming in the Bandarawela area, as it is the red gum flower season as well. Anton says the ambrosia made from the red gum nectar is much tastier.

He picked a honeycomb from a box using another tool that is used to remove bees

from the comb. The small gadget emitted a cloud of smoke and cleared the comb without a single bee on it. He then scratched the surface of the comb with a knife normally used for the job and put the comb into a sixty year old, machine. It was a small cylinder that extracted the ambrosia while it is turned by hand. It was a simple and basic method that Anton used for decades to produce best quality bee honey.

"This way we can protect the comb as it is. We are only grating the surface, so that the bees don't need to waste time building new combs" he said.

MORE KEEPERS: FEWER BEES

Beekeeping as an industry is now gaining more popularity than in past years. Especially, beekeeping has attracted women in the area. Anton also visits several places to educate novice beekeepers.

"But the number of bees is decreasing," Anton turned the discussion in a different direction.

He said telephone signal posts are a serious threat to bees and other insects as powerful radio waves repel bees and insects from the area. Also, the use of pesticide is another major threat for the bees.

At present, the 'Technical Assistance to Modernisation of Agriculture Program' (TAMAP) in Sri Lanka funded by the European Union is engaged with beekeepers and other smallholder farmers in various areas, to improve their agriculture practices. It aims to implement research work, training workshops, policy and strategy development and also budgetary support to the National Planning Department. Anton Raja has also been selected as a valuable resource person for value chain studies of TAMAP which will be mutually beneficial soon.

Special thanks to Dr Chatura Rodrigo, Agriculture and Environment Economist for his assistance in providing information.



Features

A Yesurajah, an unorthodox Tamil writer

BY K S SIVAKUMARAN

Athanaar Yesurajah is an unorthodox Tamil writer and critic in Jaffna. He has travelled widely and is well known in local Tamil literary circles and in Chennai. The magazines, he edited periodically, are quoted by young literary enthusiasts.

One of his books published with photographs in 2016 titled *Nunavik Kurippuhal* (Remembered Notes), is a 136-page document on International films, published by Alai Veliyeedu at Oadaik Karai Veethi, Guru Nagar, Jaffna, priced at Rs 300.

The articles in the book, centering mainly around cinema, were previously published in *Jeevanathi*. It is partly the literary history in Tamil during the past four decades in Lanka and partly his autobiography. Born in a fisher family and studied in a small school up to GCE A Level, he worked as a mason and succeeded in entering the public service. He proved his innate talents by becoming a literary figure among the contemporary Sri Lankan Tamil writers.

Having worked in the South of Sri Lanka, he acquired a good knowledge of Sinhala and became popular among his Sinhala counterparts.

While he was working at the Postal Department in 1980, he acquainted with Lal Silva in the Tel-ex section, who was also interested in writing. One day, Silva invited Yesurajah to a literary gathering of 40 youngsters in Ambalangoda. Yesurajah explained his literary activities to the audience with his scanty Sinhala and held the audience spellbound by mentioning the works of Sinhala literary giants and artistes, such as Parakrama Kodithuwakku, G.B. Senanayake, Siri Goonasinha, Mahagama Sekera, Martin Wickremasinghe, Gunadasa Amarasekera, Leel Gunaekera and Gunasena Vithana.

He was acquainted with international cinema by watching foreign films at embassy screenings, which prompted him to screen such films in his hometown, Jaffna with the assistance of the University of Jaffna.

Good news for those who toss and turn

BY R.S. KARUNARATNE

Jackson's sleeping difficulties began when he was serving in a difficult area close to Polonnaruwa. The weather was hot and humid and there were mosquitoes and bed bugs that disturbed his sleep. After serving one year in the difficult station he managed to get a transfer to an office close to his residence. However, his sleep did not improve. Instead of his six to seven hours sleep, the 50-year-old postmaster slept just three or four hours every night. "I'd toss and turn for hours, then get up and pace," he said.

Jackson tried going to bed earlier than usual, but the slightest noise, even his wife's breathing disturbed him. On a friend's advice he drank a glass of wine at bedtime and fell asleep promptly, but he woke up two hours later. His physician prescribed a sleeping pill for two weeks. When he stopped taking the pill, he slept worse than ever.

Most of us have the occasional bout of troubled sleep and then snap back to normal a few nights later. However, according to medical opinion, for one in six people, insomnia is a chronic problem.

Nine-step regimen

The Johns Hopkins Sleep Disorders Center in Baltimore has developed a nine-step regimen to help insomniacs cure themselves. It was based on the premise that by deliberately reducing time in bed and by modifying your waking activities, you will be able to sleep more soundly.

Unlike ordinary people, Richard Allen, a psychologist and co-director of the Johns Hopkins Center, thinks insomnia is a 24-hour disorder. According to him, people should pay attention to daytime as well as bedtime behaviour. He advises insomniacs to keep a record of their sleep patterns for a week. They have to record the time they go to sleep and the time

they get up in the morning. In the meantime, they have to record any nap they take and medication.

Some of us do some reading or watch television before going to bed. He advises that insomniacs should avoid reading or watching television before bedtime. If they do not get a minimum of five hours sleep, they need medical or professional help.

Sleeping-pill habit

Some people find it extremely difficult to kick the sleeping-pill habit. They regularly take sleep medications or an over-the-counter sleeping pill. If you sleep a solid five hours per night, the dependency on the pill can be broken.

Most housewives spend the time indoors. Doctors say they should spend at least 20 minutes in the sun every day. Sunlight helps advance your natural body clock, telling you to feel alert. If you cannot spend much time outdoors, the best option is to raise the blinds in your house and have your breakfast in a sun-drenched room. Sunlight will give you a real surge of energy.

Doctors recommend moderate exercise – a leisurely walk or a ride on a stationary bike – about two hours before bedtime. They say being inactive is the worst thing an insomniac can do.

Sleep is a liberating state in many ways. First, it supports emotional freedom by refreshing your body. William Shakespeare's *Macbeth* calls it "The chief nourisher of life's feast." Think of sleep as a mini-vacation you



take every night, a healing balm for your body and mind. On the other hand, sleep is necessary for maintaining our sanity. Those who do not get adequate sleep would snap at a flea and be prone to high drama. Do not forget that sleep is as precious as oxygen, food and water. After a hard day's work, you need regular repairs from the wear and tear of living. If you can sleep well, your senses will switch off and your body will click into a healing mode.

Emotions

Judith Orloff, a Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, says sleep recharges the part of your brain that controls

emotions. You will note that those who sleep well are go-getters who won't lose their temper easily. Sleep-deprived people find themselves in a grumpy mood all the time. Sleep sharpens your memory and ability to learn. Burning the midnight oil and cramming till morning is not going to help in the long run. You may pass your examinations at the risk of your health.

Sleep also sharpens your immune system and elevates your mood. If you are always in a bad mood, you will find everything going wrong. They will constantly argue and engage in a verbal battle with customers and colleagues. If you can get a 'beauty sleep' every night, your skin cells will regenerate and repair the damage caused by stress, ageing and ultraviolet radiation. Look at sleep-deprived people and note their dull looks and dark circles around their eyes. When you sleep well, you will look and feel better.

Psychologists have identified five stages of the sleep cycle. In stage one you will drift into drowsiness for a few minutes. In stage two, you will enjoy a light sleep with your brain waves and metabolism slowing down. In stages three and four, you will find yourself in a deep 'delta wave' sleep. Sleepwalking can occur at these stages. In stage five, you will enter the REM (Rapid Eye Movement) state and start dreaming.

Insomnia

Most people find it extremely difficult to fall asleep and stay asleep. This condition, known as insomnia, plagues a large number of people. According to psychologists, there are many causes for insomnia. A major cause is the obsession with daily concerns. Negative emotions will keep you up depriving sleep. Heavy smokers do not get sufficient sleep and others who depend on caffeine and diet drinks will exacerbate insomnia.

Psychologists have come up with certain cures for insomnia. They advise people to stay away from excess alcohol, heavy meals or taking in too much of liquid at night. Similarly, you should avoid emotional situations at bedtime. On the other hand, deep breathing will help you to get rid of negative emotions. They say that holding a mental picture of the delta waves of deep sleep can relax you.

For those who are religious, prayers and meditation can help to get rid of insomnia. Finally, you should know how to calm your mind and banish negative emotions. Think of a mountain lake or a stream babbling by a hill. Close your eyes and try to imagine the serenity of the moment. You are sure to fall asleep!

karunaratners@gmail.com

SEXUAL BRIBERY

The silenced side of corruption

When public officials demand cash or favours to perform their duty, we understand that these are bribes and that the officials in question are corrupt. What if the demand was of a sexual nature instead? Is it corruption? Sexual exploitation? Can it be categorised as a bribe?

Much like monetary bribes and other forms of corruption, sexual bribery extends to everyday transactions. However, it is rarely discussed due to unfamiliar terminology and vague interpretation. This makes it difficult to identify and understand, consequently resulting in a low rate of reported offences. From 2010-2019, only 13 cases have been reported to the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption (CIABOC), with only six being prosecuted.

The Centre for Equality and Justice (CEJ) has been active in researching and documenting this issue among war affected female heads of households. Their working definition of the offence is an "improper benefit" that is sexual in nature, demanded from a person by persons in positions of power in exchange for a service.

Sexual bribery has always remained in the background of other forms of corruption due to the lack of clarity and awareness around it. The cultural and societal perceptions surrounding sexual bribery and the treatment of victim survivors makes it more challenging for them to come forward with their stories and for justice to be met. "He did not force her. He only suggested, so he's not at fault" is what Madhuri's neighbours said when she shared her experience of being sexually propositioned by her local government officer.

CEJ has found that women who are heads of their households or without a



#STOPSEXUALBRIBERY

male figure in their lives are the most susceptible to sexual bribery. Community and social criticism, traditional patriarchal values and their vulnerable position add to the notion that women are to blame for such advances or that they must accept them. The idea that sexual bribery is a secondary form of abuse that goes against law, fundamental rights and is a tool of corruption is still a vague concept that many cannot grasp.

For Madhuri, the situation was problematic and confusing. She knew that his request was wrong and unlawful but did not know how to assert her rights without provoking the officer on whom she was dependent on to receive

her family's much needed documents.

Most Sri Lankans are unaware of their rights and the legal implications of this offence. Sexual bribery can be brought up under the Bribery Act (No. 2 of 1965) although there is no express provision. The definition for gratification in the law as it stands does not extend to those of a sexual nature, despite covering other forms of bribery from money, loans and gifts. Several suggested amendments have been presented for consideration in recent years and CEJ's advocacy has led to a working definition for gratification and sexual forms of gratification. This working definition has been accepted by the CIABOC and has been added to

the National Action Plan for Combating Bribery and Corruption in 2019.

The CIABOC has also established a reporting mechanism for people to lodge a complaint either by calling them on their hotline-1954 or reaching them on their website-<https://www.ciaboc.gov.lk/contact/complaints>

However, to create zero tolerance for sexual bribery, the reporting system should be facilitated by officers who are trained to handle sensitive cases, such as these to instill trust and faith in the mechanism and to ensure accountability of the public service sector.

In 2019, the National Action Plan to Combat Bribery and Corruption in Sri Lanka was initiated by the CIABOC to combat corruption on a large scale. This proactive measure has continued with President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's election manifesto of upholding a corruption free public service sector and holding accountable those who misuse their office. Organisations that provide training to government and private sector bodies, such as Sri Lanka Foundation Institute (SLFI), and Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA) should include modules on how to combat sexual bribery in their anti-corruption training modules.

Understanding and creating awareness around sexual bribery is essential to Sri Lanka's effort towards combating this issue and maintaining a public sector that upholds accountability, identifies and prevents all forms of corruption. Until sexual bribery becomes part of the 'corruption' conversation, there will always be a missing piece to the corruption puzzle restricting the recognition and ability to address its full extent and impact. Media release

*Names have been changed to protect privacy

- Media release

Bling Productions wins WOW Asia Award



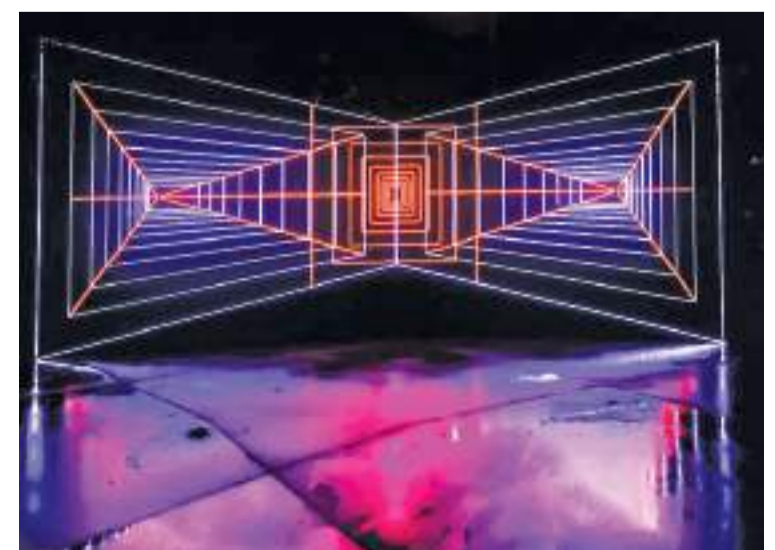
Bling Productions (Pvt) Ltd, an innovative and visionary event production company in Sri Lanka has won the prestigious WOW Asia Gold Award for its conceptualisation and execution of Sri Lanka's premier start-up conference and innovation festival Disrupt Asia 2019.

The WOW Awards celebrates excellence, innovation and the brilliance of live events held throughout the region under purview. The nominees for the various categories are selected by an expert panel and are validated by KPMG.

This year, the awards were held as an Extended Reality Awards Ceremony on August 14. Bling's award falls under the Association/Industry Convention of the Year category which recognises an annual event of an industry segment/industry association, with aspects of a conference or a meeting, business ex-

change, knowledge sessions, gala evening and or exhibition.

Working together with the Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka (ICTA), Bling has conceptualised and developed Disrupt Asia for four years. This year's team included Conceptised and Designed by Obed Kushan and Abul Basith, Visuals / 3D Projection Mapping and Interactive Installations by Eyeon, Light Effects and Interactive Installations by D4 and Dhanushka Aruna, and Festival Layout and Production Coordinated by Charith Laheer Samarasinghe, Lasitha Abeyrathne, James Thambyraja and Roshan Tharaka. The Bling Team is headed by Marlon Jesudason, who, 10 years ago, created the company with a vision of shifting the way events are produced in Sri Lanka and taking our design acumen to the world.



Magnificent Maha Bamba Kolama

A distinctive figure of
the Maha Saman Devala
Perahera in Ratnapura

—Text & Pix by—
Mahil Wijesinghe



I normally visit the Maha Saman Devala with my family at an auspicious time before the commencement of the annual perahera every year. Armed with my Nikon camera this year too, I captured the pre-preparation of the pageant and found the place a hive of activity, especially, in the evening.

The entire venue is packed with spectators; and excitement grows as the dancers take turns to swirl and twirl and make the whole area alive with sounds and colours. More and more elephants join, and as the drum beats echo more people come to view the perahera.

However, many features of the annual pageant have been curtailed this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic which swept across the globe. The procession this year was viewed by a lesser crowd than on previous years. The Covid-19 outbreak has affected most of our historical, cultural and social ceremonies during the past six months.

A huge two-faced figure of *Maha Bamba* with a serene face on one side and a fierce face on the other side is a unique feature of the annual perahera of the Sabaragamuwa Maha Saman Devala in Ratnapura.

According to historical evidence, the Maha Saman Devala perahera began during the reign of King Parakramabahu VI. However, King Sitawaka Rajasingha added the Dalada Perahera to the pageant.

Thousands of spectators, mostly children are mesmerised by the magnificent creation of *Maha Bamba Kolama*, a unique feature in Sabaragamuwa that can only be seen in the Saman Devala perahera. The 15-foot-high figure is usually carried at the head of the perahera as *Peramune Rajakariya* (frontal duty) which adds beauty to the age-old procession.

It is believed that this figure depicts the character of King Rajasingha I who was considered to be fierce like a demon in anger and pleasant as a deity to the virtuous.

The two-faced figure has more features – five cobra hoods on the demon face, a sword in one hand signifying ferociousness, while the other hand is placed on the hip with a bunch of flowers signifying virtuousness.

Making the *Maha Bamba* figure is known as *Peramune Rajakariya*. It has been assigned to the *Kolakkara* caste of community who live in Kolombogama, a village near Nivitigala, 24 kms from Ratnapura. In ancient times, the king granted *Nindagama* to the people of the *Kolakkara* caste to create and perform the *Maha Bamba Kolama* in the perahera and thereby maintain the tradition. Today, the descendants entrust the creating of this figure to the most experienced persons.

It is not an easy task to create this 15-foot high figure which needs at least two people. Every year, they start to create the figure at an auspicious time prior to commencing the perahera. First, they build the bamboo skeleton and fix the two-faced mask which is kept safely in the Devala store room. Thereafter, the figure is dressed in 15 colourful saris, which takes ten days to complete.

The creators themselves carry the *Maha Bamba* in the procession, walking and rotating it from inside. It is carried four inches above the ground on the five nights of the Perahera. A small hole is made at eye-level of the figure, and the person walking close to the figure shows the way and is ready to help the insider who is carrying the figure. When he is tired, he keeps it on the ground for a few seconds to rest.

After the completion of the procession, the clothes, hands and the two-faced mask are safely stored in the Devala to be used at the next Perahera. The rest of the bamboo skeleton is thrown into the Kalu Ganga.

The three-storeyed Maha Saman Devala of Sabaragamuwa stands majestically on a small hillock on the banks of the meandering Kalu Ganga in a picturesque setting, two kilometres from the Ratnapura town on the Ratnapura-Panadura road.

The Devala had been originally constructed during the Dambadeniya period (1236-1270 AD) and restored during the reign of King Rajasingha I of Sitawaka.

In the rampart in front of the devala is a plaque depicting two warriors symbolising the destruction caused to the devala by the Portuguese. A large number of visitors and pilgrims visit the devala, especially during the perahera season.



Maha Bamba with a serene face



Doing the final touches to Maha Bamba



Maha Bamba with fierce face



Preparing the bamboo skeleton of Maha Bamba



The three-storeyed Maha Saman Devala Rathnapura

Features



Dons don't pursue knowledge, but positions

- Prof. Anura Wickramasinghe

BY RAVINDRA WIJewardhane

Prof. Anura Wickramasinghe is an instructor in journalism and Sinhala grammar. Graduated from the University of Peradeniya in 1967, he had obtained his Ph.D. from the Vidyalankara Campus, University of Ceylon in 1976 and had been a university lecturer for 41 years from 1968 to 2009. In 2008, he was appointed Head of the Sinhala Department in the University of Colombo and was a course coordinator in the Journalism Unit at the university. He was the chairman of the Arts Council for ten years and now is acting as a resource person in the media. In an interview with the *Sunday Observer*, Prof. Wickramasinghe expressed his views on the usage of Sinhala and his contribution as a Professor of Sinhala.

Excerpts

Q: You are known as a grammarian or purist of Sinhala?

A. Yes, but I had been teaching modern literature, including drama at the university for 41 years. I was known as a grammarian after I joined late D.F. Kariyakarawana's journalism diploma course organised by the Sri Lanka Press Council and the Colombo University journalism diploma course. The more I worked with these courses, the more I came to be known as a purist in language.

But I am not discouraged by them. I like it because I can do so much for the language through the courses. There are many journalists who consult me on matters of language. Earlier there were many people who came forward to correct the erroneous usage of language, such as D.F. Kariyakarawana, Premachandra Alwis and *Hela Haula* members.

Q: What are the institutes and courses that you work as a visiting lecturer?

A. The Colombo University's journalism diploma course, Horana Sri Pali Campus' graduate course, University of Aesthetics' graduate course and the Press Council's journalism course are some of those I work as a visiting lecturer.

Q: The correct usage of language is an issue that will never be resolved. Why?

A. Because the usage of language is subject to change, according to the time. Though it is subject to change, we cannot change it by force. Every language has a correct usage. Correct usage means correct thoughts. Incorrect usage produces distorted thoughts.

There are two language forms in Sinhala which are spoken and written. Mostly, we are worried about the correct usage of written form, not the correct spoken form of language. But these two forms are equally important.

The most valuable resource persons in the correct usage of language are journalists, but unfortunately, today, they are the ones who distort the language.

Some journalists are going to show they are well versed in language by coining new words.

It is not a bad thing to coin new words, but without knowing the linguistic formation of words, coining new words is destructive. For instance, we now say *denuwath* (දෙනුවත්) for *denuwath* (දෙනුවත්). But we cannot use 'm' (ම) with 'u' (උ) ending in Sinhala language, *purawata* (පුරාවත), *numuth* (නුමුත්), *podihitiya* (පොඩිහිටියා), *ayawalun* (අයවලුන්), *Wana alin* (වන අලින්), *sathun wattha* (සතුන් වත්ත) are some of those incorrect words.

And *Ma Liyanawa* (මා ලියනවා), *apa karanu labanawa* (අප කරනු ලබනවා) are some of the common incorrect phrases we use. These have to be corrected. We need to follow correct usage if we want to keep the beauty of language.

Q: You don't seem to write books?

A. Though I have written various articles on Sinhala grammar and reviews on literary books, apart from my Ph.D. thesis, I never felt like writing a book. Writing is



- Prof. Anura Wickramasinghe

a boring, lazy and difficult job to me. Prof. J.B. Dissanayake is a prolific author in the university system. But there are university lecturers like me who don't write books. Prof. Ratna Wijethunge, late Prof. Tissa Jayawardhane and Prof. A.B. Dissanayake didn't write books. However, I am working on a book about Sinhala grammar.

Q: Do you have cherished memories in your teaching life in the university?

A. Yes, I have. I acted as the chairman of the Arts Council in the University for over 20 years, during which I organised an inter-faculty drama competition. I could introduce many talented young artists to the national level through the competition.

The first artist I can recall is Jackson Anthony. I was the senior students' counsellor at the university for 20 years. During that period, I maintained a healthy relationship between students and the university administration. Once there was a strike by university students. Some lecturers were taken captive by the students. As the students' counsellor, I went to them to talk. But I was also taken captive by them.

Q: You have students throughout the country, some of whom are university lecturers. But in terms of language fluency or correct usage, most of them are not capable of it. Why?

A. It is due to lack of knowledge. If they learned the language in school or in university, they wouldn't misuse it. This is about one's carelessness or lack of attention to the language.

Q: Isn't there a criterion to estimate the language fluency of assistant lecturers or demonstrators when they join the university?

A. No. There is no such criterion, because lecturers are selected on the final re-

sults of the university examinations which are based on factual or logical answers.

Whether they can write correct Sinhala or not, is not a factor or standard in the selection. But we need such a criterion to choose them.

Q: Do you think that the quality of university education has deteriorated?

A. Yes. The main reason is students as well as lecturers do not read and pursue knowledge. They are interested in visual media, such as television, social media and the Internet.

They don't use libraries adequately. During our time, scholarly books were being published in the university. For example, *Sanskrutha Kāvya Vichāra Mūlaharma* (Principals of evaluation of Sanskrit Poetry) by Hemapala Wijayawardhane, 'Sinhalese Novel' by Ediriweera Sarachchandra, *Madya Kāleena Sinhala Samājaya* (Medieval Time's Sinhala Society) by M.B. Ariyapala are some of them. Now, we never encounter such high quality research works.

University lecturers pursue not knowledge, but positions and high salaries. They are not trying to do quality research work, but any work by which they can pass the examination.

Q: Could you recall how you met Prof. Ediriweera Sarachchandra?

A. I met him at the University of Peradeniya in 1963. He was our tutor and lectured us in our second year. I met him for the second time at the University of Colombo when I joined the university as a lecturer in 1968. However, in 1972, he left the university to take up the position as the Sri Lankan Ambassador to France. I began my Ph.D. under his supervision, but couldn't continue it because of his new post. I completed my Ph.D. under the supervision of Prof. Wimal Dissanayake. Nevertheless, Prof. Sarachchandra helped me a lot in my Ph.D.

A youthful obsession yields a haunted life

BY GERALDINE BROOKS



Orhan Pamuk

A sense of place animates many novelists, but few more than Orhan Pamuk, for whom personal geography is artistic destiny. Istanbul, his home and his muse, is the ever-present character in his novels; his city's often-uneasy equipoise between East and West, secular and sacred, traditional and modern adding tension to whatever story is in the novel's foreground.

"The Red-Haired Woman" once again explores this duality. Larded throughout the novel are references to two ancient and opposite tragedies of fathers and sons: Sophocles' "Oedipus Rex" and the classic Persian tale of Rostam and Sohrab from Ferdowsi's "Shahnameh," or Book of Kings. In the former, Oedipus unwittingly murders his father; in the latter, the father, Rostam, unknowingly kills his son, Sohrab. These two classic tales become both the obsession of the novel's protagonist, Cem Celik, and the determinants — or over-determinants — of the novel's action.

The Sophocles tale not only comes out of the Western canon but its notion of the headstrong individualist who probes and questions and tempts fate is convenient shorthand for the would-be tradition-killers of Western modernity. In Ferdowsi, the father who kills his son can stand in for an old-against-young, backward-looking extremism, wielding an airless adherence to tradition against any would-be modernising trends.

Divided into three parts, Pamuk's novel appears at first to be narrated by Cem, whose Marxist father is more absent than presence in the boy's life. Even before his father was jailed as a political activist, Cem sensed that his parents didn't love each other, that his father "was attracted to other women."

So it's not entirely surprising when, upon his release, he deserts his family. This abandonment leaves the teenage boy and his mother in reduced circumstances and puts Cem's dream of becoming a writer at risk.

Needing money for cram school to assure his entry into a good college, Cem takes a summer job as a well-digger's apprentice, leaving his middle-class city life to camp with his master on a desolate rural site outside a garrison town.

It's supposed to be a short job — two weeks at most — but for all the skill of the digger and the backbreaking labour of his apprenticeship, the site refuses to yield water. The work drags on in the blazing heat amid rising tensions and fraying tempers.

As the relationship between man and youth deepens, crossing class lines and age barriers, Cem begins to feel a filial tug toward his boss. But on an evening trip to the nearby town, he encounters an enigmatic and lovely red-haired woman.

On a later visit, he learns that she is one of the members of a travelling theatre troupe. His growing preoccupation with this woman adds to tensions on the work site, fuelled by Cem's irrational jealousy of his master's imagined involvement with her.

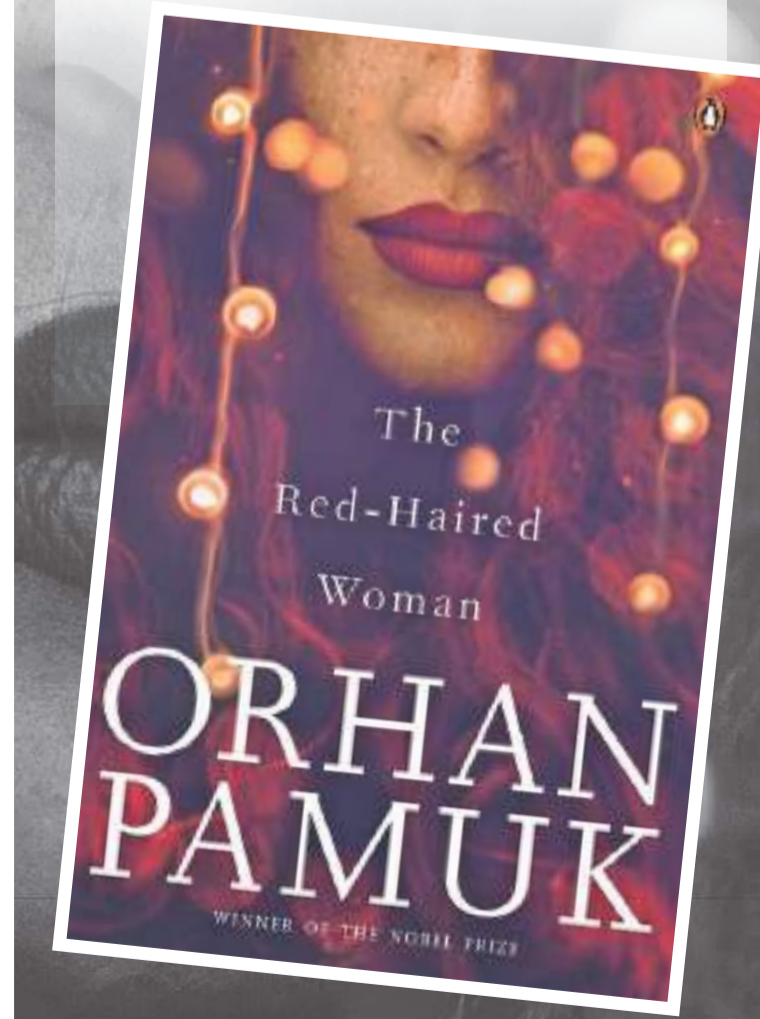
Pamuk has a masterly control of mood in this section of the novel, and its sometimes stilted language seems apt for his half-formed, often arrogant, intellectually and sexually curious young narrator.

Indeed, at this point, the novel is so gripping and accomplished that when the married actress chooses to commit adultery with Cem, whom she has only just met, I was able to suspend my disbelief. "The heart wants what it wants," I shrugged, channelling Woody Allen. But many years later, when the woman discloses the relationship that underlies her interest in this callow youth, I found myself thinking of another humorist, Mark Twain, who observed that although fiction must be plausible, truth needn't be. Alas, it's not the only time Pamuk reaches into the grab-bag of improbable coincidences and pulls out an unlikely that strains reasonable bounds.

When Cem's romantic distraction leads to an accident at the well site, he must make a moral choice of awesome consequence — one that he realises will shape the rest of his life. As he reaches his decision, the story begins to crumble.

The second and third sections of the novel become nothing more than clunky melodrama laced with ever-greater implausibility and snarled in repetitive references to the two classic stories of patricide and filicide until the foreshadowing becomes positively penumbral.

Influenced by his well-digging father figure, Cem discards his writing dreams to study engineering and geology. In adulthood, he is able to enrich himself on the back of Istanbul's expansion and building boom. Here Pamuk flits like a barn swallow over fascinating issues of contemporary Turkish life, but never alights long enough to offer interesting insights or even substantially enrich the story.



MONTAGE

features.suo@lakehouse.lk / Tel: 011 2 429 429, 011 2 429 228 / Fax: 0112 429 227

SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

Dakala purudu kenek is back on board at PVR cinema, One Galle Face

Scene from *Dakala purudu kenek*

ART NEWS

'Drafting Desire' exhibition

by Sujith Ratnayake
From September 18 to October 10
At Barefoot Gallery



No matter how complex society is, no matter how technologically advanced, no matter how much new knowledge was gained, the role of the violin is never disqualified, so is the guitar, the piano, the flute, none of these instruments were eliminated. Although the technology of the electronic violin differs from that of the standard violin, the function is the same.

Those who play both types of violins have the same skill. But in comparison to music, after the 1990s, visual arts in Sri Lanka was reduced to mere effects and concepts and became superfluous. It seems unnatural and contradictory. This may be the reason why most contemporary artists do not reveal the path of their art. In a context where the fundamental elements of visual art education have not been abolished in many western countries where free conceptual works of art are produced, even the practical test of admission to the Academy of Arts is being removed in line with the new wave of visual art in Sri Lanka. On the one hand, I wanted to re-explore the dynamics and emotions associated with the elements of visual art, in a context where visual art is dominated by semantic influences, and on the other hand, mere visual effects created by visual artists with the help of a group of people. As I explored 'the line' in my previous exhibition, in this exhibition I tried to highlight the visual drafting.

When drawing with a piece of charcoal held in hand, the natural rhythm of the person doing it and the rhythm of the person's trained hand as an artist are both being drafted on the surface of the canvas. This 'drafting moment' cannot be obtained from painting.

Nor is it something that can be obtained from multimedia materials. It is in the drawing. Here I am delighted with the drawing mode that feels this drafting moment.

Even the sound of *baras baras* when the charcoal sticks are rubbed on the paper is amazing to me. It is sheer satisfaction. Although it's not similar to playing a violin, it also has a life and is very much personal. It is more subjective than objective. This exhibition is the result of my drafting journey.

- Sujith Ratnayake

Creative Competition 2020

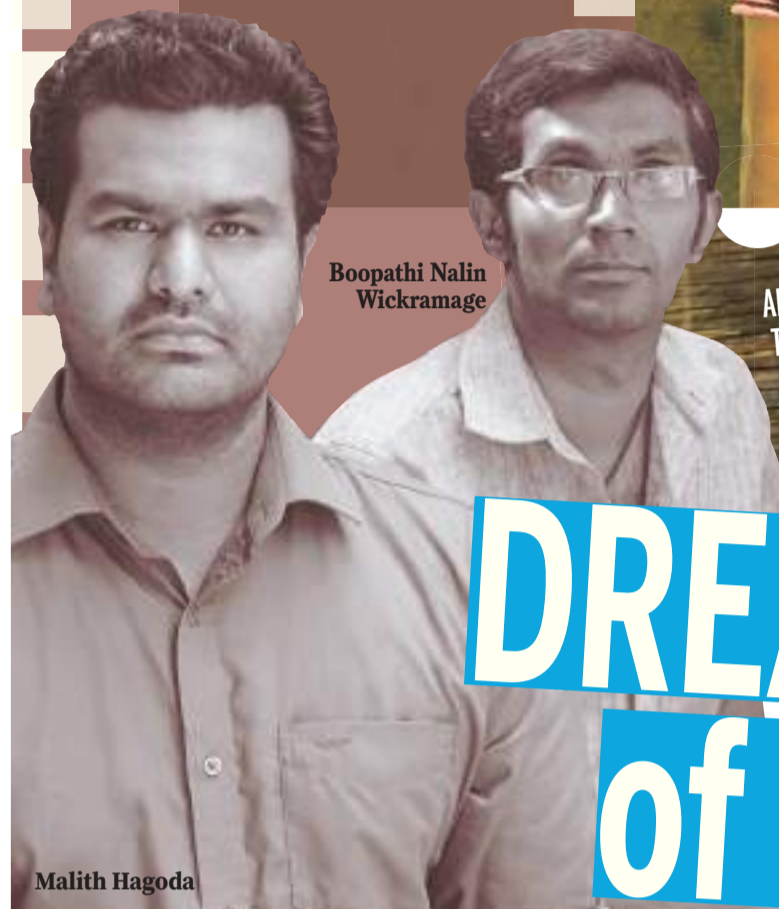
sponsored by **Pahantaba Collective**

To illuminate the creative path for aspiring youngsters aimed at turning them into independent, talented and free-thinking artists the Pahantaba Collective is planning an island wide creative competition. The closing date for submission of application is October 15, 2020. The competition will be held under various sections such as, poetry, short story, lyrics, children's stories, photography, paintings and short films (taken from a mobile phone). More information could be obtained from the Pahantaba Collective or a leaflet can be obtained by sending a stamped envelope to: 'Pahan Tamba Samuhikaya', 63, Ediriweera Sarachchandra Mawatha, Pita Kotte.



ALTHOUGH IT IS AN INAUSPICIOUS TIME FOR THE CINEMA INDUSTRY, AS WELL AS FOR SO MANY OTHERS DUE TO THE NEXPECTED NEW NORMAL WORLD, IRONICALLY IN SRI LANKA THE CINEMA HAS BEEN SOCIALLY DISTANCED EVEN BEFORE THE PANDEMIC. **DREAM-CATCHERS OF LOCAL CINEMA**, IS A FORTNITE FEATURE SERIES DONE WITH SRI LANKAN FILMMAKERS ABOUT THEIR POINT OF VIEW OF THE STATE AND FATE OF LOCAL CINEMA AND DISCUSSED ON THE PERCEPTION OF 'CAN IT EVER BE AWAKENED FROM THE DREADFUL SLUMBER'.

DREAM-CATCHERS of local cinema



Boopathi Nalin Wickramage

Malith Hagoda

BY ANURADHA KODAGODA

Dakala purudu kenek (Strange Familiar) by Malith Hagoda, a representation of the new generation of Sri Lankan cinema was deemed to be one of the most outspoken cinematic expressions by its audiences and critics both locally and internationally in the recent past.

Dakala purudu kenek is back on board at PVR cinema, One Galle Face for limited screenings. In a discussion the *Sunday Observer* had with Malith Hagoda (director), and Boopathi Nalin Wickramage (script writer), of the film spoke of their journey as first time filmmakers and their perception of the future of Sri Lankan cinema.

Minimalist cinematic approach

Watching *Dakala purudu kenek* was pure contemplation that leads the viewer to understand the complex nature of human relationships. The narration driven, minimalist cinematic approach could precisely bring out the character tensions and complexities of the middle-class relationships in contemporary society. Speaking about the intention behind the selection of the plot Malith said, "I think this is a different plot compared to trends in Sri Lankan cinema.

Although it is unfamiliar to Sri Lankan cinema, in Europe or in other parts of the world and also for the local audiences who have had the exposure to foreign trends in cinema, it is a quite familiar theme.

I personally chose film as my medium of expression because it gives us the opportunity to understand an invisible aspect of our own selves. I try to understand things in my normal daily life that I do not understand, through cinema. That's how the initial plot of *Dakala purudu kenek* seeded in both our minds."

Malith had a great passion for cinema from his childhood. Before *Dakala purudu kenek* Malith had produced two short films which unfortunately he couldn't complete. However, in the process he realised that his understanding of cinema is not adequate and mature enough to make a film. Boopathi being his bosom friend for many decades, they never missed out on any film forum, discussion or foreign film screenings in Colombo.

They grew up together developing their knowledge and skills in cinema and when they decided to do their debut film, they had nothing but the informal knowledge they accumulated by reading, watching and discussing the cinema that they appreciate.

Sri Lankan cinema and its crisis

When considering cinema as an industry in any country, several basic aspects can be observed. It is the production, distribution, exhibition and import of films.

Making a film and releasing it are two different things. Although in other parts of the world, where cinema is developed as an industry, film distribution is taken care of separately and it is surely not the filmmakers' burden. However, sadly, here in Sri Lanka releasing a film has become a filmmaker's nightmare. Although it is such an exasperating process to release a film, Malith and Boopathi are quite positive and hopeful about their cinematic journey as first time filmmakers.

They had to wait in the queue for five years after the completion of the film and there was only a 15,000 viewership as it was a gap release and in which they couldn't even cover half of the production cost of the film.

Although that is the fatal destiny of theatre release in the art house cinema in Sri Lanka, due to the expansion of other film screening mediums, the production budget of the film can be recovered. Recalling the strenuous process that they had to go through once the film has been

produced, Malith said that, "it was quite frustrating as there's no proper distribution mechanism in Sri Lanka".

"However, right now, the local cinema industry is in a transitional period. The five distribution bodies which were available before have been reduced to three recently and they operate under the Government circular issued in 1997.

Although there are many private film screenings coming up based in shopping malls and luxury apartments, those screenings will operate under the rules and regulations of the BOI. In the Film Act of Sri Lanka it is specifically mentioned that the film theatres which are coming under the BOI Act are not entitled to the benefits of the Film Act.

Therefore, these film screenings have the luxury of operating according to its owner's choice but not according to a national mission," said Boopathi.

Explaining the constant antagonistic connection between the artistic purpose of cinema and the market in Sri Lanka as well as in the world throughout history, Boopathi said, "It goes without saying that cinema, which has a more crucial connection with capital than any other art form, is therefore in constant contact with the state.

However, Sri Lanka has a history of direct involvement in drafting circulars related to films by various government-appointed committees, in which the distribution companies are directly involved and only push for amendments to suit their purpose based on the complex relationship between politics and capital"

New mediums of film screening

Globally, however, the new medium of cinema's expansion is becoming increasingly complex. In the 70's and 80's, the world's binary opposition to the world film industry was whether it's television screen or silver screen.

But by the second decade of the new millennium, cinema was gradually transforming into a multi-faceted industry among new media such as VOD, the Internet, mobile TV and Cable TV.

For example, a company, such as Netflix has had a tremendous impact on mainstream popular cinema as well as art cinema over the past few years.

Moreover, it is questionable whether such production companies will continue to produce films for the silver screen, which is the heart of traditional cinema. However, Boopathi does not agree with the fact that these new mediums of screenings would be a reason to downsize the traditional cinema screenings in the world. As he points out, even today in the capitalist countries, the number of cinemas is gradually increasing.

"Considering China in particular, the number of cinemas has expanded from 25,000 to nearly 43,000 within the past five years.

Even in India, parallel to the new media expansion, the creation of cinema screenings with the latest cinema technology, including the cluster cinema system, can still be seen," he said. He also acknowledged the fact that, on

the other hand, cinema is expanding beyond traditional theatres around the world, and cinemas are expanding its audiences.

Cinema: Isolated social activity

Like all arts in Sri Lanka, the cinema is too maintained as an artificial and isolated social activity with no organic connection to the cultural life of the people in the country. Although we mistakenly identify the 1970s as the golden era of Sri Lankan cinema, it can be said that the reason for the popularity of cinema was merely due to the limited entertainment options at that time.

Although, with a population of over 22 million, Sri Lanka has very limited number of people who continuously engaged with local cinema.

Among the various reasons why local cinema may thus be isolated from the public, it seems that the artistic language of the cinema, which was a legacy of European modernity, had not been adequately localised, translated or transformed by the filmmakers to address the local communities.

"Right now, there's no national cinema which speaks to the pulse of local audiences and we also hardly see our representation in the international film fraternity either," said Malith.

For this reason for the past few decades, the Sri Lankan cinema industry or rather the film theatre owners are highly dependent on Hollywood and Bollywood blockbusters and although the Film Act of Sri Lanka has secured the local cinema industry by decreeing a mandatory fifty percent screening quota of the films have to be local productions, these foreign films have stolen the prime time of film screenings and the entire industry has survived on these foreign films.

"Although these foreign films have island wide large audiences, the main reason behind the collapse of the local cinema is due to the mismanagement and dormancy of the National Film Corporation" said Malith.

Need of state-centric regulation

The artiste duo stressed the need of state-centric regulation with private sector involvement for cinema despite the current situation, in which it is becoming increasingly difficult for the industry to dream of a future for Sri Lankan cinema.

"For example, with the current geopolitical interest in Sri Lanka, it is becoming increasingly difficult to imagine a state-centric regulation of the film industry in the context of the construction and substantial expansion of apartment complexes and shopping malls through foreign investment. With the complex transformations taking place in the city of Colombo in particular, the potential for the re-creation of a cultural market for bourgeois consumerism relevant to the upper middle class and lower middle class has been created," Boopathi said.

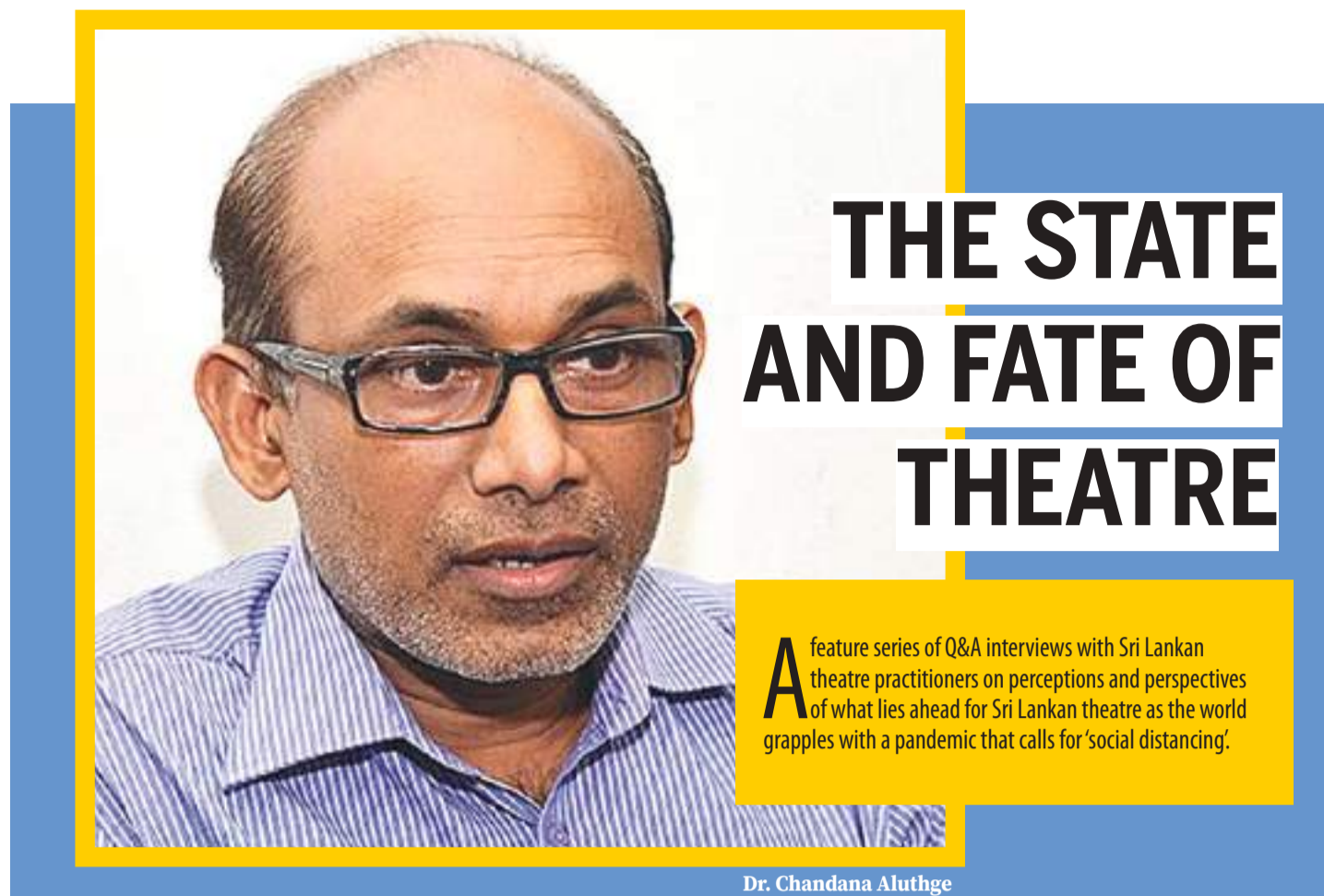
He also said that on the contrary, the alternative proposed by artistes and policymakers who have no complex understanding of the political economy is to take the cinema back to a welfare state model which is not practical in the long run.

"Also the rising trend of film screenings based in luxury shopping malls and apartment complexes will bring crises to local filmmakers and local producers. However, whether we like it or not, apparently the next turning point in the Sri Lankan film industry is nothing but multinational capital. It can be said at present that it is only inevitable that cinema will have unknown consequences in a future we do not know," Boopathi said.

Scene from *Dakala purudu kenek*



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'.

Dr. Chandana Aluthge

By
Dilshan Boange



In this tenth instalment of The State and Fate of Theatre, Dr. Chandana Aluthge, an academic at the Colombo University's Department of Economics, speaks of his views and concerns connected with children's theatre, sharing his experience and insights as a director and producer of several children's plays. Dr. Aluthge, a director of the Somalatha Subasinghe Kotte Playhouse has been a driving force in promoting children's theatre, directing and producing several children's plays created by his late mother-in-law Somalatha Subasinghe. Given the current context that does not favour an environment for theatre to thrive in Sri Lanka, Dr. Aluthge provides a perspective that stresses the need for stakeholders for a more proactive stance to take theatre forward in Sri Lanka.

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 actually getting the production organised for a new play that was targeted at children. It was written by Nilanka Dahanayaka, a young theatre artiste who has been involved with the Kotte Playhouse. It deals with some very significant themes and contemporary issues children face in society.

Drugs, bullying, and such issues that children and young adults have to deal with are at the core of this play. It is a pity that we had to temporarily halt the production plans due to the lockdown, but then again what else was there to do. The situation that we had to face was that a new production that will address issues that children and parents grapple with in today's society had to be halted. Also, our regular annual performances of children's plays such as, *Walas Paula*, *Thoppi Welenda* and *Punchi Apata Den Therei* are now somewhat uncertain due to the hurdles that we are faced with in the current situation.

Q: Over the past decade or so a robust theatre culture was coming up in Sri Lanka through both English and Sinhala theatre troupes. However, children's theatre isn't as widespread as adult theatre. How do you see children's theatre in Sri Lanka getting affected in the next couple of years in the face of the current pandemic factor?

A: Children's theatre faces some rather large obstacles in this current pandemic context. To begin with let me give you some perspective of how the cost factor affects us. Children's theatre productions can cost just as much as an adult theatre production. Of course, it depends on the play and the production design, but when it comes to income, the revenue factor is less than in an adult play. The reason is, children cannot come on their own and watch the play. They have to depend on their parents.

The parents must decide how much money they can set aside from their monthly income to take the children to watch a stage play. Their primary expense will be tickets for themselves as parents as well as their children. In addition, there may be transport costs for them to travel together as a family. In view of that we usually try to keep the ticket prices at a rate more affordable for a whole family compared to adult theatre shows. In the current context there is not much enthusiasm among many to incur extra expenditure. Many are now conscious about spending economically due to the unfavourable economic climate.

Apart from that there is the social distancing factor. Getting a play organised means rehearsals and preparation as a team. Therefore, the social distancing factor is also to be considered, and Health authorities' guidelines have to be observed. And that means the potential income from ticket sales is half the usual amount. Hence, it is a far greater challenge to have a children's play performance and hope to come through, by at least covering the cost. Therefore, based on these factors there is significant challenge ahead for children's theatre in Sri Lanka in the next few years.

Q: You direct and produce two children's plays that are part of the school syllabus. How important is it for children to actually watch a live performance of a drama that is in their school syllabus textbooks?

A: One of the most significant factors that we need to address in this regard is, how schools and the Department of Education can become active stakeholders in keeping children's theatre alive during the next few years in Sri Lanka? Children's theatre is about education as well. It is not merely theatrical entertainment for relief after a long week of stressful work in the way adult theatre sometimes works among certain audiences. Children's theatre is somewhat a different realm altogether.

It is about helping them gain lessons in life as well as engaging them in the art of storytelling using the stage. It helps to teach them about the world at large through the medium of live stage performances. This same experience cannot be gained by the child by watching a DVD of the stage play at home. Theatre is a live medium of performance that involves experiencing the audience's collective reactions to the live performance unfolding on stage.

It is an engaging experience to any theatre-goer in general, and for a child to get that experience creates a significant impression in their childhood. This is not something parents seem to always understand. To most parents whose children are in either Grades 5, 6 or 7, their main attitude towards the drama and theatre texts that their children have to 'encounter', is about passing another exam. It has now become a 'systematised attitude'. To most parents of children in Grades 5, 6, or 7, the plays *Punchi Apata Den Therei* which is in the Grade 5 Sinhala language syllabus and also in the Grade

6 drama and theatre syllabus, and *Thoppi Welenda* in the Grade 7 drama and theatre syllabus, are merely seen as schoolwork to be covered for the examination. I have been asked many times by parents if we can provide a DVD of the children's plays. It is not that I am blatantly against anyone watching a DVD of a stage play, but what I want to emphasise is that the whole point of a child watching a children's play should be to appreciate theatre in a larger context of aesthetic experience based knowledge and not in correlation to solely getting good marks at a school exam paper.

Learning can be achieved in different methods. When the teacher reads the text of the play with the children, and visualises the contents, that is one method. Another way is for students to go to the theatre and actually experience the play as a performance. The whole objective of any drama script is for it to be experienced as a live performance and not merely limited to reading as pages in a textbook. The activity of watching a children's play to a great extent is similar to an educational trip that a school organises for children to gain knowledge on subjects like history by visiting the museum.

However, school administrators look upon a performance of a stage play in a different way. Even when the performance is of a play that is in the school syllabus, it is still not readily allocated 'school time', but relegated as an activity that can be opted for 'after school' hours if at all.

I won't say this is the attitude of every single school in Sri Lanka, but by and large most school administrators will not give priority for a performance of a play that is in the school syllabus to be staged at school during school hours. These are hurdles when it comes to keeping momentum alive for children's theatre in general, and in specific for productions of the plays that are part of the school syllabus.

Q: What kind of support do you think the state should provide for children's theatre to be sustained in this challenging environment?

A: Firstly, if the Department of Education, which is now under Minister Prof. G. L. Peiris, can look at the subject of drama and theatre, not only with regard to children's theatre, but the subject as a whole, as a subject that cannot be fully appreciated solely by means of textual study in classrooms, but should be experienced as a performance coming out of an aesthetic subject, and adopt measures accordingly, that would be a great triumph. If schools can adopt a policy of allowing performances of plays that are in the school syllabus to be staged in school once a year, during school hours, that would be a positive development.

And, if the Government can support children's theatre productions with a stimulus package by means of annual grants and disbursements that would be a significant lifeline for children's theatre in Sri Lanka. If a stimulus package of grants is allocated annually for the next few years, that will help sustain the livelihoods of numerous stakeholders in the theatre industry.

It is not just the stage artistes and the directors who will benefit but numerous participants whose skills and work come together to make a production come to life. I hope that children's theatre especially, will not be neglected, and, therefore, I make this appeal to the Government. If this issue is addressed actively and some system of stimulus and support can be extended by the State soon, it will be a turning point for the survival of children's theatre in these challenging times.



A scene from a children's drama by the Kotte Playhouse.

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 2

The following morning, Veerappuli Henaya picked up a mammy and took off to work the long abandoned paddy field. He had stopped going to collect soiled clothes after Podina's death. While a few people decided to bring clothes to be washed, Malma Ridee felt this was a serious lapse on the part of the family. She did not say anything about it however. She attended to the work to the best of her ability.

Nambu Henaya had developed a debilitating wheeze of late. He would stop after every ten steps or so for a breather while taking messages about *kotahalu* ceremonies to Bungiriya. On certain days he would cover himself with a bed sheet even during midday and sleep in the front room.

Malma Ridee, having decided to visit Heen Ridee, placed a pot of *polos* on the fire. Then, since the coconut charcoal was over, she set fire to a heap of shells outside the kitchen to be used for ironing. She remembered how her mother, Sinindu, had made a delicious *polos* dish to satisfy a craving developed when she was pregnant with her first child, Lewis Henaya.

'I should make her something whenever I can,' she thought to herself.

The coconut shells burnt and uncured, sizzling in quite a spectacular performance. The sparks flew as though from the mouth of a dragon. Malma Ridee piked at the pile of burning coconut shells with a stick. She suddenly got the sense that there was someone standing near her and turned her head. It was Heen Ridee.

'Kelle, I was thinking of going to see you this afternoon and started cooking some polos. I didn't expect you here at this time. That's alright. Just sit right there. It's too warm by the pile of coconut shells.'

She pulled the small bench a little distance from the burning shells so she could sit. The girl said nothing. She just sat down. The shells had burnt. Malma Ridee sprinkled some water which was in the earthenware, *koraha*. The coconut coals hissed and spluttered as the water fell on them and then set out puffs of smoke to lessen their pain. Malma Ridee began to speak.

'Garu Ridee told me. I am so happy! It's good that you managed to come here instead of being stuck at home. You don't have to stay put in one place in times like this. I spend hours thinking of Podina to fight the sorrow of her absence. The moment I heard you were pregnant I was overjoyed. It wouldn't be easy, though, for your father to forget her. He just stares into empty space, lost in thought. Sometimes he looks for Podina's jacket in the clothes box, just to touch it for a bit.'

Finally, I got the little one to keep it in the front room. It was only when he heard about you that a faint smile appeared on his face. Last night itself he decided that the paddy field should be worked. It wasn't for anything else but the thought of giving you some new rice. He loves farming. He begged Nagolle Ralahamy to give him this abandoned field. Half the harvest goes to him. They are not too happy about giving us that plot of land. Maybe they think it is a come down of some kind. It was leased only because our man troubled him incessantly.'

Heen Ridee did not interrupt her endless chatter. She sat on the bench like a statue. There was no expression whatsoever on her face, but suddenly Malma Ridee noticed her swollen eyes. She asked with some concern, 'what's wrong, little girl?'

Heen Ridee was silent for a few moments and then suddenly got up, stifling her throat and running to the Suriya tree at the edge of the garden. She didn't vomit despite an intense effort to do so. Malma Ridee came up to her and smiled. She spoke lightly.

'Little girl, it is natural to feel nausea. This is how it is when a little one is conceived in your belly. Wait. I'll pick a starfruit to dispel all that. It is a good remedy for this heat.'

Heen Ridee leaned against her mother and spoke with some difficulty.

'This is not that kind of nausea Amme.'

Heen Ridee laughed.

'Really? What do you know? This is what it is. It's just that you are not used to it. There's nothing to fear little one. Tell your man what you would like to eat. In fact you can tell anyone in the village and they'll give you just what you ask for. Although the rice you yourself cook might seem like poison, even a katta sambol made in someone else's kitchen tastes divine. That's how it is, in times like this.'

Heen Ridee didn't pay attention to Malma Ridee. She spoke through sobs.

'No, Amme...it's simply repulsive. I just can't bear it.' 'Why is that sweetheart? Tell me. What is it?' Malma Ridee was surprised.

'Sit me down there...'

Malma Ridee helped the girl back onto the bench. Heen Ridee stared into the distance, in silent thought.

'Tell me girl...what happened to you? What is this revulsion you feel? Tell me!'

Heen Ridee explained tearfully.

'That man brings me various dead ani-

mals every single day and says "cook this for me!" Sometimes it's a woodpecker, sometimes parrots, pigeons, giant squirrels. He doesn't even spare the maakandayas that come to the wild woodapple tree at night; he shoots them with his catapult. He tries to force me to eat but I don't touch that dirty stuff. One day he brought home a baby monkey. He skinned it and offered it to me. Aney...it was like a little baby, mother!'

Heen Ridee began to cry.

'There should be a special hell just for this devil!'

Heen Ridee sneived and continued to speak.

'I got sick of everything mother. I had once seen the mother monkey at the stream, taking handfuls of water and bathing her little one. Just like we bathe babies. It was this playful little baby monkey that this brute gobbled up, saying "it has a creamy taste!" Even this I suffered without complaint, mother.'

'This morning he brought a huge hawk. He removed the feathers and gave it to me, asking me to chop it up. He said that I needed to learn how to do it. I thought to myself, "he's my man, after all," and I started slicing it.'

Malma Ridee placed a hand on her head in shock. Heen Ridee trembled and continued to sob while she continued with her story.

'...it was when the bird's stomach was lit that I saw it...there were pieces of a cobra that the bird had just eaten.'

She felt overcome with nausea and rushed towards the Suriya tree again. Malma Ridee herself was sobbing as she followed and caught up with her daughter.

'What on earth happened to you, my darling. It's not good is it for you to cast your eyes on such disgusting things when you are in this condition? When you were with us you didn't even touch indalodu mushrooms, saying that it looked like meat. How is it that you were fated to live in a meat shop with such a butcher, my little girl? He should be dragged alive to hell, for what he's done to you.'

'I can't go back to that hell again Amme. Let me stay with you. Each time some animal is cut I visualise the Aveechi Hell. He even serves me while he chomps on the meat. How can I eat such rubbish with a little one inside me? How many days have I gone without food simply because I didn't want to touch that stuff? Forgive all the wrongs I've done and let me stay here. I will die of vomiting if I had to live with that butcher again.'

She was weeping now as she spoke. She felt like vomiting again and once again ran towards the Suriya tree. Malma Ridee ran after her.

Malma Ridee recounted all this to Veerappuli Henaya that night at the Vellaa hut. Veerappuli Henaya couldn't bring his thoughts together to find some way out of the situation. He didn't speak. Malma Ridee fed her some rice with polos while Heen Ridee lay on a mat in the room.

Suddenly they heard a loud male voice coming from the direction of the paddy field. The voice came nearer and nearer and they were able to identify the person. Babanis was screaming in a drunken stupor. Heen Ridee got up and went outside. The others joined her. Babanis, dead drunk, was uttering raw filth, berating Heen Ridee and the rest of her family.

'You are hiding my woman, aren't you? I will set fire to your house, do you hear? Send her to me. Heen Ridee will you come or do you want me to come get you?'

He was now at the Kumbuk tree at the edge of the field. Heen Ridee knowing her man very well, got ready to leave. Malma Ridee held on to her. Babanis continued to let loose another stream of filth.

'Are you coming or not Seen Ridee? Do you want to go to the other world like that other one, bitch? What's keeping you here? When you came away with me, didn't you say you would never set foot on his house ever again? Will you come? Or not? Do you want to see a murder being committed here?'

Heen Ridee escaped her mother and ran towards the *Kumbuk* tree in the darkness. Malma Ridee began to wail.

The next moment they heard the sound of Heen Ridee being assaulted. Veerappuli Henaya didn't have the strength to keep standing. He just sat down.

Veerappuli Henaya spent a long time that night in the vella hut. He looked down and thought. Malma Ridee came by several times, asking him to come home and sleep, but Veerappuli Henaya ignored her. Baba Henaya saw the light from the fire play on Veerappuli Henaya's face. His eyes were moist.

'Sooti Eko...bring me my blanket...'

Baba Henaya brought it and spent that night with his *aatha*, covered with part of the blanket. Heen Ridee didn't fall asleep for a long time. The light from the fire glanced off the roof above them. The smell of washing soda wafting from the blanket and his *aatha* and the smell of boiling clothes kept away slumber and brought him a unique feeling.



By
Carol Aloysius



While Sri Lanka is still recovering from the Covid-19 pandemic that gripped the entire country from April this year, causing most services to grind to a halt temporarily, the National Blood Transfusion Service (NBTS) must be commended for continuing its history of unbroken service to the nation by ensuring that its banks never ran short of blood supplies even in an emergency.

Director, National Blood Transfusion Service, Dr Lakshman Edirisinghe this week fields questions from *Sunday Observer* readers on who can donate blood, how often and how the bank ensures that all donations are 100 percent safe and uncontaminated. He debunks myths regarding blood donations and unveils future plans for the service.

Following are excerpts ...

Q. As the apex agency for blood supply in the country, can you tell us how much blood the bank requires per day to meet the requirements of hospitals?

A. In routine circumstances, the country requires 1,200 blood (Red cell) 600 platelet units and around 400 units of plasma per day.

Q. Are there certain months when there is an increase in the demand for blood supply? E.g. during festive seasons when more road accidents are reported?

A. There is no significant difference in blood demand throughout the year. However, the number of blood donations is markedly dropped during festive seasons as the focus of the public is deviated on celebrations. Hence, meeting the national blood requirement becomes a challenge.

Q. How prepared is the NBTS to meet this extra demand for blood on an island wide basis?

A. There are some regular blood donation organisers who support the NBTS during these periods. Shradha TV is one of these organisers who conduct blood donations throughout April. The NBTS reminds blood donors through public media announcements whenever blood requirement is rising.

Q. How many blood banks do you have around the country?

A. There are blood banks in all teaching hospitals, provincial general hospitals, district general hospitals and Type A base hospitals. The entire system comprises 102 blood banks.

Q. How do you ensure they all have sufficient blood supplies? Do you have a central monitoring system and a proper feedback system?

A. Yes. The NBTS is centrally coordinated

national service. The National Blood Centre (NBC) at Narahenpita functions as the headquarters of the system. The 102 blood banks of NBTS are affiliated to 24 regional blood centres, based on their locations. The NBC monitors the stock availability of all regional blood centres to ensure availability of blood in all hospital blood banks.

Q. How quickly is it possible to replenish depleted stocks? What kind of transport is available to carry stocks of fresh blood to their destinations? (helicopter? Ambulances?)

A. Adequate blood stocks are made available in all 24 regional centres. If there is any depletion of stocks at hospital blood banks the nearest regional blood centre, to which the blood bank is affiliated, can send the required stock within a few minutes via an ambulance.

Q. Is all the blood received by NBTS donated voluntarily?

A. Yes. In 2014, the NBTS declared self-sufficiency in blood supplies from 100% voluntary non-remunerated blood donations. We are continuing this standard successfully.

Q. How do you ensure that the blood donated is hundred percent free of any infection?

A. The NBTS ensures the safety of blood adhering to stringent quality control measures. This is a long process which starts with safe blood donor selection, blood collection adhering to biosafety techniques, blood transportation, processing and storage in appropriate temperatures in closed systems and testing of donated blood for transfusion transmissible infections (HIV, Hepatitis B and C, Syphilis and Malaria). The NBTS adheres to international standards in all these procedures.

Q. Can a person with a sexually transmitted disease such as HIV, AIDs or gonorrhoea donate blood?

A. Persons with a sexually transmitted disease are not allowed to donate blood. According to the Penal Code, it is a punitive offence to donate blood knowing that he/she has a sexually transmitted disease.

Q. What about persons with preexisting conditions such as, diabetes and heart diseases?

A. If the person's blood sugar levels are controlled by diet only, without any medicine, he/she can donate blood provided all other requirements are fulfilled. Persons with heart diseases are not allowed to donate blood.

Q. Do you follow the WHO guidelines for blood donations? According to the guidelines who is eligible to donate blood?

A. The NBTS has adopted a national guideline for blood donor selection based on WHO blood donor selection criteria. All healthy people aged between 18-55 can donate blood. If previously donated, one can donate until 60 years, if he is otherwise healthy.

Q. How often should a normal healthy person donate blood?

A. A normal healthy person

can donate blood at 120-day intervals.

Q. What are the health benefits of donating blood?

A. Although not proven by meta-analysis, certain health benefits of blood donations are evident. Improving cardiovascular health and reduced certain cancer risks are among them. Mostly, blood donations improve emotional wellbeing and help to get rid of negative feelings.

Q. In various reports in newspapers, we have seen schoolchildren being encouraged to donate blood. Is this a good thing?

A. Yes. It is a very good thing. Schoolchildren are the future blood donors. By encouraging them to donate blood, students will identify their social responsibilities as citizens. It also inculcates good qualities such as, teamwork, sharing, empathising and leadership.

Q. Following the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic in Sri Lanka, the National Blood Bank was faced with the challenge of ensuring that the NBTS had sufficient blood to meet any possible crisis. During the crisis did you run out of blood as the numbers began to rise unexpectedly? How did you deal with the situation as you had to supply the entire country?

A. Blood donation in Sri Lanka was highly affected with the imposed restrictions on public gatherings. Since the NBTS depends mainly on community-based mobile blood collection, the system faced a significant reduction in blood collection. The mode of blood collection had to undergo a rapid change to face the pandemic situation. Blood donors were invited to blood banks to donate blood adhering to safety precautions. The Covid-19 situation of the country was reviewed daily at the NBC and the at-risk areas identified and avoided from the blood collection plan.

The areas unaffected from the pandemic were identified for blood collection and blood components were distributed under central monitoring, to ensure the availability of blood at island wide blood banks. The contribution by the Tri-forces, Sri Lanka Police and civil security defence during the curfew is commendable. Issuing a special curfew pass for blood donors to attend the blood banks was a remarkable support for maintaining adequate blood supplies. Promotions carried out via social media campaigns were also immensely helpful.

Q. At present we have controlled the spread of Covid-19 and it is still in the first wave of transmission. If there is a second wave how prepared are you?

A. The NBTS developed guidelines for 'donating blood adapting to the new normal' The main focus is to strengthen in-house blood donations. An online blood donor registration system is established to facilitate blood donors to take appointments for donating blood at island-wide blood banks at their convenient time schedules. A pre-donation screening questionnaire is adopted to identify blood donors who are at risk of contracting the infection and to exclude them from blood donations to ensure blood donor and staff safety. Donors are informed of the importance of self-deferral if they feel unwell.

Q. What precautions do you have for health workers, nurses and doctors involved in blood donations?

A. In addition to the said precautions, all health staff of NBTS are provided with adequate amounts of personal protective equipment (PPE). Hand sanitisation/ hand washing facilities are provided in all blood banks and mobile centres to ensure staff and donor safety.

Q. The recently concluded parliamentary elections gave you a valuable experience in handling various situations with regard to blood distribution and other health related issues. Briefly tell us how it will help to shape your plans for the future?

A. NBTS has successfully maintained adequate blood supplies for the nation for more than five decades, under more challenging circumstances. However, ensuring blood supplies amid the combination of a pandemic and a general election was a novel challenge. Stringent monitoring of blood stock levels and planning the island-wide blood collection, processing and distribution were the key factors for the successful maintenance of adequate blood supplies. This experience disclosed the resilience of the NBTS in facing any challenge.

Q. What is your goal for sustaining blood and creating a disease-free blood zone?

A. Sri Lanka achieved a 100% voluntary donor base in 2014. Thus, we have achieved the mandatory step towards assuring safe blood supplies. In addition, NBTS is adhering to all best practices in blood donation testing, processing and storage. The goal is to maintain the current good standards while expanding the system with cellular-therapy and transplant facilities.

Q. How has the NBTS carried the message on the importance of blood donations to the public, youth, schoolchildren and parents in general?

A. In this technological era, the social media has become the most popular mode of communication worldwide. The NBTS could approach the youth through Facebook and other social media very effectively. The involvement of mass media, print media and school education programs were invaluable in conveying the message on the importance of safe blood donations.



Dr Lakshman Edirisinghe

Q. Any gaps you like to see filled in the present delivery of safe blood in the country? e.g. do all hospitals in remote areas have refrigerators to store blood? How close are they to the community?

A. Having an absolutely perfect infrastructure is not possible even in the most developed part of the world. Hence, this is not an exception for the NBTS Sri Lanka. Expanding the storage capacity, improving transportation facilities and human resource are prioritised in the future plans of the NBTS.

Q. Prejudices in certain communities and myths about blood donations?

A. There are many myths among the public on blood donations. The NBTS addresses these myths with correct facts through developing IEC (Information, Education, Communication) materials and public awareness programs.

Q. Your message to the public?

A. Almost 90% of blood supplies are collected from mobile blood donation campaigns conducted by volunteer blood campaign organisers.

However, in a situation like a pandemic this system is challenged by restrictions imposed on social gatherings. Hence, we wish to address the grassroots, that is the individual blood donors to walk-in to the nearest government hospital blood bank and donate blood. We invite the youth in social media groups to join the NBTS and donate blood at regional blood centres.

SCHOOLCHILDREN ARE THE FUTURE BLOOD DONORS. BY ENCOURAGING THEM TO DONATE BLOOD, STUDENTS WILL IDENTIFY THEIR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES AS CITIZENS.

Medi snips

Compiled by Carol Aloysius

Walk for Alzheimers



The Lanka Alzheimer's Foundation (LAF) embarked on its history making Virtual Walk starting from September 1 - 21 to encourage healthy lifestyles and fitness.

A newsletter issued by the organisers, explaining the novel concept of a Virtual Walk amid the Covid-19 pandemic states, "In a virtual walk, participants are given a target number of steps to complete within a specific time period. In a virtual walk, a participant is not required to physically walk the given route. Steps walked anywhere in any part of the world with the mobile device or fitness wearable connected to the ayubo.life app will capture the data and map the progress in the virtual route in real time. You can walk/jog in your garden or at any walking path of your choice or even jog indoors on a treadmill and the steps walked will be converted to virtual steps on the ayubo.life app and the participants can see their progress on the defined virtual route."

As September is the World Alzheimer's Month and September 21 is World Alzheimer's Day, the organisers said that in previous years, their key activities for the month have been the Annual Memory Walk, which has been held for 17 years and the Alzheimer's Run which we have had for five years with an ever increasing community participation.

LAF also conducts a range of other activities during this month to increase awareness about the disease, to combat stigma and to raise funds for the cause. Due to the pandemic and the consequent necessity for public safety we cannot have a series of activities this year.

Therefore, LAF decided to conduct a single activity with maximum impact. Memorable Steps, is a virtual Walk LAF plans to carry out in partnership with ayubo.life this September. ayubo.life is the flagship brand of Digital Healthcare Solutions (Pvt.) Ltd whose vision is to create healthier and happier nations by inculcating fitness habits, and aims at reducing Alzheimer risk among the public.

Commenting on the route selected, the organisers said that the Virtual Route selected to elicit greater interest, is from Anuradapura to Sigiriya, a distance of 91,000 steps. They said that LAF participants had 21 days to complete the Walk during the period September 1 to 21. "A longer time period is given to enable participants to join later than the start date or walk slower if necessary to reach the goal," they said. They said that Dementia quizzes and information will be available along the way for participants and also for all users of the app at the touch of a button. ayubo.life already has a membership of 91,000 and this information will be available to all of them, irrespective of their participation in the Walk.

Rewards

Even if you opt for an early stop and if you don't complete the Walk the organisers have thoughtfully considered giving rewards to all participants. What we wish is to inculcate a healthy lifestyle that encourages people to participate at their own fitness level, they said.

For more information on how to register for the Memorable Steps Register for the step challenge from this webpage: <https://memorablesteps.ayubo.life/> Or . Download the ayubo.life app from the link in the SMS sent to your mobile or Open the ayubo.life app and enter your mobile number for verification. The LAF Website to contact is www.alzlinka.org

Also commenting on other activities of the LAF, a separate news release from the organisation says: If community spread of Covid-19 continues to be contained, they hope to open their Activity Centre with all safety measures recommended by the health authorities. They also said that a patient with cognitive impairment who wanders outside alone can easily become confused, injured and get lost. An identification bracelet can help a loved one with dementia get home safe. Hypoallergenic and Tamperproof ID bracelets are now available at The Lanka Alzheimer's Foundation.



Feature

Thai Cuisine Boulevard introduces new additions to the menu

Thai Cuisine Boulevard – Colombo's premier Thai restaurant has made improvements to its menu offering, to showcase some of the best flavours from the land of Siam. Thai food has a cult following in most parts of the world due to its bold flavours and varied ingredients, and Colombo diners are now offered the privilege of savouring an even wider array of choice at the restaurant due to the new additions on its menu.

Dishes such as, the *Nuea Pad Prik King* which is a wok fried beef with ginger, chilli paste, and *kaffir* lime leaves as well as the *Poo Phad Pong Kali* – a delicate crab meat dish with yellow curry have been recently included. A new range of Thai-inspired mocktails using ingredients such as lemongrass, ginger, chilli, passion fruit and lychees have been recently introduced to the menu as well.

All new dishes are the culinary creations of Chef Papat Pichad and Chef Indika Rohana. Chef Papat has many years of experience working in authentic restaurants in Thailand and brings with him the knowledge and insight of the flavours of authentic food from the different regions of the country. This has helped in curating the new menu and in hand-picking some of the new dishes. Chef Indika Rohana on the other hand has many years of experience working at Thai Cuisine Boulevard itself and is 'the man behind the scene', preparing all the dishes that the restaurant has been known for, all these years.

The new combination in the kitchen works well in the

restaurant continuing to offer some of their firm favourites, while introducing some new dishes to its patrons. The restaurant is operated by Ms. Kanthi Jayamaha – a popular restaurateur in Colombo who has been involved in the food industry for 40 years.

In the recent past, Thai Cuisine Boulevard has introduced a great executive lunch menu for business executives looking for the perfect place for a business lunch and the restaurant is also looking at introducing a Thai-inspired high tea as well as a Boulevard tasting menu showcasing some of its popular dishes, in the near future.

Located at Queens Road, Colombo 3, Thai Cuisine Boulevard is the ideal restaurant for a quick lunch break for business executives due to its central location or for a group of friends to meet over a meal. In the evenings, the restaurant is a popular choice for anyone out and about looking for a great dining experience and is suitable for families due to its family-friendly atmosphere. The restaurant has an indoor air-conditioned area as well as an open alfresco dining area, depending on the preference of the diners. Thai Cuisine Boulevard is one of the very few restaurants in the city with a private dining room for 16 people, making it the perfect option for get-togethers or celebrations of any nature.



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
54				55	56			57			
58				59				60			
61				62				63			

- ACROSS**
- (K) Barely visible cut in paper
 - (K) Used a spade
 - Float, as an aroma
 - Dove's domicile
 - (K) Find a purpose for
 - Opera showstopper
 - (K) Acme
 - (K) Soup container
 - Where you'll find cowards
 - (K) Comment
 - (K) Current convict
 - (K) Sample some sparkling water
 - (K) One thing you do daily
 - Carry a balance
 - (K) Barely providing enough light
 - Lunar stage
 - Engage in rivalry
 - (K) Ready alternative?
 - Tibetan beast
 - (K) Book of many places
 - (K) Bad place for a fly to be
 - (K) Seeing ___ dog
 - (K) Ingredient for a backyard pie
 - Biblical vessel
 - (K) Clothes closure
 - Four-poster bed attachment
 - Wait on red
 - (K) "I have made a brilliant discovery!"
 - A little of this, a little of that
 - (K) Approach
 - ___ and away
 - Make a villainous look
 - (K) Walker's aid
 - Blast letters
 - Comstock deposit
- DOWN**
- (K) Appendectomy leftover
 - (K) Trot easily
 - (K) Agenda entry
 - Paris is there
 - (K) Bowler's target, sometimes
 - "Miracle" team letters
 - One who's generally bottled up?
 - (K) Fireside emanation
 - Length times width
 - Italian car brand
 - Allowance for weight
 - Cleansed
 - (K) Babysitter's break time, perhaps
 - Future embryos
 - Mental capacity
 - (K) Charged fish
 - (K) Lower blades?
 - Seaman's "yes"
 - (K) Put into words
 - Barely achieve (with "out")
 - Wheeled server (2 words)
 - (K) Unit of electric current
 - Lawyer's advice
 - Car-grille protector
 - (K) Unwelcome air
 - (K) Small mound
 - Bluish-white metallic element
 - (K) Thought that leads to an invention
 - (K) Get ready for a big event
 - Dairy case choice
 - (K) The ___ Piper
 - Time long past
 - (K) Solo of science fiction

KEN KEN

THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

EASY

4	6x		7+
	3-		
		2÷	
	3	2÷	

CHALLENGING

2÷	10x	4	7+	
	72x	3-		
5+	5-		4	1-
		1-	30x	
13+		3-	5-	2
2			1-	

TODAY'S ANSWERS

2	4	1	3
1	4	2	3
4	1	2	4
4	2	1	3

WORKSPACE:

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RULES

- Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.
- The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.
- Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.



SUDOKU 222

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.

		6	8	4	5			
			6	4	3	2		
				3			6	
					2	7		
	4	8			5	1		
7	2							
5		2						
	3	1	7	8				
4	9	3	1					

Riddle:

Country store?

Last week answer:
23-A) Blur

Last week's solution

4	7	8	5	2	3	9	1	6
3	9	2	1	8	6	5	7	4
5	1	6	4	7	9	3	8	2
8	3	5	6	1	4	2	9	7
7	6	9	3	5	2	8	4	1
2	4	1	7	9	8	6	5	3
1	2	7	8	6	5	4	3	9
6	8	4	9	3	1	7	2	5
9	5	3	2	4	7	1	6	8

OBSERVER EDUCATION

SEPTEMBER 6, 2020



NIBM DIPLOMA AWARDS -2020 **PAGE 42**



MAS' LAUNCHES 'HARIMAMAGA' TO... **PAGE 45**



'CULTURE OF RAGGING' IN HIGHER... **PAGE 47**



CIMA LAUNCHES 'HUNDRED & 10%' **PAGE 48**

ECU Sri Lanka invites students to study Bachelor of Design

ECU SRI LANKA INTRODUCES ITS NEWEST DEGREE PROGRAM

With a focus on game and interactive design, the degree of Bachelor of Design provides students with knowledge of traditional multimedia and emerging digital interactive technologies, while drawing together theory and knowledge from multiple creative disciplines, including web, visual and interaction design.

Students gain skills and competence in the design, scripting, development and usability of digital media products for information, entertainment and commerce. They will also study the social and cultural impact as well as the psychological and social principles of digital products of web and other emergent digital products.

In the final year, students will be exposed in detail to subjects, such as

Preparation for Professional Life, Interactive Media, Game Development, Design Project, Advanced Game Design, Advanced Web Design and two elective units of students' own choice.

Employment opportunities

With a Bachelor of Design, students will gain employment opportunities in development and design of games, game concepts, game scenarios, e-learning materials, websites, digital media, multimedia systems; digital content development; and digital design project management. This program also prepares students for careers in the field of cyber security, including areas, such as network security, computer forensics, information warfare and wireless security.

Careers

Some of the careers that students with Bachelor of Design can pursue are: Game Concept Artist, Game Evaluator, Educational Game Designer, Game Level Designer, Game Researcher, Web Designer, Web Developer, Interface Designer, Interaction Designer, Digital Media Manager, User Experience Designer and User Centered Designer.

Who can join?

On completion of eight units of ECU Bachelor of Design Year 2, students can progress to Year 3 of the Bachelor of Design.

Students who have previously completed the Advanced Diploma of

Science (Computing/IT) or Advanced Diploma of Commerce at ACBT or a comparable Advanced Diploma or a 2nd year Bachelor's Degree from another recognised institution may be eligible for advanced standing, which would reduce the total number of units required to complete this degree.

ECU Sri Lanka invites the local student community to join the Bachelor of Design degree program and at the end of the program, successful students will be awarded with a Bachelor of Design degree from Edith Cowan University, Perth, Australia.

To join, or to see if you are eligible for advanced standing, contact us via 077 7616 600/077 3000 900 or visit www.acbt.net.

India willing to support education sector- Indian envoy



Education Minister Prof G.L. Peiris and Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research and Innovations State Minister Sita Arambepola in conversation with Indian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka Gopal Baglay

The support of the Indian Government could be extended to develop the education field, including training of personnel in Technological, Vocational, Educational and Training (TVET) sectors, Indian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka Gopal Baglay said at a meeting with Education Minister Prof G.L. Peiris recently.

Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research and Innovations State Minister Sita Arambepola, Secretary to the Ministry of Education Prof Kapila Perera, senior officers of the Ministry of Edu-

cation were also present.

High Commissioner Baglay said the Indian Government has been extending its support for educational development in Sri Lanka through programs, such as Mahatma Gandhi Scholarship Program.

Minister Prof Peiris said there is a disparity between the local job market and vocational education and the situation should be changed. New learning methods should be introduced to motivate students instead of the traditional learning methods, he said.

VLTC Value Learning and Training Campus

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The benefits of Value Learning and Training in relation to tomorrow's smart workplace could be more than enough to convince you to enroll at VLTC thought to be World's Globally Employable Graduate Creator. Now, all you need to do is look positively at their background before you sign up and join Value Learning and Training Campus for an exciting and a thriving future anywhere in the world.

VLTC Value Learning and Training Campus is a higher education institution in Colombo and is one of the fastest-growing private campuses in Sri Lanka. The campus provides training and development for students from entry level to postgraduate level since 2015.

Whether you need skills, training or education qualifications for your career or university progression, VLTC offers you the right study program and all credentials are awarded and validated by world's leading universities and awarding bodies and many of these partner universities are recognised by the University Grant Commission of Sri Lanka (UGC).

On-site campus facilities include lecture rooms, library, extensive IT network, conference room and private study area with futuristic study programs - Level 3-7 Certificates and Diploma Programs on Business Management, Banking and Finance, HR Management, Tourism and Hospitality Management and Information Technology.

VLTC Undergraduate, Masters, Doctoral, Professional Education and Language Programs are benchmark through partnerships with some of the best universities and awarding bodies in UK, USA and Asia.

VLTC degree awarding partners are world renowned - Award for Training and Higher Education (ATHE United Kingdom), Chartered Management Institute (CMI United Kingdom)

Association of Business Executives (ABE United Kingdom), Organisation for Tourism and Hotel Management (OTHM United Kingdom), Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA United States of America), Vern' University - Croatia, International Business Academy - Switzerland, Lincoln University College - Malaysia, Quest International University Perak - Malaysia, Heichi University - China and British Council.

VLTC takes pride in having some of the best lecturers in Sri Lanka in their full time, part time and guest lecturer tutorial staffs who are well respected academics and professionals qualified in Sri Lanka and overseas.

VLTC blended learning courses make learning more flexible and absorbing through learning from experienced lecturers, who will be at hand to answer questions and provide guidance on progress and assessment.

A team of academics and experts teach VLTC courses through video lectures, animations, exercises and interactive case studies; all of which are delivered through a specially made virtual learning environment.

For those unable to attend classes are able to obtain lessons on demand that could fit perfectly to one's individual timetable.

A flexible and an enjoyable learning experience online and on campus - is VLTC's aim in helping you achieve your full potential as the Campus strictly comply with the education quality standards of partner universities and awarding bodies while conducting quality assessments and student satisfaction surveys to ensure that VLTC teaching quality meet international standards.

VLTC Value Learning and Training Campus aspires to be an academic leader recognised in creating globally employable graduates as it is keen on having its graduates stand out from the crowd and be among the best in the world.

ECU is ranked 9th in the world for quality education and 1st in Australia for starting salaries

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CRICOS code: IPC002796

Advertorial



NIBM DIPLOMA AWARDS -2020



The 38th Diploma Awards Ceremony of the National Institute of Business Management (NIBM) was held on August 29 at the Main Assembly Hall of the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH) under the patronage of, Skills Development, Technical Education, Research and Innovation State Minister Dr Seetha Arambepola. The Awards Ceremony was held in two sessions. Over 1,000 awardees received their Diplomas and Higher National Diplomas at the event.



sonal enrichment ever since its inception. The institute adds premium value to each participant and enables them to function in the knowledge-based economy. The participants are further assisted to recognise their potential for leadership and success, which in turn would help them launch truly global careers with leading companies. NIBM takes the extra measure to ensure that students are equipped with the required soft skills and competencies in addition to academic excellence. It has been maintaining international standards and by now, it has established a new corporate culture of professionalism through Management Studies, Consultancy, English, IT education and Design in public and private sectors.



The National Institute of Business Management is the premier business school and the pioneer IT training institute in Sri Lanka which provides opportunities for the participants to follow their dreams. NIBM was first established in 1968 as an International Labour Organisation (ILO) funded project to develop productivity and management practices in Sri Lankan organisations. Later, it was developed to a fully-fledged training and consultancy institute in 1976 by way of an Act of Parliament.



Its reputation has spread far, and it is further convinced by the strategic collaborations with leading universities in the world that enable students to expose themselves with global thinking and best practices in international industries. These partnerships allow students to gain exposure and be qualified with a globally recognised degree here in Sri Lanka. The degree programs offered by reputed universities are designed to cover economic and technological dimensions necessary to succeed in the competitive world of international business. The students are given guidance to choose programs based on their interest level, skills, competencies and future plans. Thus, NIBM has taken the responsibility of expanding the socio-economic progress of our motherland by way of producing high quality, industry-ready graduates.



Over 52 years, NIBM has shaped into a full grown, mature and responsible organisation and has carved a niche for itself in the professional education fraternity of the country. The institute functions under the State Ministry of Skills Development, Technical Education, Research and Innovation and operates with a concern to develop competencies of individuals both in the public and private sectors through well-structured training programs. NIBM operates with four Regional Campuses in Kandy, Kurunegala, Galle and Matara. The newest addition to NIBM is the National Innovation Centre which focuses on design education and venture development. NIBM trains over 10,000 individuals in different areas of business.

not just to create qualified individuals but employable individuals. NIBM has contributed to develop competencies of individuals to meet the challenges of the emerging knowledge and skills-based economy. It has played a major role in making available high-quality education and producing the intellectual capital with skills and knowledge. It caters to the increasing competency requirements of school leavers to professionals with a wide variety of courses. The participants are benefited from studying and learning from an experienced panel of lecturers who are committed in driving students to success and promote student participation in extracurricular activities enabling them to build a network for themselves even before the completion of their studies.



NIBM has gained recognition as a professional institute with high standards resulting in a high demand for NIBM graduates among prospective employers. It constantly upgrades its programs to produce a professional who is ready in every aspect for the modern business world. The institute has gained many special achievements in the field of education, such as: ISO-9001-2015 certification for quality of service, National Quality Award (merit) Certificate, the winner of Business Excellence Award in the state sector by National Chamber of Commerce, Sri Lanka, accreditations and recognition from international universities. NIBM has been listed within the first best 20 most respected business entities in the country by LMD.

NIBM has been providing students with academic excellence, cultural engagement, strong student support services and per-

NIBM was one of the first higher education institutions in Sri Lanka which positively responded to the Covid-19 pandemic. NIBM was able to continue all its academic programs using online technology from March 2020 without interrupting the education of its students. It introduced the "NIBM Digital Campus", which is a fully fledged alternative to in-class learning with the newest technology and experienced a great response from its students. As a result, NIBM was able to complete its educational programs without further delay and hold its regular annual Diploma Awards Ceremony on time.

Contact Dhammika Dangalla (0777630532) for further details



APIIT TIES UP WITH DEAKIN UNIVERSITY TO OFFER WORLD-CLASS DEGREES

Deakin University, Australia and Asia Pacific Institute of Information Technology (APIIT) Sri Lanka have partnered to offer a unique pathway which provides students enrolling at APIIT Sri Lanka the option of transferring to Deakin University in Australia after the first year of study at APIIT to complete the Deakin University Bachelor of IT and Bachelor of Commerce degree programmes.

Head, School of Computing, APIIT Sri Lanka Dr. Priyantha Kumarawadu shared his views on the mutually beneficial partnership saying, "With over 20 years of educational excellence, APIIT is one of the private higher education institutions which delivers the best quality higher education. The partnership with Deakin University, Australia is one of the most attractive academic pathway programmes that APIIT has established recently".

"Sri Lankan students who are aiming at a world ranked university in Australia can get direct entry to the second year of the undergraduate degree programme at Deakin University after completing the first year at APIIT Sri Lanka. This provides Sri Lankan students the opportunity to stay safe during the post Covid-19 period while engaging in studies without disturbances. We assure you the best start in education in computing and APIIT-Deakin University pathway programme will facilitate you to smooth transfer into Deakin University, Australia. We invite you to begin your journey to a world top 1% ranked university here at APIIT", he added.

Students who have completed the first year of study in the BSc (Hons) Computer Science degree at APIIT Sri Lanka may opt to complete Deakin's Bachelor of IT degree in one of six majors; Application Development, Cyber Security, Cloud Computing, Games Development, Creative Technologies and Virtual & Augmented Reality.

Those who have completed the first year of study in the BSc (Hons) International Business Management degree at APIIT Sri Lanka may avail themselves of the option of completing Deakin's Bachelor of Commerce degree in one of seven majors; Finance, Economics, Marketing, Management Information Systems, Accounting, HRM and Management.

"Deakin's School of Business and Law is ranked in the Top 1% of Business Schools worldwide. We are excited to partner with a reputable international organisation such as APIIT, and one with an excellent brand in Sri Lanka. Through our partnership, we look forward to welcoming APIIT students into the Bachelor of Commerce and the Bachelor of Business degrees at Deakin." said Professor Alexander Newman, Associate Dean, International, Faculty of Business & Law, Deakin University.

Deakin degrees are world class and on an impressive upward trajectory in global rankings. The latest QS World University Rankings by subject ranked Deakin among the top 1% of universities worldwide (ShanghaiRankings World University Rankings) for 20 study areas, including Business and Management, Computer Science, Communication and Media, Education, Law, Medicine and Nursing. Deakin is ranked in the Top 50 young universities in the world (QS and Times Higher Education top young universities).

"Deakin University, Australia & APIIT Sri Lanka have come together to help mitigate some of the immediate challenges in a post COVID environment.



APIIT will offer a pathway to Deakin programmes in Computer Science, Software engineering and Cyber Security. Sri Lankan students will be able to complete years 1 – 2 at APIIT and transfer to Deakin University with complete credit for prior learning and will also be able to make significant savings while



studying at APIIT before they transfer to Deakin University". said Prof. K Baskaran, Pro Vice Chancellor-International Research Partnerships, Deakin University.

Established in 1999 and having trained over 3,500 graduates in Business, Computing and Law in the past two decades, APIIT is one of the

leading private higher education institutes in Sri Lanka.

Head, Business School, APIIT Sri Lanka S. C. Kaluarachchi concluded saying, "The APIIT Business School is proud to partner with Deakin University, to offer Sri Lankan students a pathway to study in Australia. The partnership creates the opportunity to study one year at APIIT and complete the remaining two years at Deakin University, which is invaluable for students to gain world-class education with international exposure. Our dedicated and experienced faculty will prepare students for the standard expected at Deakin University".

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Deakin University CRICOS Provider Code: 00113B

Advertorial

Call for MBBS/MD program admissions in Belarus

Only Sri-Lankan Representative to operate a full time Foreign office in the Republic of Belarus to provide student services during entire study period
(LOWEST FEE from IMC Education)
 Pursuing a MBBS/MD degree from Belarus is a remarkable option for many Sri-Lankan students as entrance to Medical University is based on results of Local AL (CCS) and London AL (CCD). "Grodno State Medical University - Republic of Belarus" to be enlisted as one of the world's "Top 600 Science Universities" in the world (GWC Ranking).
 Presently over 800+ Sri-Lankan students have chosen Belarus as a study destination where 400+ students are enrolled at Grodno State Medical University, Republic of Belarus. IMC Education successfully provided admission for the September 2020 Intake as

well for the 1st of Batch - Sep 2020 intake adhering to Covid-19 Protocols.
Which university in Belarus can I apply to?

- Grodno State Medical University - Republic of Belarus is an SLMC (Sri-Lanka Medical Council) accredited university (<https://www.srilankamedicalcouncil.org/foreignuniversity.php>) there for if you are a student willing to work in Sri-Lanka after degree completion; your preferred university would be Grodno State Medical University - GrSMU.

Can I work overseas after studying in Grodno State Medical University?

- 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 Organization (WHO).

How can I apply to Grodno State Medical University?

- As Grodno State Medical University if a "State / Government University" run by the Republic of Belarus - The university officials appoint, "Official Representatives / Authorised Direct Agents / Official Agents" for each country. This is because government universities require country agents to be fully responsible of International students.

- To represent Grodno State Medical University in Sri-Lanka and for Maldivian students and parents (Sri-Lankan Passport & Maldivian Passport) - GrSMU has appointed "IMC Education" as the "Official Representative/ Authorised Direct Agent/ Official Agent for Grodno State Medical University - Republic of Belarus".

- IMC Education is the "Only Sri-Lankan representative to operate a Sri-Lankan office (Foreign office) with full time working staff in the Republic of Belarus. (Office Inside Grodno State Medical University).

- There are "Sub Agencies" operating in Sri-Lanka who promotes Medical Education Admissions to Belarus. These organisations "DO NOT HOLD DIRECT COMMUNICATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OR UNIVERSITY ADMISSION".

- Applications curated by these "Sub Agencies" are submitted to Agents of another destination who's not responsible for "Sri-Lankan or Maldivian Passports". Students can be involved with immigration & emigration issues or admission issues. Students, Parents & these Sub Agencies will not be able to involve on any Student related matters or admission procedures with the university officials. Sub Agencies will not have the authority to run an office in Belarus to provide onsite Belarus support for students as IMC Education is the only Sri-Lankan institution to have a foreign office in Belarus.

IMC education offers the lowest fee! How can I proceed?

- As the university is nearing to its final months of admission, IMC Education calls out for students to obtain the final set of seats of the university with the "MOST AFFORDABLE HANDLING FEE" compared to other operators in Sri-Lanka,

- Grodno State Medical University is a State university, hence your commitment per semester is only 2300 USD.

What services does IMC education provide in Sri Lanka?

- 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 offer post settlement services for Sri Lankan Students and look after their welfare needs for the entire study duration of 6-years.
- Lodging the application with the University and obtain the offer letter.
- Guiding students in obtaining SLMC clearance letters.
- Conducting a FREE comprehensive Pre-University Preparation (Pre Med) program which will equip the students with essential competencies to start the MD program in Belarus and to have a competitive edge over other students.

- IMC Facilitates students to select a medical university based on the country of destination, tuition fee, payment plans, future career plans, scholarship opportunities and specialisations available.

- Assisting students to takeACT16/ERPM training, USMLE exam training and AMC exam training through our global partners if the students are hoping to work respectively in Sri Lanka, USA and Australia on completion of the medical degree.

- Assist the students in obtaining educational loans from leading banks in Sri Lanka

What services does IMC education provide in Belarus?

- 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 entire study duration of 6-years.

- Airport pick up by our representatives in Belarus.

- Arranging hostels for the students before their arrival

- Arranging Private Apartments for students if they do not wish to occupy hostels.

- If students occupy either hostel or apartments, IMC Belarus office overlooks student safety and security,

- Arranging Visas, accommodation and airport pickup for the parents when they visit the students who are studying in Belarus.

- Buy essential items for the students on arrival to settle down in Belarus

- Take the students to hospitals to precede the required medical tests and assist them in the registration process of the University on arrival.

- Assist the students to obtain medical facilities from the respective hospitals by accompanying them to the hospitals in case of them falling sick

- Coordinating with the university and IMC office in Colombo to assist the students to overcome any issues they face during the academic program. Eg : Subject failures.

- Assisting students in obtaining Internship in Belarus if they don't wish to come back to Sri Lanka and choose to work abroad straight after the medical degree.

- Any other services required by the students within our scope of work.

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 Republic of Belarus.

- (GRSMU), is also equipped with the State-of-the-Art Digital Anatomy System the most technologically advanced anatomy visualization system for Anatomy education which is currently being adopted only by the world's leading medical schools

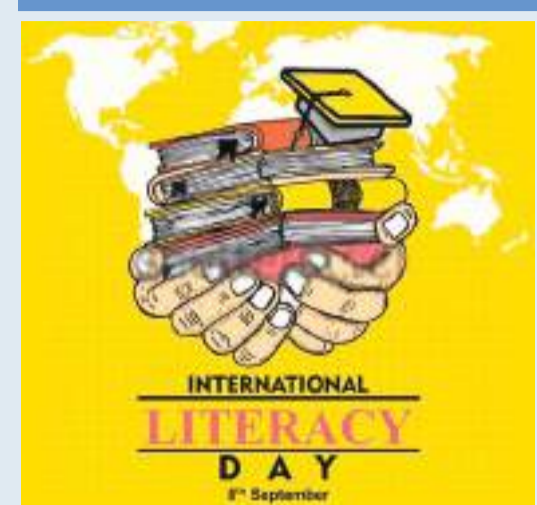
- GRSMU is equipped with modern laboratory facilities including Robotic simulators, one of the largest library facilities in Belarus to provide a greater platform for the students during the pre-clinical stage.

- The university works with joint collaboration with Government Hospitals and Clinical centers of the city.

- Visit IMC on September 12 for the medical university open day!

- You can now attend the "Medical University Open Day" hosted by IMC Education on September 12 from 10.30 am at IMC Education Headquarters (154, Thimbirigasyaya Junction, Havelock Road, Colombo 5) to get your Medical University details. Call 077 442 1597 | 077 30 888 40 to arrange your booking adhering to Covid-19 safety protocols.

International Literacy Day



THE AIM OF INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY IS TO PROMOTE THE IMPORTANCE OF LITERACY AS A MATTER OF DIGNITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS AND TO ADVANCE THE LITERACY AGENDA TOWARDS A MORE LITERATE AND SUSTAINABLE SOCIETY



By Vasana Abeynayake

Literacy is the ability to identify, understand, interpret, create, communicate and compute using printed and written materials associated with varying contexts." UNESCO
 Literacy is a bridge from misery to hope. It is one of the greatest gifts a person could receive and it is the single skill needed to function effectively in school, in work place and in society.



It is vital to a successful education, career and the quality of life. Think of how often you use your reading skills in everyday life. It's not just articles like this one that require literacy, but signs, labels and messages on your phone, too.

The same goes for writing. Nowadays, even phone calls have given way to instant messaging and text-based communication, making the ability to read all the more important. But beyond the functional level, literacy plays a vital role in transforming students into socially engaged citizens.

Being able to read and write means being able to keep up with current events, communicate effectively and understand the issues that are shaping our world. Reading is the first pillar of literacy, so encourage young learners to immerse themselves in it. This should involve exposure to a broad variety of different genres, such as newspapers, novels, comics, magazines, films, reference material and websites.

UNESCO has declared that World Literacy Day shall be celebrated every year on September 8. UNESCO proclaimed this on November 17, 1965 to promote the literacy levels all over the world. Although the countries may differ in the type of literacy day activities, they all celebrate it to highlight and broaden the awareness of the importance of education and literacy in the world.

Literacy is the key to development. Without literacy and education, there will be no development. The importance of literacy day can be surmised from the fact that a literate person always has an advantage over the illiterate person. In a literate world, we have the luxury of enjoying our favourite books. We read our bills, calculate our taxes and read the labels on the food we consume. We spend hours on end searching the internet for answers to our most pressing questions and on social media, connecting with friends and family. In a literate world, we live our lives free of the fear, burden, or embarrassment of not being able to read.

International Literacy Day is an occasion to give hope to the millions of women, men and children who cannot read or write even their names. It is a timely reminder to the world about the importance of literacy for individuals, families, communities and whole societies.

For those in a literate world, it can be hard to imagine navigating through life without the ability to read or write. That's because literacy is such an important and necessary skill for our lives. The aim of International Literacy Day is to promote the importance of literacy as a matter of dignity and human rights and to advance the literacy agenda towards a more literate and sustainable society.

International Literacy Day 2020 will focus on Literacy teaching and learning in the Covid-19 crisis and beyond with a focus on the role of educators and changing education. The theme focuses primarily on young and adult early skills through a life-long learning context. The Covid-19 crisis was an example of the growing divide between politics and reality: a disparity still present in the pre-Covid-19 period that has unfavorable consequences on the learning of young people and adults who have little to no awareness and are thus faced with numerous disadvantages. If you are looking for a way to become more literacy-focused in your life, then starting a book club at work is a fantastic way to enrich your work experience and personal development. The benefits of reading every day can lower levels of stress, increase brain function and increase overall levels of happiness and life satisfaction. It's no secret that having exposure to books at home has a tremendous impact on literacy development and cognition.

Evidence suggests that children with more access to books in their homes achieve higher literacy rates than those with significantly fewer books. International Literacy Day 2020 will provide an opportunity to discuss that how the innovative and efficient output can be used for the youth and adult literacy programs to face this pandemic and beyond. The day also provides an opportunity to examine the position of educators and to evaluate effective strategies, processes, governance and initiatives to promote educators and education. If we talk about literacy, the children's mastery over the tools needed should be enhanced for them to live intelligent, creative and involved lives.

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PhD.
Master of Education

B.Edu
(BACHELOR OF EDUCATION IN TEACHING ENGLISH)

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
Two passes at the G.C.E. Advanced Level in any stream or An equivalent or higher qualification acceptable to the board of SDTI Campus

4 YEAR

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
Completion of any Teaching Diploma level programme offered by the SDTI Campus or recognized Institute or over 2 year teaching experience. An equivalent or higher qualification acceptable to the board of SDTI Campus

2 YEAR

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
HND or over 4 years teaching experience or An equivalent or higher qualification acceptable to the board of SDTI Campus

1 YEAR (TOP-UP)

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■ Kiribathgoda
■ Kandy
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UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA
DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING ECONOMICS

MASTER OF SCIENCE / POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA
IN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH MANAGEMENT

Applications are invited for the above programme of study.

Eligibility Requirements :

(a) The Honours degree of Bachelor of Science in Facilities Management of the University of Moratuwa with a minimum of one year experience, OR

(b) An Honours Bachelor's degree of the University of Moratuwa and a minimum of one year appropriate experience, as may be approved by the Senate, OR

(c) Any other Honours Bachelor's degree from a recognised University with a minimum of one year appropriate experience, as may be approved by the Senate, OR

(d) A three year degree conducted by the University of Moratuwa and a minimum of two years appropriate experience, as may be approved by the Senate, OR

(e) Any other three year degree from a recognised University with a minimum of two years appropriate experience, as may be approved by the Senate, OR

(f) Any recognised category of membership of a recognised professional institution, obtained through an academic route, and a minimum of two years appropriate experience after obtaining such membership, as may be approved by the Senate

Application

Download the application form from the Department of Building Economics website: <http://www.becon.mrt.ac.lk>
OR
Collect the application form from the Department of Building Economics, University of Moratuwa, during working hours, Tuesday to Saturday from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. up to **26th September 2020**

Application Closing Date - 30th September 2020

All duly filled applications, along with a paying-in-voucher for Rs. 1,000/- drawn in favour of **University of Moratuwa Account No. 70993353** obtained from Bank of Ceylon as application processing fee shall reach the Department of Building Economics, Faculty of Architecture, University of Moratuwa by **30th September 2020**

Programme Content - The programme offers specialization in following areas: OSH Management in Facilities, Legal Aspects of OSH & Welfare, Safety and Hygiene, Psychology and Stress Management, Safety and Health in Workplace Planning, Ergonomics, Environmental Sustainability, Risk Management, Disaster Management, Human Recourse Management and Finance & Economics, Project Study, Industry Visits, Professional Practice, Research Methodology and Research Dissertation.

Special Features - Factory visits, site visits, a workshop and guest lectures by eminent local and international professionals in the specialised areas of safety and health such as boiler operations, fire safety, process and construction engineering.

Programme Fees - The Course fee for the first academic year and second academic year are Rs. 150,000/- and Rs. 100,000/- respectively. The registration fee per semester is Rs. 1,500/- (First year - Rs. 4,500/- and Second year Rs. 3,000/-). In addition a refundable deposit of Rs. 2,500/- (for library facilities) and an examination fee of Rs. 500/= is payable at the registration.

Medium of Study
Medium of study will be in English.

Registrar
University of Moratuwa



Gateway College Kandy holds Graduation Ceremony



Gateway College

Stepping out of school into the wider world is a pivotal point in the lives of students. The class of 2020 of Gateway College Kandy bid farewell to their school life at the graduation ceremony held on the 27th of August, at the Ballroom of the Grand Kandyan Hotel. The affectionate regard the students have towards their

school and teachers was clearly displayed at this grand event. The graduation, organised by the students and their teachers, was made memorable by the several entertainment items presented by the multitalented students. The ceremony which applauded the graduation of 46 students was attended by the school management, academic staff, graduates and family members amounting to over 220 guests in total.

The ceremony highlighted the many achievements of the Batch of 2020 which has been an outstanding one. Their Advanced Level results have now been released and several students have

received exceptional results. Among them, 6 students have obtained 4 A Stars each while 5 have received 3 A Stars each. This year, students of Gateway received offers from prestigious universities such as the University of Cambridge, Imperial College London, St. Andrew's University Scotland, University College London, Loughborough University, University of Melbourne, New York University, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), University of Toronto, National University of Singapore (NUS) and Yale - NUS, Singapore. Despite the setbacks of 2020, students have performed well and can look forward to more success in the days ahead.



MAS launches 'Harimamaga' to serve students' future

Multidimensional Aspirations for Students Private Limited was opened in the Municipal limits of Negombo, the second largest commercial city in Sri Lanka.

Our head office is located in Negombo with easy access to all students around the Island, who wish to receive our transparent and personalized services to facilitate higher educational opportunities. Our supportive staff has always entailed in exercising their professional duties to the entire satisfaction of our clients whom we consider to be very important.

We always look to broaden our horizon, to serve every individual in the most suitable way possible, to help them reach their set goals with integrity. Our success is none other than the success of when our students excel and reach their targets. Also, we provide support to them throughout the course of their journey in any kind of service.

For the last 12 years we have been in contact with countries such as Japan, Poland, Cyprus, Russia, Kazakhstan, Luxemburg, Malta, Azerbaijan, Thailand, and Austria for student visas and also finally helping them to seek employment in the above-mentioned countries.



We have been conducting our business in a very fruitful manner with the above-mentioned countries and have developed mutually benefited relationships with many foreign Institutions to deliver the best to our students and to expand our services to different sectors.

I can guarantee that our students can count on us to receive a quality service in all aspects. Hence, I would like to invite

genuine students to receive our unique and full-pledge, trustworthy service to make sure they do well in their future endeavors.

Win win win, the three wins are our ultimate goal in which each represents a single entity; you the STUDENTS, we MAS and OUR INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS whom we have complete faith will support us as we will do the same.

See page 48



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MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
STATE MINISTRY OF SKILLS DEVELOPMENT, VOCATIONAL EDUCATION,
RESEARCH & INNOVATIONS



SRI LANKA INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGICAL EDUCATION

ADMISSION OF STUDENTS TO THE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2020

Applications are called for Higher National Diploma (HND) programmes conducted by the Sri Lanka Institute of Advanced Technological Education (SLIATE) from those who have successfully completed the G.C.E.(A/L) Examination in 2019 or preceding years.

HOW TO APPLY

Application should be done only via apply.sliate.ac.lk and any other means of application will not be accepted.

Eligible candidates can select HND programmes under two categories that are based on the Z-score and marks of the selection test conducted by SLIATE.

SLIATE Programmes based on Z-Score Category - 1	HNDA, HNDBA, HNDBF, HNDE (CIVIL), HNDE (MECHANICAL), HNDE (ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONICS), HNDQS, HNDBSE, HNDT(Agri.)
SLIATE Programmes based on Selection Test Mark Category - 2	HND in English, HNDIT, HNDM, HNDPM, HNDTHM, HNDFT, HNDCSPT

Please refer **Section A** for Entry Qualifications of HND programmes and **Section B** for Advanced Technological Institutes (ATIs) details.

Eligible candidates can apply for a maximum of five academic programmes in each category (Category -1 & Category -2) at a cost of Rs. 500/= per category.

If a candidate applies for both categories, the payment should be done separately for each application and directly to the bank. **Online payment is not allowed.**

Transaction number (TRN) of the bank payment receipt should be entered into the online application.

Payments should be credited to SLIATE Account **025-2-001-1-3397613** at **Peoples' Bank**, Hyde Park Branch Colombo 02 or any other branch of the Peoples' Bank in Sri Lanka **on or before 06th October 2020**.

A hard copy of the application that is system generated after the confirmation of online application, should be signed and sent along with the payment receipt to the relevant ATI where the applicant's first preference is given **on or before 06th October 2020** via registered post.

The **reference number generated by the online system** should be clearly stated **at the top-left corner of the envelope**.

Status of the application during and after processing will be informed via the given e-mail address, mobile phone number or by post.

Applications received after the closing date **06/10/2020** will not be entertained under any circumstances.

MODE OF CONDUCTING PROGRAMMES

Full-Time Courses

Part-Time Courses (During Weekends)

Medium of instruction:- English

Part-Time courses are conducted for those who are employed in the relevant fields.

COURSE FEES

Full-Time course fee - Free

Part-Time course fees per semester are as follows.

Higher National Diploma in Accountancy - HNDA	Rs.7, 500/=
Higher National Diploma in English - HND in English	Rs.12, 000/=
Higher National Diploma in Information Technology - HNDIT	Rs.18, 000/=

REGISTRATION

Originals and certified copies of the educational and other required documents should be produced at the registration.

HOSTEL FACILITIES

A limited number of full-time students will be provided hostel facilities on request only at the following ATIs.

ATI Dehiwala and Gampaha	- Only for female students
ATI Ampara and Colombo	- Male & female students

Section "A"

Entry qualifications for the HNDs

1. Higher National Diploma in Accountancy (HNDA)

1.1 Full-Time - 4 years

Applicants should have the following qualifications:

- (i) Passed the G.C.E. (A/L) examination in one sitting with Credit pass for Economics and Accountancy
and
 Ordinary pass for English and Mathematics at the G.C.E. (O/L) examination.

1.2 Part-Time - 4 years

Applicants should have one of the following qualifications.

- (i) Passed the G.C.E. (A/L) examination in one sitting with Credit pass for Economics and Accounting
and
 Ordinary pass for English and Mathematics at the G.C.E. (O/L) examination

or

- (ii) Completion of any of the certificate courses given below conducted by the Department of Technical Education & Training (DTET)

- A. National Certificate in Accounting Technicians
 B. National Certificate in Business Studies
 C. National Certificate in Accounting

and

Ordinary pass for English Language at the G.C.E. (O/L) examination and the applicant should be employed in the relevant field in a government institution/public enterprise/recognized firm or self-employed (entrepreneur)

HNDA part time applicants who possess the following qualifications will be exempted from the 1st year and will be enrolled to the 2nd year if other entry requirements are met along with the availability at ATIs.

- Completion of the Higher National Diploma in Business Administration/ Business Finance & National Diploma in Business Studies conducted by the SLIATE.
- Completion of second year of the Higher National Diploma in Commerce conducted by the DTET.
- Completion of Executive level or CAB I and CAB II or Foundation & Intermediate level or Licentiate I and II conducted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka CA -Sri Lanka
- Completion of Part I and Part II of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA - UK).
- Completion of the Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT).
- Completion of the Associated Certified Management Accountants (ACMA) conducted by the Institute of Certified Management Accountants (CMA-Sri Lanka).

Note: - According to the Public Administration circular No. 46/90, the Higher National Diploma in Accountancy has been recognized to be accepted as an alternative qualification to a General Degree in Commerce (Ordinary pass), awarded by a recognized University for recruitment purposes.

2. Higher National Diploma in Business Administration - (HNDBA) Full-Time - 2 ½ years

3. Higher National Diploma in Business Finance - (HNDBF) - Full-Time - 2 ½ years

Applicants should have the following qualifications:

- (i) Passed the G.C.E. (A/L) examination in one sitting in Commerce stream
and
 Ordinary pass for English and Mathematics at the G.C.E. (O/L) examination

4. Higher National Diploma in Consumer Sciences and Product Technology - (HNDCSPT) - Full-Time - 3 years

Applicants should have the following qualifications:

- (i) Passed the G.C.E. (A/L) examination in one sitting in any stream including Home Science or Home Economics as a subject
and
 Ordinary passes in English and Mathematics at the G.C.E. (O/L) examination

5. Higher National Diploma in Engineering (HNDE - Civil): Full-Time - 3 ½ yrs

6. Higher National Diploma in Engineering (HNDE - Electrical & Electronic): Full-Time - 3 ½ yrs

7. Higher National Diploma in Engineering (HNDE - Mechanical): Full-Time - 3 ½ yrs

8. Higher National Diploma in Quantity Surveying (HNDQS): Full-Time - 2 ½ yrs

9. Higher National Diploma in Building Services Engineering (HNDBSE): Full-Time - 3 ½ yrs

Applicants should have the following qualifications:

- (i) Passed the G.C.E. (A/L) examination in one sitting in Physical Science stream (Chemistry, Physics and Combined Mathematics)
and
 Ordinary pass in English at the G.C.E. (O/L) examination

10. Higher National Diploma in English (HND in English)

10.1 Full-Time - 2 ½ years

Applicants should have the following qualifications:

- (i) Passed the G.C.E. (A/L) examination in one sitting in any stream
and

Ordinary pass for General English at the G. C. E. A/L examination

and

Credit pass for English and Mathematics at the G.C.E. (O/L) examination.

or

Ordinary pass for Appreciation of English Literary Texts at the G.C.E. (O/L) examination

10.2 Part-Time - 2 ½ years

In addition to the qualifications in 10.1, the applicant should be employed in a government institution / public enterprise / recognized firm or self-employed (entrepreneur).

11. Higher National Diploma in Food Technology (HNDFT) - Full-Time - 2 ½ years

Applicants should have the following qualifications:

- (i) Passed the G.C.E. (A/L) examination in one sitting in Bio Science or Physical Science stream
and

Ordinary pass for English and Mathematics at the G.C.E. (O/L) examination

12. Higher National Diploma in Information Technology (HNDIT) Full-Time - 2 ½ years

Applicants should have the following qualifications:

- (i) Passed the G.C.E. (A/L) examination in one sitting in any stream
and

Ordinary pass for English and Mathematics at the G.C.E. (O/L) examination

12.2 Part-Time - 2 ½ years

In addition to the qualifications in 12.1, the applicant should be employed in the relevant field in a government institution / public enterprise / recognized firm or self-employed (entrepreneur).

13. Higher National Diploma in Management (HNDM) Full-Time - 3 years

Applicants should have the following qualifications:

- (i) Passed the G.C.E. (A/L) examination in one sitting in any stream
or

- (ii) National Certificate for Accounting Technicians or National Certificate in Business Studies (Public Administration / Marketing) conducted by the Department of Technical Education & Training
and

Ordinary pass for English and Mathematics at the G.C.E. (O/L) examination

14. Higher National Diploma in Project Management (HNDPM) - Full-Time - 2 ½ years

Applicants should have the following qualifications:

- (i) Passed the G.C.E. (A/L) examination in one sitting in any stream
and

Ordinary pass for English and Mathematics at the G.C.E. (O/L) examination

15. Higher National Diploma in Technology Agriculture - (HNDT - Agriculture) Full-Time - 3 years

Applicants should have the following qualifications:

- (i) Passed the G.C.E. (A/L) examination in one sitting in Bio Science stream (including three of following subjects: Chemistry, Agricultural Science, Biology and Physics).
and

Ordinary pass for English and Mathematics at G. C. E. (O/L) examination

16. Higher National Diploma in Tourism & Hospitality Management - (HNDTHM) Full-Time - 3 years

Applicants should have the following qualifications:

- (i) Passed the G.C.E. (A/L) examination in one sitting in any stream
and

Ordinary pass for English and Mathematics at the G.C.E. (O/L) examination

Section "B"

Names of ATIs, Addresses, Telephone Numbers and the Higher National Diploma (HND) courses [Full Time (FT) & Part Time (PT)]

Name of ATI	Address	Telephone Numbers	Courses Offered	
01	Hardy Advanced Technological Institute - Ampara	Prof. Even A Hardy Mawatha, Ampara.	063-2222056 063-2223035	HNDT (Agri)(FT), HNDA (FT), HNDM(FT), HNDIT (FT), HNDTHM(FT), HND in English (FT), HNDA (PT), HND in English (PT) HNDIT (PT)
02	Advanced Technological Institute - Anuradhapura	Akkara 111, Anula Mw, Pandulagama, Anuradhapura.	025-2234417	HNDIT(FT), HNDA (FT), HND in English (FT), HNDTHM (FT), HNDIT(PT) HNDA (PT), HND in English (PT)
03	Advanced Technological Institute - Badulla	Greenland Drive, Badulla.	055-2230218 055-2223818	HNDIT (FT), HNDA (FT), HNDM(FT), HND in English (FT), HNDTHM(FT), HNDIT (PT), HNDA (PT), HND in English (PT)
04	Advanced Technological Institute - Batticaloa	Main Street, Kovilkulam East, Arayampathy, Batticaloa.	065-2247519 065-2247470	HNDIT (FT), HNDA (FT), HND in English(FT) HNDTHM(FT), HNDA (PT), HND in English (PT), HNDIT (PT).
05	Advanced Technological Institute - Colombo	No. 42, Rodrigo Place, Colombo 15.	011-2521152 011-2521282	HNDE (CIVIL)(FT), HNDE (MECHANICAL) (FT), HNDE (ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONICS)(FT) HNDQS(FT), HNDBSE(FT)

Name of ATI	Address	Telephone Numbers	Courses Offered	
06	Advanced Technological Institute - Dehiwala	No 51, Waidya Rd, Dehiwala.	011-2738349	HNDIT (FT), HNDA (FT), HNDM (FT), HNDBA, HND in English (FT), HNDBF(FT), HNDTHM(FT), HNDA (PT), HND in English (PT),
07	Advanced Technological Institute - Galle	Siridamma Mw, Labuduwa, Akmeemana, Galle.	091-2246179	HNDE (CIVIL)(FT), HNDE (MECHANICAL) (FT), HNDE (ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONICS) (FT), HNDIT (FT), HNDT (Agri) (FT), HNDA (FT), HNDM (FT), HNDTHM(FT), HNDBA (FT), HND in English (FT), HNDQS (FT) HNDA (PT), HNDIT (PT), HND in English(PT)
08	Advanced Technological Institute - Gampaha	Naiwala, Essalla, Veyangoda.	033-2287519 033-2292544	HNDT (Agri) (FT), HNDIT (FT), HNDFT(FT), HNDCSPT(FT),HNDA (FT), HNDA (PT), HNDIT (PT),
09	Advanced Technological Institute - Jaffna	No. 665/2, Beach Rd. Gurunagar, Jaffna.	021-2222595 021-2229803	HNDE (CIVIL)(FT), HNDE (ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONICS) (FT), HNDA (FT), HND in English(FT), HNDTHM(FT), HNDQS(FT), HNDM(FT), HNDIT (FT), HNDIT (PT), HNDA (PT), HND in English (P/T)

	Name of ATI	Address	Telephone Numbers	Courses Offered
10	Advanced Technological Institute - Kandy	No. 16, Keppetipola Mawatha, Kandy.	081-2232097 081-2226644	HNDIT (FT), HNDA (FT), HNDM(FT), HNDBA(FT), HND in English (FT), HNDTHM (FT) HNDA (PT), HND in English (PT), HNDIT (PT)
11	Advanced Technological Institute - Kegalle	Bandaranayake Mawatha, Kegalle.	035-2221297 035-2221713	HNDIT(FT), HNDA (FT), HND in English (FT), HNDPM(FT) HNDA (PT), HND in English (PT),
12	Advanced Technological Institute - Kurunegala	No. 22/1, Wilgoda Rd, Kurunegala.	037-2229583 037-2224911	HNDIT (FT), HNDA(FT), HNDM (FT), HND in English (FT), HNDTHM (FT), HNDTHM (FT) HNDIT (PT), HNDA (PT), HND in English (PT),
13	Advanced Technological Institute - Mannar	No 201, Provincial English Support Centre (PESC), Thalaimannar Road, Mannar.	023-3122555	HND in English (FT), HNDTHM, HNDIT (FT)
14	Advanced Technological Institute - Nawalapitiya	No. 154/6, Gampola Road. (Black Street), Aishwarya Hall, 4 th Floor, Nawalapitiya.	054-2050634	HNDTHM (FT), HNDM(FT), HND in English(FT), HND in English (PT),
15	Advanced Technological Institute - Rathnapura	New Town, Ratnapura.	045-2231492 045-2231493	HNDIT (FT), HNDA (FT), HND in English (FT), HNDA (PT), HND in English (PT),
16	Advanced Technological Institute - Sammanthurai	ATI Avenue, Sammanthurai.	067-2261304	HNDIT (FT), HNDA (FT), HND in English (FT), HNDM (FT), HNDIT (PT), HNDA (PT), HND in English (PT)
17	Advanced Technological Institute - Tangalle	Yayawaththa, Netolpitiya, Tangalle.	0472241845 0472241846	HNDIT (FT), HNDA (FT), HND in English (FT) HNDA (PT), HND in English (PT)
18	Advanced Technological Institute - Trincomalee	Kanniya Rd, Varothayanagar, Trincomalee.	0262223232 0262050617	HNDIT (FT), HNDA (FT), HND in English (FT), HNDTHM (FT) HNDA (PT), HNDIT (PT), HND in English (PT),
19	Advanced Technological Institute - Vavuniya	Off A 9 Road, Veppankulam, Omanthai, Vavuniya.	0242052733	HNDIT (FT) HNDA (FT), HND in English (FT), HNDA (PT), HND in English (PT)

NOTE:

- The applicant should fulfill the required entry qualifications before the closing date of applications.
- The minimum marks for the G.C.E. (A/L) General Common Test Paper, should be 25 for HND Full-Time programmes. The applicant should be qualified for higher education.
- The recruitment of eligible candidates for HNDs in category 02 will be based on a common written test conducted institute wise.
- Preference will be given for full-time students who are below 23 years.
- At least 50 students should be registered in a particular study programme to commence the course at a particular ATI.
- Full-time students of all the courses should attend lectures during weekdays and if required, during weekends.
- Part-time courses will be conducted during weekends.
- Mode of instruction for both of full-time and part-time courses will be in-class, online or both depending on the requirement.
- The first and second years of HNDA (Full-Time) programmes are conducted only on weekdays. Third and fourth years are conducted during weekends.
- The first and second years of HNDM programmes are conducted on weekdays and the third year is conducted on weekends.
- Students of full-time programmes must undergo an in-plant training of minimum six months in relevant field.
- Part-time applicants should be employed in a relevant field.
- Once a student has been enrolled in a full-time course, transferring to any other ATI will not be entertained under any circumstances.
- Students who have registered for any HND course would be allowed to cancel their registration before 60 days starting from the closing date of registration given by the relevant institute without any charge.
- Rs.5, 000.00 per month will be charged since the date of registration from the students who are cancelling their registration after 60 days. (Internal circular(Exam)04/2019 on 12.07.2019)
- Semester-end examinations will be held for both full-time and part-time students during weekdays and weekends.
- Any other entry qualifications recommended by the Academic Syndicate Meeting and approved by the Governing Council will be considered.
- G.C.E. (A/L) and G.C.E. (O/L) Examinations must be administered by the Department of Examinations, Sri Lanka.
- Any applicants who have provided false information will be rejected.
- Decision of the Director General of SLIATE will be the final decision for the admission of students to Advanced Technological Institutes for the academic year 2020.
- For more information please visit the web site: www.sliate.ac.lk

CLOSING DATE OF APPLICATIONS 06.10.2020(Please refer the Gazette Notification dated 4th September 2020).**Director General,****Sri Lanka Institute of Advanced Technological Education (SLIATE)**

'Culture of ragging' in Higher Educational Institutions

COMMITTEE REPORT TO UGC



The Committee, appointed by the University Grants Commission (UGC) under the chairmanship of Justice Dr. Saleem Marsoof PC to address the issue of providing relief to students who have been deprived of their education due to ragging in State Universities and HEIs, presents its report to UGC members.

Every intake of students to Sri Lankan State Universities and other Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) has highlighted the breakdown of value system and discipline in our society through an increasingly phenomenal menace called "ragging". The enactment in Sri Lanka of legislation entitled the Prohibition of Ragging and Other Forms of Violence in Educational Institutions Act No. 20 of 1998 has not succeeded in curtailing this phenomenon.

Despite the enactment of legislation, during the last two decades, we have seen many new entrant students dying or suffering serious injuries due to ragging. Many students have reportedly dropped out of these state universities and higher educational institutions, and many other eligible students have refrained from opting to study in these institutions due to ragging related abusive conduct. This has not only adversely affected the students and their families, but also deprived the state of valuable human potential that could have been harnessed for national development.

It is in these circumstances that on the instructions of the then Minister of Higher Education, Dr. Bandula Gunawardana, that a Committee was appointed by the University Grants Commission (UGC) under the chairmanship of Justice Dr. Saleem Marsoof PC to specifically address the issue of providing appropriate relief to students who have been deprived of their education due to ragging in State Universities and HEIs coming within the purview of the UGC from 2014/2015.

This Committee was also required to propose a regulatory mechanism to prevent ragging to ensure that the affected students do not suffer the same fate when

re-admitted to an academic institution. Due to the onset of Covid-19 in Sri Lanka, the initial time frame of three months from January 31 for the submission to the UGC of the Report of the Committee was extended by another three months. Accordingly, the Committee submitted its Report on August 31.

The Committee consisted of Justice Dr. Saleem Marsoof PC (Chairman), Senior Professor Janitha A Liyanage (Secretary), Ven. Professor Magammana Paññananda Thera, Rev. Dr. Benet Shantha Fernando, Senior Professor Narada Warnasuriya, Dr. Chandra Embuldeniya and Prasantha Lal De Alwis PC. The Committee gathered information by interviewing students affected by ragging and ragging related violence in and after the academic year 2014/2015, and concluded that the primary factors that inhibited the implementation of anti-ragging measures contained in the Prohibition of Ragging Act of 1998 was the existence of a long standing and deep rooted 'culture of ragging' in the campuses of Sri Lankan State Universities and HEIs.

The Committee has in the Foreword to the Report included a ten-point summary of the conclusions and detailed regulatory measures that should be taken to curtail ragging in state universities and institutions of higher learning, which read as follows:-

- Ragging is a manifestation of prevailing social conditions and issues that fall outside the scope of this Committee's terms of reference;
- The primary responsibility for curbing ragging in universities and other higher educational institutions coming within the purview of the UGC vest exclusively in these universities and

- institutions;
- The UGC as well as the academic institutions themselves should develop policies and procedures for the elimination of ragging and ensure due compliance;
- Security and discipline should be strengthened in all state universities and higher educational institutions and the heads of these institutions should create incentives for due compliance and disincentives for failure to comply;
- Greater co-ordination between police and academic institutions should be established on a permanent basis;
- It is necessary to create wide public awareness of the disruptive consequences of ragging, and the UGC, state universities and other institutions should take steps to develop such awareness and set in place anti-ragging measures;
- For discouraging ragging, it may be necessary to be proactive than reactive, and academic institutions should put in place programs that enhance awareness of human values and potentials, human rights, personality development and vocational guidance etc that can help in redressing the underlying causes of ragging;
- Relevant institutions should review the management and regulation of hostels and canteens, the hotbeds of ragging;
- Counselling and other guidance systems should be put in place; and
- As an essential part of compliance and due diligence, periodic training programs for all university and institutional staff on ragging must be conducted regularly.

Bridging health care's innovation-education gap

Despite the excellence of its delivery, insurance and technology components, the health care sector in the United States is plagued with sky-high costs, unequal access and erratic quality. This predicament continues to create a major drag on the U.S. economy.

According to an analysis by McKinsey, while the productivity of the U.S. computer and semiconductor industry grew by 7.6% per year in the 1990-2007 period, the productivity of the U.S. health care industry dropped by 0.8% annually. To change this grim statistic, the pace of innovation must dramatically increase. But to achieve that, we must alter how we educate future health care leaders. Despite the health care sector's massive share of America's GDP, most graduate health care administration and MD/MBA programs have not aligned their curricula to address the need for innovation.

In our interviews with 58 CEOs in the health care sector about their organizations' future needs, the words they most used were change and innovation. (The 58 included leaders of delivery, insurance, med tech, bio-pharma, and IT organisations and ministers of health.) They wanted people who can investigate problems, find solutions through process and organisational innovation, and drive them forward — people who can work on a diverse team, understand failure and its causes, and manage change.

But our analysis of health-care-related curricula at 26 top U.S. schools that offer graduate degrees in health care administration found the most frequently used words were policy and organisation. Innovation and entrepreneur were used only 27 times.

At far too many programs, curricula focus on isolated subjects — such as health policy, analytics and quantitative problem solving — that are taught primarily through lectures in theoretical settings. Despite the excellence of the individual faculties, programs, and schools, this siloed, abstract approach does not meet the needs of future innovators. Many CEOs have been so dissatisfied with traditional education for health care administrators that they have had their organisations develop training programs of their own. Our surveys indicated that many academics in the field of health care administration agree that schools are not educating students to be able to create badly needed new processes, systems and organisational forms and to solve problems and implement solutions across a range of business processes.

Separate analyses of medical school curricula reached similar conclusions: A Lancet article, for example, called for global change to promote transformative professional education that harnesses flows of educational content and innovation.

The CEOs, we interviewed, do not believe that academia alone should shoulder the burden of fixing this

problem. We agree. Business leaders can and should partner with educators to accelerate this improvement in pedagogical techniques by pursuing these transformative activities:

Team teaching

The CEOs want to provide input on program design and teaching, and many would be willing to guest-lecture or co-teach. If a faculty member lacks the real-world experience, the remedy is to have him or her team up with an entrepreneur, a strategist, or an innovator to teach and help solve local and global practical problems. In an MBA course Innovating in Health Care that one of us (Regina) teaches at Harvard Business School (HBS), for example, two health-care-reimbursement specialists participate in a session to assist students in developing business plans. As a result of one plan (developed by a team of Harvard MBA and School of Public Health students), a large U.S. health insurance company will reimburse on-demand jet service for kidney transplantation.

Mentoring

Harvard Business School's Entrepreneur in Residence program is an example of an organised campus activity that brings health care innovators in contact with students. Entrepreneurs-in-residence serve for the entire academic year in a part-time capacity, meeting with students in group and one-on-one sessions and collaborating with various faculty members on cases, courses, research and other activities.

Case studies

Case studies of successes and failures (especially failures) are essential. Business leaders could partner with academics to develop them and appear in classes when they are taught. (The CEOs of a number of health care companies from around the world lectured in the HBS course Innovation in Health Care when cases on their organisations were taught. They included Amil, Fortis Healthcare, McKesson, PAREXEL International, and the Vitality Group.)

Field projects and apprenticeships

The CEOs feel that field work and formal internships can offer lessons the classroom cannot. Formal residencies, apprenticeships, or field-study courses that place the student in a health care environment will help inform future innovators about the real-world challenges facing health care systems in the 21st century and the difficulties likely to be encountered in implementing solutions. Five new health care businesses resulted from

the field studies in the 2013 Innovation in Health Care course, including an ambulatory pediatric surgery center for Medicaid recipients and a hospital in Nigeria.

Rewards and incentives

While traditional classroom, online, and blended courses may remain mainstays of health care education, the future challenge will be to integrate the classroom into the real world. To achieve this, current faculty incentives, which are often focused primarily on research and publications, should be strengthened to recognise excellence in teaching and reforming the curriculum.

Accreditation and standards

Accreditation programs for U.S. medical and health administration schools lack specific requirements for core competencies related to innovation. Similarly, courses for the maintenance of a medical licence have no specific emphasis on innovation. Ranking of educational programs by third parties and other formal and informal governance processes also do not stress innovation. To address these deficiencies, the business community should collaborate with accreditation, licensure, and ranking programs to create innovation standards. In addition, it should consider working with schools' admissions programs to offer student loans and other incentives for students who demonstrate interest and competence in becoming innovators.

These activities require greater commitment by business — a shift from trying to alleviate the symptoms of an anachronistic educational system toward a partnership that can help improve global health care systems in a lasting and meaningful way. To encourage this partnership, a group representing global academic institutions, professional organizations, and health care consultancies formed the Global Educators Network for Health Care Innovation Education (GENIE) Group.

The goal of the organisation, which includes us, is to make innovation a central part of the education of future leaders in health care. To advance it, we have already held two annual conferences with 150 global academic and stakeholder attendees at Harvard Business School and Duke University, launched the Harvard edX program Innovating in Health Care and the HBS Executive Education course Business Innovations in Global Health Care, created an archive of innovative programs, and surveyed a wide range of constituents to help develop the competencies they deemed necessary in an innovation curriculum.

Advertorial

FIRST 'VIRTUAL CAREER FESTIVAL'

CIMA launches 'Hundred & 10%'

INVESTING TODAY IN TOMORROW'S SKILLS

CIMA, the world's leading and largest professional accountancy body launched 'Hundred & 10%', CIMA Sri Lanka's first-ever Virtual Career Festival. The festival is a week-long event to be held from September 13 - 19, featuring global and local industry leaders coming together for a one-of-a-kind career festival.

Sharing her thoughts on the initiative, Zahara Ansary, ACMA, CGMA, Country Manager for CIMA Sri Lanka said, "The environment has dramatically changed since Covid-19 hit the world and has forced many companies to speed up their digital innovation and transformation. Especially during times like this, the youth and professionals of today need to build skills that will help them assure their employability."

'Hundred & 10%' is the first-ever Virtual Career Festival organised by CIMA, and through this weeklong festival, we want to inspire the next generation of Sri Lankan professionals to go above and beyond in their careers. This festival will utilise the power of the digital landscape, while providing a platform where industry

leaders, both local and global, and individuals across the island can come together for an enriching learning experience."

The weeklong festival will feature a diverse list of key speakers across different industries, covering topics relating to the five skills of the CGMA Competency Framework, namely Technical Skills, Leadership Skills, People Skills, Business Skills and Digital Skills. Apart from the panel speakers, the festival will also host exciting events, including a Hackathon calling out all individuals to register in a 24-hour competition where participants will be tested on their problem solving skills, as well as an Elevator Pitch segment where a selected number of entrepreneurs can pitch their product or business idea to well-known business leaders.

"CIMA focuses on providing a well-rounded education to its students across diverse careers, preparing them for today's challenges and tomorrow's opportunities. Using the CGMA Competency Framework as part of our syllabus, we enable students and professionals to get re-

silient and ready with the insights and skills needed to flourish in a dynamic and rapidly evolving business landscape. Here at CIMA, we work towards supporting the concept of lifelong professional learning and experience," said Zahara Ansary.

Among the featured business leaders headlining the event are, Zahara Ansary; Melanie Kanaka-FCMA, CGMA, Vice President of CIMA/ Head of Finance and Administration, Sri Lanka and Maldives at World Bank; Ajit Gunewardene, Founder and CEO of Bluestone Capital Private Limited; Shiromal Cooray, Managing Director of Jetwing Travels (Private) Ltd; Venkakat Ramanan, FCMA, CGMA, Regional Vice President - Asia Pacific, Association of International Certified Professional Accountants; Imran Furkhan, FCMA, CGMA, CEO - Tresync and Imani Perera, Head of Learning and Development - John Keells Holdings.

For more information on 'Hundred & 10% - CIMA Sri Lanka's first ever Virtual Career Festival', visit <https://bit.ly/34LWHp4> or contact Darshatha on 0714 297 866.



(From left) Zahara Ansary, ACMA, CGMA, Country Manager CIMA Sri Lanka; Melanie Kanaka-FCMA, CGMA, Vice President of CIMA / Head of Finance and Administration, Sri Lanka and Maldives at World Bank and Imran Furkhan, FCMA, CGMA, CEO - Tresync.

How long does it take to prepare for IELTS?

This is a question many IELTS candidates ask and the answer is: "It all depends". In fact, of course, there is no one answer, just more questions about:

- Your current English level
- How many hours of study per day
- If you study alone or not
- Language skills and IELTS preparation

The international standard Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) language levels and their corresponding IELTS band scores show that a B2 CEFR English language user would score somewhere between 5.5 and 6.5 in

IELTS, whereas a C1 user would get an overall band score of 6.5 to 8.0. A C2 would be guaranteed 8.0 to 9.0 but if your level is judged to be B1, then you'll get a final IELTS band score of 4.0 to 5.5. For more on this, go to: <https://www.ielts.org/ielts-for-organisations/common-european-framework>.

This should make it clear that before we start talking about how much time it might take to prepare for IELTS, one of the first steps you must take is:

Know your level

How? Without worrying too much about bands and CEFR levels,

it is likely that you have a good idea of how good your English language skills are but there are many short online tests that will give you some idea. For example: <https://www.cambridgeenglish.org/test-your-english/>

Exam skills and IELTS preparation

IELTS study means knowing the IELTS exam. It's a matter of exam skills, not just language skills. You need to know:

- The IELTS format
- The skills tested in reading, listening, writing and speaking
- The range of strategies to use



The best way to find out is by:

- Taking a practice test
- Can I prepare for IELTS by myself?

Yes. If you have IELTS practice materials and you feel comfortable studying alone, no problem. But most IELTS candidates, including those whose English language skills

place them at a good C1 or even C2 level, seek and benefit from professional help.

The IELTS exam expert can help you to:

- Identify your strengths
- Identify your weaknesses
- Work on skills and strategies to best use your strengths
- Work on skills and strategies that will eradicate your weaknesses

In terms of time, between you and the expert, it would mean:

- Establishing a study plan (hours daily/weekly; content)
- Exchanging information (de-

tailed feedback and continuous assessment of progress)

Study tips

- With your study plan, work out a routine and always stick to it.
- This means organising your time to best suit you. Do you study better in the morning or at night, for example.
- Your plan should be as detailed as possible with a daily and hourly breakdown of your schedule. For example: Speaking practice: record myself on phone speaking for 2 minutes on IELTS Part 2 Speaking topic. Give 60 seconds for preparation.



UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO
Department of International Relations,
Faculty of Arts

**MASTER OF ARTS
IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
(MAIR) 2020/2021 (Blended Mode)**

Applications are invited from qualified candidates to the above programme of study:
Duration: Two Years

Entry Requirements :

- Graduates with at least a Second Class from a recognized University or an equivalent qualification;
- Graduates with postgraduate qualifications in a relevant area of study;
- Graduates in the Foreign Service of Sri Lanka or Graduates presently employed in Foreign Embassies or International Organizations in Sri Lanka;
- Candidates who possess qualifications/experience which are deemed by the Faculty/Senate to be equivalent to the qualifications specified in clauses (i) and (ii)

Admission to the course will be made after an interview conducted by a Selection Committee. Candidates are required to submit photocopies of the degree and other relevant certificates together with their applications.

Course Fee : Rs. 375,000.00

First Installment

Upon Selection - Rs. 200,000.00

Second Installment

Rs. 175,000.00 - Before commencement of Second Academic Year

Please note that different course fees are applicable for foreign students as per the University policy

Application Procedure :

Application form and course brochure can be obtained in person by paying Rs. 3,000 to the People's Bank (any branch) under Reference No : 304054300003 from the Senior Assistant Registrar, Academic & Publications Branch, University of Colombo, 94, Cumarathunga Munidasa Mawatha, Colombo 03.

Duly completed application form accompanied with the payment slip should be submitted to the Academic & Publications Branch (94, Cumarathunga Munidasa Mawatha, Colombo 03) on or before 30th September 2020.

Contact : Dr. Maneesha S. Wanasinghe-Pasqual (Coordinator)
maircoordinator@inr.cmb.ac.lk
Thilini Perera (011-2500433) for further details

REGISTRAR
University of Colombo

Digital Marketing in higher education: importance, benefits and impact

Digital marketing has had a deep impact on not just higher education in marketing but higher education as a whole. Most academic institutions worldwide are now using digital marketing technologies to not only connect and engage with their potential audience but also in teaching and learning. Their digital marketing campaigns are delivering consistent returns for them.

One of the biggest advantages of digital marketing is the democratisation of information which is personalised, targeted and quickly accessible on a scale that was unprecedented before. With digital marketing, you can interact with your audience directly. But with so many digital marketing tools to choose from, the challenge is to identify the suitable ones for your University. This often confuses marketing professionals. However, with the help of an ed-tech company, customised digital marketing solutions can be crafted to suit your academic needs.

Universities and Colleges globally have been using digital strategies to reach out to potential students since the dawn of the internet. However, the whole approach got revolutionised after the arrival of social media and smartphone technologies.

Modern students are less responsive to traditional marketing techniques. Instead, they expect to be engaged through digital media. In addition to reaching out to your target audience through social media, they can be touch-based by a host of digital platforms. In this regard, SEO and SEM activities acquire a lot of importance.



Today, your audience finds you on search engines and google is the most important website of the day. How to be among top search results is the key to marketing success today. How to optimise SEO (Search Engine Optimisation) and SEM (Search Engine Marketing) activities is the biggest challenge in the field of higher education marketing. These initiatives are designed to engage students on a personal level, and carefully crafted content leverages your academic brand so that you have the most visibility in all the right areas.

Why Digital Marketing Matters?

Higher education is all about a community that is young, vibrant and is on a lookout for social interconnectedness. Social media channel, therefore, is an important extension of that community's interest and preferences for engagement and interaction. Worldwide, educational institutes are using digital marketing strategies to touch-base with their stakeholders: prospective students and their probable recruiters.

When it comes to direct audience, Educational Institutions have two different groups of audiences to cater - millennials and their parents. Besides,

there are other target groups too as mentioned earlier. By following a suitable approach that relates to the needs of these exclusive groups and focusing your efforts in that direction can help you connect quickly with the audience you are trying to reach. When you focus on digital marketing and SEM strategies, you can easily connect and engage with students and parents and coordinate your efforts with ease.

Digital marketing assumes strategic importance in higher education due to the following reasons. These points will also help you to understand the intrinsic benefits of this new media and appreciate its impact in the right spirit.

Digital Marketing helps in connecting with prospective students

The most prominent reason why digital marketing has become an important tool of marketing landscape is its ability to connect with your target audience instantly. Millennials today are constantly hooked on to social media for gathering information. They have been brought up in an environment where digital familiarity is a must.

The use of mobile phones among the young generation is higher than

any other age group. A lot of their time is spent online. They are in fact experiencing the entire spectrum of their life through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and many similar platforms to gather information and communicate among themselves.

All this is compelling academic entities to be present on the media where their audience is. Marketing campaign targeted at prospective applicants needs to be highlighted on social media to achieve the desired results. So, if your University is not investing in digital marketing that talks directly to your target audience, then your message may not get the visibility it requires to get noticed by this important group. The youth of the day loves to browse social media to not only connect with each other but also to surf for their favourite brands, online shows, reviews and any other information that is of interest to them. As such, if you are not maintaining a vibrant and visible presence on social platforms, can leave you unnoticed in a market which is already overcrowded with similar players who are constantly waiting to grab your share of the market.

In fact, in the present scenario, it would be a great idea to start engaging your audience much before they actually become eligible for your College.

Efforts should be made to develop campaigns that are targeted to engage prospects right from their school days. This early engagement will help you to generate adequate brand awareness among your wannabe students and will effectively position your academic brand in that group long before it is time for them to prepare for a college education.

MAS launches 'Harimamaga'...

We operate in a subtle manner and we aim in aiding genuine students, to give them an easy and straight forward approach and a procession which we introduce the most suitable destinations than the most popular to give them an advantage in terms of expenses, accommodation and lifestyle.

Usually, most who deal in this industry try to offer the most popular destinations towards students. But they unfortunately forget what is most important, EDUCATION!

Students traveling abroad can sometimes lose their way and get sidetracked from the goals but we MAS are here to provide our students with the most suitable destinations rather than

the most popular.

Over the years, MAS has built the necessary relationships with world class, well recognized universities in various countries. By that statement we have formed contacts so that our students will have help in obtaining the necessities like Accommodation, traveling and food, etc.

In the same way, we assure you that, this is legit as we ourselves have visited each university and we guarantee the safe environment and foreign exposure that our students deserve.

We provide benefits in all aspects but it is up to you if want to take up this great opportunity!

We are always here to help by pro-

From page 45

viding up to date true information, understanding the reality of our student's situation and the weight of traveling to foreign countries to reach their dreams. Don't be fooled by fake agents or people who give you false hopes. We will take you to your right destination, showing you the right path in the right way at the right time.

"It all starts with a Dream! So, do not wait till the Opportunities come to you, take the first step and make them happen!"

Many students these days get caught up with false stories and expectations from companies or individuals who aim not for the welfare of our students but for their own personal gain.

In reality, the truth is that we only have few real possibilities but those possibilities are no doubt capable of serving the purpose of education and later on providing a better future for our students.

Anyone who wishes to receive honest and up to date information then please contact us, we have you covered!

Another one of our targets is to join hands with responsible and honest teams in Sri Lanka to minimize such misleading activities. So we, MAS have initiated our new project 'HARIMAMAGA' and have hopes this will help you all understand about where and what you want to do in your future!

ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT

The candidates should have the following requirements

- ◆ Aged between 18-50 years
- ◆ Should be computer literate and be fluent in English
- ◆ G.C.E. (O/L) qualifications
- ◆ Salary is negotiable.

Apply with non-related referees within 7 days to:

Managing Director
Kayo Trading Pvt Ltd
No. 101/7, Hunupitiya Lake Road,
Colombo 2.
Email: info@kayotr.com



We are an equal opportunity employer and looking for a
SALES PROMOTER
Required Qualifications & Experience
- Passion for fitness & good health
- Good communication in Sinhala or Tamil, knowledge in English is an added advantage
- Interest in marketing and promotional activities
- Part time opportunities available for University students & school leavers
- Academic qualification not required
- Vacancies for Male & Female

Post or Email Your CV within 10 days to below mentioned address
Human Resource - DRTV Products (Pvt.)
05, Andaramulla Road, Colombo 05.
careers@drvlanka.com / For more Details 077 590 111

VACANCIES FOR CRICKET COACHES

Application will be called for the following vacancies at Kalutara Maha Vidyalaya.

- * **Senior Coach - Level 1** (01 Vacancy)
(Level II will be an added qualification)
- * **Junior Coach - Level 1** (01 Vacancy)
- * **Academy Coach - Level 1**

Application should be sent via registered post on or before 15th September 2020 to the Principal, Kalutara Vidyalaya (National School), Kalutara.

Mention the post you're applying on the top left corner of the envelope.

The Principal
Kalutara Vidyalaya
(National School)
Kalutara

VACANCIES

Operational Executive

We are on the lookout for a promising team member who could be a part of our team in the role of Operational Executive.

Applicant should be

- Age between 25 - 40 Pleasant and attractive female candidate
- More than two years of experience in similar capacity.
- Good PR and communication skills in English, Tamil is preferred.
- Compiler literacy with thorough knowledge on MS office.
- Close proximity to Battaramulla.

Please forward your resume within 10 days to info@pvc.lk or

Prathap Chartered Valuation & Consultancy (Pvt) Ltd.
No. 29, Rajamalwatta Road, Battaramulla.
Tel/Fax : 0112865511

Vacancy for a Premises Maintenance Officer

Job Profile

- Premises Maintenance activities in Civil & MEP works.
- Overlooking office services, such as Janitorial, Security etc.
- Assist coordinating institutional events

Person's Profile

We are looking for a senior individual with technical background and experience in similar capacity. Appropriate engineering qualification is desirable but not essential. However, ability to work independently and sometimes for long hours is a necessity.

Salary negotiable, recruitment will be on contract basis

Please send bio-data with contact numbers of two non-related referees to reach the following address or email on or before 21st September 2020.

General Secretary
Organisation of Professional Associations of Sri Lanka (OPA)
275/75, Professor Stanley Wijesundera Mawatha, Colombo 07.
Email : centredirectoropa@gmail.com
Website : www.opasrilanka.org

Ambasciata d'Italia Colombo

L'Ambasciata d'Italia a Colombo indice un concorso per l'assunzione di due collaboratori amministrativi nel settore consolare. I requisiti e le condizioni per la partecipazione sono disponibili sul sito <http://www.ambcolombo.esteri.it/> e sull'albo consolare dell'Ambasciata.

La scadenza dei termini per la presentazione delle domande è fissata per le ore 12 del 20 settembre 2020.

The Embassy of Italy in Colombo will be holding the selection process for the recruitment of two administrative collaborators in the consular sector. The requirements and conditions for participation are available on the website <http://www.ambcolombo.esteri.it/> and on the Embassy's consular register. The deadline for submitting applications is set for 12 noon on the 20th September 2020.

Ambassador of Italy Rita Giuliana Mannella

POST OF SECRETARY MALE / FEMALE

A vacancy exist for the above post in a Commercial Trading office in Colombo engaged in the business of Commodity trading.

The ideal candidate should be one, who is familiar with office routine, Confident in speaking and working in English

Required Skills

- ✓ Computer literacy and competent in MS Office.
- ✓ To handle correspondence and respond independently to e-mails.
- ✓ Ability to prepare statements and maintain files.
- ✓ Knowledge in handling import trade documentation, with previous experience would be an added advantage.
- ✓ Should be willing to work extra hours when needed.

Attractive remuneration including EPF and ETF.

Age: above twenty five years

Apply with an updated resume on or before 20th September 2020 to:

O - 10025
C/O Sunday Observer
Lake House, Colombo 10

VACANCIES

The leading cosmetics and pharmaceutical items distributor is looking to fill the following vacancy.

Social Media Officer

Applicants in/around Panadura Preferred

Qualifications:

- Well experienced in creating Facebook, Instagram, Youtube and Twitter (Social Media).
- Skill in working with Photoshop, Illustrator and CorelDraw Software packages.
- 1 year experience as a Graphic Designer will be an added benefit.

If you possess the above qualifications, Please forward your CV within 10 days of the publication indicating the post applied marked on the left hand corner or, in the subject box of e-mail to:

P.O. BOX 1913
Colombo

Email : nissanka_mega@yahoo.com

NOW HIRING!

Dialtex, a pioneer apparel manufacturing entity, is a fully owned subsidiary of Ahlers AG and has been operating for over 40 years in Sri Lanka. We are not just another company! We invest in **People & Technology** and are always looking towards the Future.

This is our success!
We are looking to expand our operation significantly in order to provide more value-added services to our customers. We are looking for young, dynamic, self motivated and aspiring individual to join our team If you have a degree, diploma or a professional qualification in the relevant field with applicable experience go ahead and send us your Resume or CV to dialtex-careers@outlook.com or by post.

Work Study Officer & Production Executive

- Minimum 2 years experience in Jeans Manufacturing Company as a similar capacity.
- Certificate/Diploma in Work Study Management / Production Management.
- G.C.E A/L.
- Excellence interpersonal and good communication skills (both written & oral).
- Sound knowledge in MS Office Package.

Sewing machine Mechanic

- Minimum 2 years experience in apparel industry as a similar capacity.
- Familiar with S/N, D/N, Flatlock, feed off the arm, Bartack, Button Hole & Automation Machine Maintenance.
- G.C.E O/L
- Certificate in relevant to Sewing Machine Maintenance would be an added advantage.

HR & Administration Manager
Dial Textile Industries Pvt Ltd.
Investment Promotion Zone, Spur Road 02, Katunayake.
011-2252447 / 2258293-4 / 0773222715

Compliance Officer

Position summary :

Overall management of the activities of the Compliance Department and to make sure that the company is conducting its business in full compliance with all national laws and regulations pertaining to the industry, as well as professional standards and accepted business practices.

You should :

- ✓ Possess a minimum of 15 years banking and finance experience with exposure to compliance at a bank or reputed finance company and out of which a minimum of 5 years managerial experience in the function of compliance
- ✓ Have a bachelor's degree in Business Administration/ Law / Finance or related discipline is preferred
- ✓ Have completed full qualification in Banking (AIB) or a diploma in compliance from IBLS or ICA international diploma in governance, risk and compliance
- ✓ Possess sound knowledge on anti-money laundering regulations, laws and regulations applicable for the financial service industry and best practices on corporate governance
- ✓ Have fully completed professional qualification in CIMA/ ACCA/ ICASL or a MBA will be a distinct advantage
- ✓ Possess strong leadership and public relations with the ability to work collaboratively and with people at all levels of the organization
- ✓ Possess strong written/verbal communication skills with outstanding ability to develop and foster cross-functional relationships with key stakeholders

You will :

- ✓ Implement/practice/update the applicable statutory guidelines (including CBSL,CSE,SEC, FIU, other regulators) and ensure company compliance
- ✓ Ensure all business operations adhere to sound corporate governance practices and business ethics
- ✓ Secure an early involvement in the design and structuring of new products and systems and ensure they conform to regulatory requirements and ethical standards
- ✓ Carry out reviews at appropriate frequencies to assess compliance with regulations, rules and internal policies and procedures
- ✓ Check and report compliance status monthly and report to the Board and Integrated Risk Management Committee
- ✓ Monitor, follow up and report on compliance issues on a timely manner
- ✓ Review implementation of new laws, regulations for conformity and communicate directions, rules/regulatory developments to business users
- ✓ Ensure that company staff is provided regular training on compliance requirements and changes to laws and regulations
- ✓ Maintain regular contacts and good working relationships with regulators

If you have such extensive exposure to bring in a distinctive feel and vitality: Please forward your complete CV either in a sealed envelope addressed to the HR Manager, Corporate Office, 20, Dharmapala Mawatha, Colombo 03. (Please state 'Compliance Officer' on the top left corner of the envelope), or by email as an attachment to careers@lbfinance.lk to reach not later than 7 working days.

An attractive remuneration package awaits the right candidate.
Only short-listed candidates will be notified.



About us

With an almost 50 decades of rich history in the financial industry and recognized for our unparalleled record as the top finance leasing brand, we are driven by sheer passion, dedication and innovation with over 165 branches and service centers across the island. We strive to provide the best financial services to our massive customer base and are now on the look-out for charismatic and skilled individuals who can treat on our deep - rooted traditions of success and be a partner in taking the organization to new heights.

Head of Human Resources
LB FINANCE
LB Finance PLC, No.20, Dharmapala Mawatha, Colombo 03.

lbfinance.com/
f y t i n

A Global Academic Opportunity

Edith Cowan University offers a range of courses in Sri Lanka such as business, engineering, health sciences, information technology and humanities.

ECU managed Campus in Sri Lanka is rapidly expanding to offer new degree programs to cater to the increasing demand. We are looking for suitable applicants for the following position.

Admissions Manager

The Admissions Manager provides management and leadership of the admissions staff and is responsible for assessment processes associated with applications from prospective international and domestic students.

Qualification and Selection Criteria

- Relevant qualifications and substantial admissions experience in the education sector.
- Demonstrated commitment to the provision of client focused service.
- High order analytical, problem solving and organisational skills.
- High degree of computer literacy and demonstrated understanding of software, database and internet applications.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills, liaison and interpersonal skills with the ability to develop effective working relationships with a diverse range of people.
- Successful work experience in a multi-cultural environment.

Applicants are advised to send CVs to both erath.karunaratne@acbt.lk & heather.linsley@navitas.com within 7 days.

Address: 442, Galle Road, Colombo 03.
Web: www.acbt.net

Let your career grow with a Global Organization

ACBT is the pioneer in Australian higher education in Sri Lanka since 1998, and a partner college of Navitas, a global giant in education. To cater to an increasing number of prospective students, ACBT requires the services of the following staff for our Colombo Campus.

Post of Assistant Librarian:

- Basic Degree in Library Science
- Intermediate Level Qualification from Sri Lanka Library Association with 1 year of work experience in a library
- Sound knowledge in e-library system will be an added qualification
- Age between 25 - 35
- Excellent communication skills in English Language

Applicants are advised to send CVs to erath.karunaratne@acbt.lk within 7 days.

Address: 442, Galle Road, Colombo 03.
Web: www.acbt.net



UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA

VACANCIES

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the following posts in the University of Peradeniya.

1) INTERNAL AUDITOR

Salary Scale: 95320-7x2170; 11x2700-140210 p.m. [U-EX 3(II)]

Qualifications:

- (a) Should possess the Membership of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CASL) or its equivalent;
AND
- (b) Should possess at least six (06) years of experience in accounting and/ or auditing in an executive capacity after acquiring the qualification at 1(a) above.
OR
- A holder of the post of Deputy Accountant/ Deputy Bursar/ Deputy Internal Auditor in the University Grants Commission or Higher Educational Institution/ Institute with the following;
 - Confirmed in that post with three (03) years of satisfactory service in the post of which one (01) year should be after acquiring the qualification at 1(a) above.**OR**
- A holder of the post of Senior Assistant Accountant/Senior Assistant Bursar/ Senior Assistant Internal Auditor in the University Grants Commission or Higher Educational Institution/ Institute with all of the following;
 - Confirmed in that post with ten (10) years of experience in accounting and/ or auditing in an executive capacity;
 - At least eight (08) years of satisfactory service of above ten (10) years should be in the post of Senior Assistant Accountant/ Senior Assistant Bursar/ Senior Assistant Internal Auditor in the University System;
 - Three (03) years of above eight (08) years of experience should be after acquiring the qualification at 1(a) above.**OR**
- A holder of the post of Deputy Accountant/ Deputy Bursar/ Deputy Internal Auditor in the University Grants Commission/ Higher Educational Institution/ Institute with all of the following;
 - Confirmed in the post;
 - Possess Intermediate qualification of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CASL) or its equivalent;
 - Possess a Masters' Degree in Accountancy/ Finance/ Management* from a recognized University/ HEI;
 - Twelve (12) years of experience in accounting and/ or auditing in an executive capacity after successful completion of the Intermediate qualification of the CASL or its equivalent;
 - Ten (10) years of above experience should be in the post of Senior Assistant Accountant/ Senior Assistant Bursar/ Senior Assistant Internal Auditor or above in the University system.**OR**
- A holder of the post of Deputy Accountant/ Deputy Bursar/ Deputy Internal Auditor in the University Grants Commission/ Higher Educational Institution/ Institute with all of the following;
 - Confirmed in the post with three (03) years of satisfactory service in that post;
 - Possess a Bachelor's Degree from a recognized University/ HEI;
 - Possess Intermediate qualification of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CASL) or its equivalent **or** Higher National Diploma in Accountancy (HNDA) conducted by the Sri Lanka Institute of Advanced Technological Education (SLIATE) or its predecessor;
 - Fourteen (14) years of experience in accounting and/ or auditing in an executive capacity after obtaining the Intermediate qualification/ HNDA stated above;
 - At least five (05) years of such experience should be in the post of Deputy Accountant/Deputy Bursar/ Deputy Internal Auditor and/ or in the post of Senior Assistant Accountant/ Senior Assistant Bursar/ Senior Assistant Internal Auditor in the University system carrying the salary scale denoted by salary code U-EX 2(I).**OR**
- A holder of the post of Deputy Accountant/ Deputy Bursar/ Deputy Internal Auditor in the University Grants Commission/ Higher Educational Institution/Institute with all of the following;
 - Confirmed in that post;
 - Possess a Bachelor's Degree from a recognized University/ HEI **or** the Intermediate qualification of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CASL) or its equivalent **or**

Higher National Diploma in Accountancy (HNDA) conducted by the Sri Lanka Institute of Advanced Technological Education (SLIATE) or its predecessor;

- Not less than eighteen (18) years of experience in accounting and/ or auditing in the University system;
- Three (03) years of above experience should be in the post of Deputy Accountant/ Deputy Bursar/ Deputy Internal Auditor in the University system.

OR

- A holder of the post of Accountant Grade II of the Sri Lanka Accountants' Service with the following;
 - Should possess the Membership of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CASL) or its equivalent;**or**

Master's Degree in Accountancy/ Finance/ Management* from a recognized University/ HEI.

Note: 'Accounting and/or Auditing' experience means, experience gained in an executive capacity in Accounting and/or Auditing in a State or Reputed Private Sector Organization.

* Term 'Management' means a Degree in Management/ Public Administration/ Business Administration with major component in Accounting and Finance.

Method of Recruitment:

Selection by a structured interview

Age Limit: Age limit will not apply. The compulsory retirement age of employees of the University service is sixty years. The selected candidate will be on probation for a period of three years reckoned from the date of assumption of duties.

Other Benefits:

- The holder of the post of Internal Auditor will be eligible after confirmation in the appointment, for Sabbatical Leave of one year's duration with pay or two years' duration without pay on completion of the seven years of service. Those proceeding abroad on Sabbatical Leave shall be entitled to receive full air passage for himself/ herself as well as for the spouse.
- Further training where appropriate will be supported by the University.
- Research allowance and transport facilities and communication facilities will be provided according to prevailing circulars.

2) PROJECT MANAGER (CONSTRUCTION WORKS)

Salary Scale: Rs. 66180-8x1335; 8x1630-89900 p.m. [U-EX-2(II)]

Qualifications:

- (a) Should possess a B. Sc. Engineering Degree from a recognized University/HEI specializing in Civil Engineering
OR
Should possess a B. Sc. Engineering Degree from a recognized University/HEI specializing in Quantity Surveying
OR
Equivalent professional qualifications recognized by the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka (IESL)
AND
- (b) Possess a Corporate Membership from a recognized Engineering Institute
OR
Possess a Corporate Membership from a recognized Institute of Quantity Surveying
AND
- (c) A minimum of 10 years of relevant experience in construction projects, handling contracts as well as managing direct labour.

Method of Recruitment:

Selection by a structured interview

Age Limit: Age limit will not apply. The compulsory retirement age of employees of the University service is sixty years. The selected candidate will be on probation for a period of three years reckoned from the date of assumption of duties.

Other Benefits:

- The holder of the post of Project Manager will be eligible after confirmation in the appointment, for Sabbatical Leave of one year's duration with pay or two years' duration without pay on completion of the seven years of service. Those proceeding abroad on Sabbatical Leave shall be entitled to receive full air passage for himself/ herself as well as for the spouse.
- Further training where appropriate will be supported by the University.
- Research allowance and communication facilities will be provided according to prevailing circulars.

3) AUDIT ASSISTANT (GRADE II)

Salary Scale: Rs. 37275 - 18x495 - 46185 p.m. [U-MN 2 (II)]

Qualifications:

- Should have passed the G.C.E (O/L) Examination in six (06) subjects at one sitting with credit passes in -
 - Sinhala Language/ Tamil Language
 - English Language/ English Literature
 - Mathematics**AND**
- Should have passed in all subjects at G.C.E (A/L) Examination (except the Common General Paper) at one sitting.
(Passing in 3 subjects under the old syllabus at one sitting would be sufficient for this purpose.)
AND
- Post specific qualifications:
 - Preliminary Level/ Licentiate I/ Foundation Level/ CAB I/ Executive Level of Institute of Chartered Accountants in Sri Lanka or equivalent.
or
 - Foundation Level of Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA).
or
 - Higher National Diploma in Accountancy (HNDA) of Sri Lanka Institute of Advanced Technological Education (SLIATE).
or
 - Membership of Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT) of Association of Accounting Technicians of Sri Lanka
AND
- Minimum of two (02) year experience in Auditing in State or recognized Private Organization.
Preference will be given to those who possess an acceptable qualification in computer applications of not less than six months duration obtained from a recognized Institute.
Age limit: Should be not less than 18 years and not more than 45 years of age at the closing date of applications.

4) SWIMMING POOL SUPERVISOR (GRADE III)

Salary Scale : Rs. 30725 - 17x300 - 35825 p.m. [U-MN I (III)]

Qualifications:

- Should have passed G.C.E (Ordinary Level) Examination in six (06) subjects in not more than two (02) sittings with five (05) credit passes including Sinhala/Tamil/English Language or Literature and Mathematics.
AND
- Should have passed at least two subjects (other than the General Papers) at the G.C.E (Advanced Level) Examination.
Age limit: Should be not less than 18 years and not more than 45 years of age at the closing date of applications.
In addition, candidates should have the following Post Specific skills A Certificate issued by a recognized Institution/ Association certifying the possession of the following skills;
 - Swimming and teaching of four basic swimming strokes.
 - First aid and life guard.
 - Computer Literacy will be an added qualification.

General Notes:

- The University reserves the right to shortlist the applications and summon candidates for the interview, based on the prevailing rules and regulations. Employees of Government/ Corporations should forward their applications through the Heads of respective Departments/ Corporations along with a certified statement of the present salary particulars. The applications which are not received through the proper channel on or before the closing date will not be considered.
- The selected candidates will become contributors to the Universities Provident Fund as well as the Universities Pension scheme, the contributions being 10% from the employee to the Provident Fund and 7% and 8% from the employer to the Provident Fund and Pension Fund respectively. Further contribution of 3% will be made by the employer to the Employees Trust Fund.
- Application forms should be downloaded from the University Website at <http://www.pdn.ac.lk/jobs> and duly completed application along with photocopies of certificates in proof of qualifications and experience should be sent by Registered Post to Senior Assistant Registrar, Non-Academic Establishments Division, University of Peradeniya on or before 05th October 2020.
- Name of the post in respect of the application, should be stated on the top left-hand corner of the envelope.
- Applications will not be entertained personally and the University will not bear any responsibility for such submissions. Incomplete, illegible, late applications, applications without documents of proof and applications which are not submitted through prescribed format will be rejected.

Acting Registrar
University of Peradeniya
06th September 2020

ADVERTISING Centres

VISIT OUR ADVERTISING CENTRES IN KEY CITIES TO:

- Submit your advertisements
- Reserve rooms at Lake House Kataragama Pilgrims Rest
- Order subscriptions of Lake House newspapers

<p>Kandy Branch</p> <p>KANDY No.22, Dalada Veediya, Kandy 081 223 4200</p>	<p>Anuradhapura Branch</p> <p>ANURADHAPURA No.310/1/2, Harischandra Mawatha, Bank Town 025 222 2370</p>	<p>Jaffna Branch</p> <p>JAFFNA No.06, Sirampirady, Off Stanley Road 077 616 4901</p>	<p>Maradana k/v Branch</p> <p>MARADANA No.383, D R Wijewardena Mawatha, Colombo10 011 242 9336</p>
<p>Matara Branch</p> <p>MATARA No.29, Upper Floor, Main Bus Stand 041 223 5412</p>	<p>Nugegoda Branch</p> <p>NUGEGODA 4' Floor Savsiri Complex, High Levelle Road 011 282 8114</p>	<p>Kataragama Branch</p> <p>KATARAGAMA Opposite Kataragama Bus Stand, Pussadewa Mawatha 047 223 5291</p>	

Dial **1949**
011 242 9342
011 242 9333

LAKE HOUSE No 35, D R Wijewardena Mawatha, Colombo 10



Olemi Credit (Pvt) Ltd - Katana
VACANCIES

Olemi Credit (pvt) Ltd is a leading company in the micro finance sector in Sri Lanka, Our branches are located at Katana, Wennappuwa, Gampaha and Kuliyaipitiya. Company invites dynamic individuals to join the team of experts and to grow career with us,

Available Vacancies

- Operation Executives - Field Officers
- Marketing Officers - Admin Assistant

A good comprehensive package will be provided to the right candidates. Please send your CV with 10 days of this advertisement to below mentioned address or by email to

olemi.hrdept@yahoo.com
HR Manager, Olemi Credit (Pvt) Ltd, Katana.
Contact info: +9476 6 278 279

VACANCY

We are manufacturer of surgical and medical devices. We are looking for self-motivated, energetic and result oriented individuals

General Administration Officer

- B.Sc. Management degree holder with 5 years' working experience
- Sound knowledge in computer literacy

Key Responsibilities

- Carry out works related to external institutions
- Documents handling and maintain the office

Sales Coordinator

- Partly qualified CIM/SLIM with 2 years' working experience
- Passed GCE (A/L)
- Age should be between 25-30
- Excellent communication skills in English and Sinhala. Tamil
- would be an added qualification

Key Responsibilities

- Develop and maintain relationships with existing and potential customers.
- Coordinating island wide customers
- Handling customer care

Salaries are negotiable, please send your CV with 2 non-related referees to pelpola1023@gmail.com

Medi Textile (pvt) Ltd.
No.59; Mahabellana, Alubomulla, Sri Lanka.
Tel; 077 0070140, 070 3119016



GRI
 WE'LL GET YOU THERE

GRI is a leading industrial solid tire manufacturer in Sri Lanka. Our initiatives and endeavours have powered us forward to rapidly become a globally recognized leader and a world-class Company. We are looking for high-Caliber candidate to fill the following position at our Factory in Badalgama.

ASSISTANT MAINTENANCE ENGINEER

Requirements

- A Mechanical Engineering qualification with Experience in Rubber / Polymer manufacturing environments.
- You should have a strong background in Maintenance/Modifications/Installation on machineries related to rubber/ Polymer manufacturing processes or Equivalent Process.
- You will be strong enough to manage the maintenance/Engineering Staff effectively.
- This position requires a self motivated independent person above 30 years of age with the ability to work with minimum supervision.

Qualification & Experience

Professional Qualification in Mechanical/Electrical Engineering. Backed by a minimum of around 02 years of hands on experience in similar capacity. Skill in Auto CAD drawing is a essential.

Our Offer

This rewarding position offers a very competitive salary and an attractive benefit package to the right individuals.

If you have the relevant qualifications and experience for the above mentioned vacancy and is keen to join us, please send in your complete CV with details of two referees within 14 days of this advertisement.

Human Resource Manager
Global Rubber Industries (Pvt) Ltd
 Perawalawatta, Badalgama
careers@gritires.com www.gritires.com

A Global Academic Opportunity

Edith Cowan University offers a range of courses in Sri Lanka such as business, engineering, health sciences, information technology and humanities.

ECU managed Campus in Sri Lanka is rapidly expanding to offer new degree programs to cater to the increasing demand. We are looking for suitable applicants for the following position.

Head of Academic Operations

The Head of Academic Operations is a key leadership role responsible to the General Manager, ECU Sri Lanka and the ECU Sri Lanka Provost for the quality of learning and teaching associated with the ECU programs on the Sri Lanka campus.

Qualification and Selection Criteria

- PhD qualified together with experience in the administration and management of an academic unit.
- Demonstrated excellence in academic leadership and management within a higher education environment.
- Substantial experience in teaching and learning, including the management and evaluation of learning and teaching effectiveness.
- Demonstrated experience in effective teaching including ability to develop scholarly, innovative and flexible approaches to teaching and facilitation of learning.
- Exceptional communication and interpersonal skills and the ability to inspire students and staff.
- Proven success in working collaboratively and an ability to build highly productive relationships across a range of internal and external partners.
- Demonstrated experience in managing and leading staff in addressing teaching and learning issues experienced by staff.

Applicants are advised to send CVs to both erath.karunaratne@acbt.lk & heather.linsley@navitas.com within 7 days.

Address: 442, Galle Road, Colombo 08.
 Web: www.acbt.lk



A Global Academic Opportunity

Edith Cowan University offers a range of courses in Sri Lanka such as business, engineering, health sciences, information technology and humanities.

ECU managed Campus in Sri Lanka is rapidly expanding to offer new degree programs to cater to the increasing demand. We are looking for suitable applicants for the following position.

Head of Marketing

This role will have overarching responsibility for marketing & admissions of the ECU Sri Lanka campus and ECC pathway programs.

Qualification and Selection Criteria

- Tertiary qualifications, preferably in Marketing.
- Successful track record of sales and a network of contacts in the international education market.
- Knowledge and experience of marketing, including promotion, advertising, digital marketing, branding, building media presence and public relations would be very well regarded.
- Ability to inspire team members to explore and engage in all avenues of marketing and student recruitment.
- Analytical mind with good problem-solving and decision-making skills.
- Good interpersonal and communication skills, including the ability to negotiate and ability to build and maintain effective business relationships and networks.
- Successful work experience in a multi-cultural environment.

Applicants are advised to send CVs to both erath.karunaratne@acbt.lk & heather.linsley@navitas.com within 7 days.

Address: 442, Galle Road, Colombo 08.
 Web: www.acbt.lk



Our client is a premier Brand and Export oriented group of companies in Sri Lanka, with interests in Retail, FMCG and Agriculture. Their emphasis is on strengthening sustainability of their agricultural operations with precision and innovative agriculture and expanding their portfolio of international export brands. They seek the services of dynamic and digitally savvy, professionals, to deliver business realignment for the post COVID era.

Head of IT (Group)
 MSL Ref. No. 7512

Reporting to the Group Finance Director, the selected candidate will be an experienced and innovative technology strategist.

- Key Responsibilities**
- Defining the technology road map, execution and implementation.
 - Focusing on developing the in-house skills sets and managing vendor relationships ethically and professionally.
 - Overseeing all technology operations and evaluating them according to established goals.
 - Ensure smooth delivery and operation of IT services by monitoring systems performance.
 - Provide direction, guidance, and training to IT staff.
 - Ensuring network / Cyber security for all group IT infrastructure.
 - Enable digital infrastructure to support company's strategy related to the E/M Commerce.

- Candidate Profile**
- Bachelor's degree in Information Technology, Computer Science, Information Systems or related field or preferably a Master's degree.
 - A minimum of 10 years proven track record in a senior management position of a reputed organization.
 - Excellent understanding of computer systems, security, network and digital administration, databases and data storage systems, and telecommunications systems.
 - Experience in cyber security and digital infrastructure will be an added advantage.

Accountant / Management Accountant (Plantation Sector)
 MSL Ref. No. 7514

Reporting to the Plantation sector CFO with a dotted line to the Chief Accountant of the sector.

- Key Responsibilities**
- Be responsible for the Management Accounting function for the Plantation Sector companies.
 - Full responsibility for costings, monitoring, approving and controlling revenue/capital expenses of the estates.
 - Assist the Chief Accountant in the financial accounting and reporting function of smaller plantation companies.
 - Work closely with external consultants, auditors, and other internal and external stakeholders.
 - Coordinate, develop, distribute annual / quarterly financial plans for all estates. Will also be responsible for monitoring, reporting and regular follow-up to ensure adherence.

- Candidate Profile**
- Hands on working experience in Plantation sector.
 - A member / past finalist of ICASL / CIMA / ACCA.
 - MBA from a recognized university will be an added advantage.
 - Possess at least 5 years' experience in similar capacity.
 - Ability to maintain good financial management control systems.
 - Experience in implementing accounting and financial management systems in the Plantation sector will be a definite advantage.
 - Working knowledge of Tax Regulations in Sri Lanka relating to Plantation sector.
 - Experience in Treasury Management.
 - Age - preferably below 45 years.

An attractive and negotiable remuneration package will be offered based on qualifications, experience and competence.

Please forward your complete resume with contact details of two non-related referees to mslr@sltnet.lk within 10 days of this advertisement quoting MSL Ref. Nos in the subject line of your e-mail



MSL Management Systems (Pvt) Ltd.

Manager Plantation Operations
 MSL Ref. No. 7513

- Key Responsibilities**
- Manage and optimize overall operations in tea, spice, rubber agriculture, manufacturing and ancillary power, sustainability and administration aspects in collaboration with Regional Management teams.
 - Review field, factory and office processes with emphasis on continuous improvement.
 - Experience in setting up and managing production facilities ideally including fruit, vegetable, dairy and modern agriculture for a robust diversification and value addition initiative.
 - Oversee risk management, HR, safety, quality control, field & factory management policies, and adopting best practices in quality, hygiene and teamwork on company estates, offices and factories.
 - Familiarity with business analytics and Management Information Systems for continuous assessment and development of processes, productivity and setting targets to meet HR, cost, quality and revenue objectives.
 - Familiarity with planning, continuous improvement, Lean Management methods and circular economy principles are necessary in addition to the health and safety awareness.
 - Overall familiarity in finance, quality assurance, machinery, and human resources functions and strong strategic leadership capability are requirements.

- Candidate Profile**
- Requirement of a Bachelor's degree in operations or related major from a reputed university.
 - Ability to operate independently, motivate and lead a team to add value to the company's product and its business network, in both the short and medium terms.
 - Experience and knowledge of working in international markets; network and contacts both in local and international markets will be a pre-requisite for this position.
 - Possess at least 15 years of experience in some of these areas and have a proven track record of success in reputed companies.

Brand Marketing Manager
 MSL Ref. No. 7515

The successful candidate will be a committed and experienced individual with knowledge and experience of marketing in a changed consumer and media landscape. In collaboration with digital, analytics and market teams, the selected candidate will form strategies based on established brand values and principles, and manage their planned execution. A working knowledge of business intelligence systems to analyse and continuously improve strategy and tactics is essential.

- Key Responsibilities**
- Understanding key Brand values and principles, developing and delivering Marketing strategies for the Group with analysis of outcomes.
 - Effective design of Marketing strategies around market information, objectives and budgets with understanding and experience of Marketing analytics.
 - Adapting core campaign elements across social, digital, in-store, and other channels in a planned and effective manner.
 - Management of different market environments, product and brand priorities using collaboration tools locally and with remote teams.

- Candidate Profile**
- Should possess SLIM or CIM qualifications, having an MBA will be a definite advantage.
 - Possess at least 5 years of experience in Consumer Marketing with Industrial Marketing exposure, and knowledge of digital and social media tools as well as conventional media, and in-store activation.
 - Results oriented professional with proven track records in a reputed organization.

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 📧 mslr@sltnet.lk
 ★ www.bposrilanka.com

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Here is your opportunity !**



WAYAMBA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA - 2020

The Wayamba University of Sri Lanka has been producing graduates of high caliber for over a decade, and engaged in outreach activities to upgrade the life of the community. Come, join us in reaching higher levels of professional excellence in academic, research, and management leading to national development.

VACANCIES FOR THE ACADEMIC & ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

The Wayamba University of Sri Lanka will entertain applications from qualified persons for the following posts up to 28.09.2020

FACULTY OF LIVESTOCK, FISHERIES & NUTRITION

DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED NUTRITION

Lecturer (Probationary)/ Lecturer (Unconfirmed)/Senior Lecturer Gr. II/I

Lecturer (Probationary): B.Sc. Honours degree in Nutrition or relevant field (SLQ Level 6 or above) from a recognized University.

A PhD in the discipline of Human Nutrition, Dietetics, Clinical Nutrition, Sports and Exercise Nutrition and Molecular Nutrition.

For the above categories, registration as a Dietitian in a recognized body and working experience in the field of dietetics will be considered as added qualifications.

DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK & AVIAN SCIENCES

Professor

Postgraduate qualifications and professional experience in Livestock and Avian Sciences

DEPARTMENT OF AQUACULTURE & FISHERIES

Professor

Professor in Aquaculture & Fisheries

Undergraduate, Postgraduate and Professional Experience in Aquaculture and Fisheries

FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE & PLANTATION MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF PLANTATION MANAGEMENT

Lecturer (Probationary)/ Lecturer (Unconfirmed) Senior Lecturer Gr. II/I

B.Sc. Degree in Agriculture specializing in Plantation Management. Preference will be given to the applicants with teaching, research and practical experience in product development, Value Addition, Plantation Agronomy, Soil Health and Ground Water Contamination.

B.Sc. Degree in Agriculture specializing in Plantation Management. Preference will be given to the applicants with teaching, research and practical experience in Estate and Financial Management, Quality Assurance & Assessing Quality Systems, Agriculture extension, Plantation Resource Management.

DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY

Lecturer (Probationary)/ Lecturer (Unconfirmed)/Senior Lecturer Gr. II/I

B.Sc. Degree in Agriculture. Preference will be given to the applicants who are specialized in Biotechnology and have experience in Industrial Biotechnology, Computational Biology and Bioinformatics.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRIBUSINESS MANAGEMENT

Lecturer (Probationary)/ Lecturer (Unconfirmed)/Senior Lecturer Gr. II/I

B.Sc. Degree in Agriculture specializing in Agribusiness Management

Preference will be given to applicants who have research/teaching experience in Finance for Agribusiness Management, Business Planning, Financial Accounting and Business Law and Macroeconomic Environment.

FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL MANAGEMENT

Professor

Lecturer (Probationary)/ Lecturer (Unconfirmed)/Senior Lecturer Gr. II/I

Discipline: Industrial Management, Management of Technology, Environment Management Systems

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES

Professor

Postgraduate qualifications and professional experience in Mathematics and/or Statistics

Applicant should possess a B.Sc. (Special) Degree in Mathematics and/or Statistics

Lecturer (Probationary)/ Lecturer (Unconfirmed)/Senior Lecturer Gr. II/I

Discipline: Statistics

Applicants should possess a B.Sc. (Special) Degree in Statistics or in Mathematics with Statistics

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTING & INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Lecturer (Probationary)/ Lecturer (Unconfirmed)/Senior Lecturer Gr. II/I

Applicants should possess a B.Sc. (Sp. / Hons.) Degree in Computer Science / Computer Engineering with a track record in Research / Publications and Teaching

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS

Professor

Postgraduate qualifications and Academic/ Industrial Experience in Electronics

FACULTY OF BUSINESS STUDIES & FINANCE

DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTANCY

Professor

Discipline: Accounting or Finance

Preference will be given to applicants having professional experiences in above disciplines

DEPARTMENT OF BANKING & FINANCE

Professor

Specialty: Banking & Finance/ Economics

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

Professor

Discipline: Management

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE & VALUATION

Lecturer (Probationary)/ Lecturer (Unconfirmed)/Senior Lecturer Gr. II/I

Disciplines: Insurance & Finance

Those who possess Special or Honours Degree in Insurance or Finance are eligible to apply for the above posts Having professional qualifications in the relevant field will be an added value:

FACULTY OF TECHNOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF NANO SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY

Lecturer (Probationary)/ Lecturer (Unconfirmed)/Senior Lecturer Gr. II/I

The applicant possessing the following subject areas shall be preferably considered .

B.Sc. (Sp.) Electronics/B.Sc. (Sp.) Chemistry / BSc (Sp.) Physics or Ph.D. in Nano-Science Technology with the areas covered Bio Nano Sensors/ Nano-Electronic Device Fabrication/Nano Materials / Material Science.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE

DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY

Professor

Lecturer (Probationary)/ Lecturer (Unconfirmed)/ Senior Lecturer Gr II/I

Applicants should possess MBBS qualification

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY MEDICINE & FAMILY MEDICINE

Professor

Lecturer (Probationary)/ Lecturer (Unconfirmed)/ Senior Lecturer Gr II/I

Applicants should possess MBBS qualification

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSIOLOGY

Lecturer (Probationary)/ Lecturer (Unconfirmed)/ Senior Lecturer Gr II/I

Applicants should possess MBBS qualification

HEALTH CENTER

University Medical Officer

Medical Degree of a recognized University with at least three (03) years' experience as a Medical Practitioner

CHIEF MARSHAL

An officer not below the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in Sri Lanka Armed Forces/ equivalent rank in Sri Lanka Police with active participation in sports activities

PROJECT MANAGER

(a) Should possess a B.Sc. Engineering degree from a recognized University/ HEI specializing in Civil Engineering

OR

Should possess a B.Sc. Engineering degree from a recognized University/ HEI specializing in Quantity Surveying

OR

Equivalent professional qualifications;

AND

(b) Possess a Corporate membership from a recognized Engineering Institute;

OR

Possess a Corporate membership from a recognized Institute of Quantity Surveying;

AND

(c) A minimum of 10 years' relevant experience in construction projects, handling contracts as well as managing direct labour.

Salary Scales:

U-AC 5 (Professor / Senior Professor)

Rs. 117350 - 7x2700; 12 x 2925 - 171350 p.m.

U-AC 5(I) : Senior Professor

Rs. 139175 - 11x2925 - 171350 p.m

U-AC 5(II) : Professor

Rs. 117350 - 13x2700 - 152450 p.m.

U-AC 3 (for Lecturer (Probationary)/Senior Lecturer Gr. II/I)

Rs. 54600-10x1335; 13x1630; 8x2170 - 106500 p.m.

U-AC 3(I) : Senior Lecturer Grade I

Rs. 91310 - 7x2170 - 106500 p.m.

U-AC 3(II) : Senior Lecturer Grade II

Rs. 79360 - 11 x 1630 - 97290 p.m.

U-AC 3(III) : Lecturer (Unconfirmed)

Rs. 69580 - 5x1630 - 77730 p.m.

U-AC 3(IV) : Lecturer (Probationary)

Rs. 54600 - 10x1335 - 67950 p.m.

U-MO 1 (II) : (Medical Officer) Rs. 55350-10x1335; 1x1630 -70330 p.m.

U-EX 2(II) : (Project Manager & Chief Marshal)

Rs. 66180 - 8x1335 ; 8x1630 - 89900 p.m.

(as at 01.01.2020)

• In addition to the above salary, cost of living allowance, academic allowance, research allowance and other due allowances approved by the University Grants Commission will also be paid.

Benefits:

Appointees become contributors to the Universities Provident Fund contributing 10% of their earnings and the University contributing an amount equivalent to 7% of their monthly earnings. In addition, they will become contributors to the Employees' Trust Fund and the University Pension Scheme under which the university will contribute an amount equivalent to 3% and 8% of the monthly earnings of the employee respectively.

Sabbatical Leave:

All appointees to the posts of Project Manager, Senior Lecturer Gr. II and above are entitled for one year sabbatical leave with pay once in every seven years of service. Passage will be paid by the University to the teacher/Project Manager and his/her spouse when proceeding abroad on such leave.

METHOD OF APPLICATION AND CLOSING DATE:

Applications should be made in the prescribed form obtainable from the University Website (Website: www.wyb.ac.lk) or Academic Establishments Branch of the University and should be forwarded with copies of educational certificates, service certificates and other relevant documents under registered cover to reach the Registrar, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka, Kuliyaipitiya on or before on 28.09.2020. The post applied for should be clearly mentioned on the top left-hand corner of the envelope. If the applicants wish to apply for more than one Department separate applications should be submitted.

The Scheme of Recruitment and application forms could be obtained from the University Website (Website: www.wyb.ac.lk) or Academic Establishments Branch on working days from 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. or by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope of 23x10 cm in size along with a letter of request indicating the post applied for .

Applicants from the University System/Government Departments/Corporations and Statutory Boards should channel their applications through the Heads of respective Institutions. Incomplete, illegible or late applications which are not in conformity with the above requirements will be rejected.

**Registrar
Wayamba University of Sri Lanka**

06.09.2020



*The British School
in Colombo*

We are looking for an energetic, self-motivated and hardworking teacher to join our team in the following position:

**Class Teacher - Junior School
(Temporary/Short-Term)**

- Relevant experience and qualifications.
- Energetic, caring and enthusiastic.
- A very positive attitude and willingness to work with any pupils and all staff.
- Exceptional level of English.
- Familiarity with modern teaching methods.

Please email your CV together with a letter of application to **humanresources@britishschool.lk**

or post them to
**Head of Human Resources,
The British School in Colombo,
No. 63, Elvitigala Mawatha,
Colombo-08.**

Applications must reach us by **22 September 2020**

www.admin@britishschool.lk



**NAWALOKA CONSTRUCTION
COMPANY (PVT) LTD.**

A MEMBER OF NAWALOKA HOLDINGS

MANAGER - CONTRACTS ADMINISTRATION

We are looking for a highly skilled Contracts Administrator to overlook all contracts related activities in order to ensure the delivery of the assigned construction projects on time and on cost whilst preparing relevant reports and other relevant documentation to facilitate effective decision making.

Job Role

- Successful contract administration of a project whereby all required project heads and subcontract documentation & instructions are administered in a timely manner to ensure smooth operation of projects.
- Provide consultation to management through the application of knowledge, skills, tools, and other administrative techniques against project activities to meet the project requirements safely and correctly
- Review the program clauses and contractual obligations of both the company and the client and ensure they are closely monitored
- Monitor project performance in order to ensure all targets are met within the given time line and budget
- Work closely with Planning and Monitoring departments to ensure the progress of the sites are aligned with budgets and the time line

Requirements

- Degree in Engineering, Quantity Surveying or equivalent
- Post graduate qualification in Construction management will be advantageous
- Minimum of 15 years' experience in a similar role in the construction industry
- Outstanding organizational skills, analytical mindset and good problem-solving skills.
- Attention to detail
- Excellent written and verbal communication

The above position offers an attractive remuneration package together with other fringe benefits. Please forward your application with details of two non-related referees to within 07 days of this advertisement

**Nawaloka Construction Company (Private) Ltd.
No.115, Sir James Peiris Mawatha, Colombo 02.
E-mail: careers@nawaloka.net**



Zahira College

RUGBY COACHES

Zahira College, one of the prominent educational institutions in the country with a history of 125 years, is looking for passionate, dynamic and inspirational Candidates. This is an excellent opportunity for highly experienced energetic, resourceful and sporty individuals, to develop sports in School Rugby. Candidates with a creditable progressive career track record can apply to below positions.

- Senior Rugby – Forward Coach & Back line Coach
- Rugby Coach - Under 18
- Rugby Coach - Under 16
- Rugby Coach - Under 14
- Rugby Coach - Under 12

Those who are interested should meet the below criteria of prerequisites.

- Minimum accredited qualification is World Rugby Level 2 for Senior Coaches and minimum of World Rugby Level 1 for other categories.
- More than five (05) years experience for Senior Coaches and three (03) years experience for other Coaches in a reputed school or Club.
- Ability to work independently and as part of the team with junior coaches.
- Positive attitude and good communication skills especially English.
- Should be available Full Time.

Please forward your application within 7 days of this advertisement to,

Zahira College
P O Box 861 | Colombo
Email: careers@zahiracollege.lk

www.zahiracollege.lk



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Ladies' College, Colombo 07

Ladies' College is a private school within the Church of Ceylon Diocese of Colombo and is under the purview of the Education Ministry of Sri Lanka.

We seek qualified, energetic and talented teachers for the below vacancies

- 1. Mathematics Teacher - (Middle School & O/L-English Medium)**
- 2. Sinhala Language Teacher - (O/L Section)**
- 3. Health & Physical Education Teacher - (Middle School & O/L - Tamil & English Mediums)**
- 4. Business & Accounting Studies Teacher - (O/L Tamil Medium & A/L English Medium)**
- 5. Tamil Language & Hinduism Teacher - (Middle School & O/L)**

Required Skills:

- A degree from a recognized university
- Age below 60 years
- Experience in a similar capacity and knowledge in computer literacy will be an added advantage

Note: Hostel Facilities are available for teachers on concessionary rates

Send us your applications on or before 20th September 2020 with two non-related referees. Please mention the post applied for, on the top left corner of the envelope or as the subject line of your email.

hr@ladiescollege.edu.lk

The Principal, Ladies' College,
No.66, Sir Ernest De Silva Mawatha,
Colombo 7.

Take your **Place** amongst the **Best**



We are in search of talented and motivated individuals to join our journey towards success where you constantly meet challenges which will position you at the top tier of your career.

MANAGER - OPERATIONS
(Corporate Office - Colombo)

- Minimum 5-8 years of experience within a Credit / Lending background in the banking and Finance Industry.
- Thorough understanding of all regulatory directions related to daily operations of the Operations Department.
- A degree from a recognised University or an equivalent professional qualification (part/full) will be an added advantage.
- Experience in Leasing Operations or Credit with knowledge of Leasing products is a must.
- Come up with new product ideas in line with the market conditions and have a thorough knowledge of the market and the competitors.
- Willingness to work beyond normal working hours as and when required.
- Strong knowledge of lending practices with a good understanding of credit risk.
- Be result oriented and possess the ability to take up challenges.
- Possess strong communication skills.
- Be Computer Literate.

ASSISTANT MANAGER - LEGAL

- A capable and diligent professional with 5 - 8 years of post-qualifying experience with a proven track record in a similar capacity.
- Should be fully conversant with the debt recovery laws.
- He / She should be an Attorney-at-Law & Notary Public below 40 years of age.
- Should have strong negotiation skills, analytical skills and sound legal judgment to support the business needs.
- He / She should have notarial License to practice in Colombo.
- The ideal candidate should be articulate, analytical and have a decisive personality with excellent writing and communication skills.
- Excellent interpersonal skills with a passion and drive to succeed.
- Prior working experience in a legal firm would be a distinct advantage.

www.orientfinance.lk

Orient Finance PLC is listed on the Colombo Stock Exchange and licensed by the Monetary Board of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka as a Finance Company under the Finance Business Act No. 42 of 2011.

We are a uniquely different Finance House counting over three decades of superior service excellence in Leasing, Hire Purchase, Gold Loans, Fixed Deposits, Savings Deposits and Debt Factoring. Our institution boasts of a diverse and satisfied clientele that continues to grow.

Our uniqueness is embedded in product offers and timely delivery systems at every level. As a part of our expansion strategy, we have opportunities for dynamic individuals who would be part of this unique outfit.

MARKETING EXECUTIVES - LEASING / CREDIT (Islandwide)
(Senior Executive / Executive / Junior Executive)

- Possess Minimum 3 years of work experience in similar capacity in Banking/ Finance Industry.
- Ability to work in a computerised environment.
- Strong leadership personality, interpersonal skills and flair for public relations with a positive team attitude.
- Ability to communicate in English / Sinhala both written and Oral. Fluency in Tamil language would be an added advantage.
- Full or Part Qualification in CIM/ SLIM or an equivalent qualification in Marketing will be an added advantage.

MARKETING EXECUTIVES - FIXED DEPOSITS (Islandwide)
(Senior Executive / Executive)

- Be between the ages of 23 - 35 years.
- Proven track records in sales and Marketing in Fixed Deposits in a Bank or Licensed Finance Company. Those with exposure to the service sector may also apply.
- Full/ part qualification in SLIM or CIM or an equivalent degree would also be an added advantage.
- Willingness to work long hours and achieve given targets.
- Excellent communication and PR Skills with an outgoing personality along with a positive attitude.
- Possess a valid driving / Riding License.

RECOVERY EXECUTIVES (Islandwide)
(Senior Executive / Executive)

- The ideal candidate should be below 35 years of age.
- 1 or 2 years of recovery experience in a Financial Institution.
- Knowledge in the areas of credit appraisals /client evaluations.
- Use various recovery tools to collect arrears and transfer facilities from NPL back to required level.
- Deal with routine correspondence with regard to any collection or recovery issue.
- Provide advice and assistance to clients in writing, by telephone or in person.
- Maintain the computer based information systems on all recovery activities.
- Introduce methods to maintain portfolio quality.
- Sound knowledge on the legal process and the law relating to the subject area.

Marketing Officers - Gold Loan (Islandwide)
(Senior Executive / Executive)

- Minimum of 3 years experience in managing gold advances portfolio preferably in the Banking or Finance Industry.
- Should be skillful in gold article identification and recognise fake & dud gold jewellery.
- Negotiate gold loan facilities with clients.
- Market Gold Loan products and execute auctions.
- Achieve given Gold Loan targets.
- Proficiency in computer literacy including MS Excel & MS Word application packages.
- Fluency in all three languages (English, Sinhala and Tamil) will be an added advantage.

Please send your resume with the contact details of 2 non-related referees and a colour passport size photograph to reach us within 10 days of this advertisement, stating the post applied for on the top left corner of the envelope or on the subject line of the e-mail to careers@orient.lk

Orient Finance PLC

Human Resources Department, No. 19, Railway Avenue, Nugegoda.
Web: www.orientfinance.lk | Telephone +94 (0)11 744 4201 | Fax +94 (0) 11 757 7511



VACANCY

Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management

Ministry of Tourism

Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management is the premier government institute in the country providing education and training for the development of human resource for the Tourism and Hospitality Industry

**POST OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
MAINTENANCE
(MM 1-2 CATEGORY)**

Qualification :

A degree in Engineering (Civil or Electrical) which is recognized by the U.G.C. AND

Minimum of 01 year post qualifying experience at managerial level in public service, corporation, Statutory Board or in a reputed private institution in the relevant field.

Salary Scale:

MM 1-2: Rs. [54,550/= - 10 x 1,375/= - 15 x 1,910/= - 96,950/=]

Initial salary step - Rs. 54,550/= + cost of living and other government approved allowance will be paid as per the Department of Management Services circular No 02/2016. Additionally, Professional Allowance of Rs.3,000/= & Transport allowance of Rs. 4,000/= per month will be paid.

Age:

Age should be not less than 22 years and not more than 45 years.

**POST OF MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT
TECHNICAL
(MA 2-2 CATEGORY)**

Qualification:

Vocational : Having obtained a certificate of proficiency not below than the National Vocational Qualification Level 5, issued by a Technical / Vocational Training Institute accepted by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission in the field of Information Technology

Salary Scale:

MA2-2: Rs. [30,310/= - 10 x 300/= - 7 x 350/= - 4 x 600/= - 20 x 710/= - 52,360/=]

Initial salary step - Rs. 30,310/= cost of living and other government approved allowances will be paid as per the Department of Management Services circular No 02/2016. Additionally, Transport allowance of Rs. 4,000/= per month will be paid.

Age:

Age should be not less than 18 years and not more than 45 years.

General Information:

Contribution of EPF & ETF

EPF - Employee will contribute 10% of the consolidate salary and the employer will contribute 15%
ETF - Employee will contribute 3% of the salary.

An attractive Health Medical Insurance coverage for the Employee & His /Her Family will be provided

Curriculum Vitae giving full particulars together with copies of all certificates pertaining to Academic qualifications, work experience etc. and names of two non - related referees should be forwarded under registered cover (indicating the post on the top left hand corner of the envelope) to the undersigned on or before 30th September 2020.

Director General

Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism & Hotel Management
No. 78, Galle Road, Colombo 3.
General Inquiries : 011 220 8360

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VACANCY

UNIVERSITY OF SRI JAYEWARDENEPURA

POST OF REGISTRAR

The University of Sri Jayewardenepura will entertain applications from suitably qualified persons for the post of **Registrar** of the University up to **28.09.2020**.

Qualifications :

(a) Should possess a Degree with First or Second Class and a Postgraduate Degree at the level of Ph.D. in Administration or Management from a recognized University/HEI with not less than ten (10) years of administrative experience after obtaining the first Degree.

OR

(b) Should possess a Degree with First or Second Class and a Postgraduate Degree of not less than two (02) years duration at Masters' level in Administration or Management from a recognized University /HEI with not less than twelve (12) years of administrative experience after obtaining the first Degree.

OR

(c) A holder of the post of Deputy Secretary/Deputy Registrar of the Commission/a Higher Educational Institution/Institute who has completed three (03) years of satisfactory service in that post with a Degree and a Masters' Degree in Administration or Management of not less than one (01) years duration from a recognized University/HEI with not less than fourteen (14) years of administrative experience after obtaining the first Degree. At least five (05) years of such experience should be at the level of Deputy Secretary/Deputy Registrar and/or Senior Assistant Secretary/Senior Assistant Registrar in the U-EX 2(II) grade of the Commission/a Higher Educational Institution/Institute.

OR

(d) A holder of the post of Deputy Secretary/Deputy Registrar of the Commission/a Higher Educational Institution/Institute who has completed three (03) years of satisfactory service in that post with a Degree and a Postgraduate Diploma of not less than one year's duration in Administration or Management from a recognized University/HEI with not less than fifteen (15) years of administrative experience after obtaining, the first Degree. At least five (05) years of such experience should be at the level of Deputy Secretary/Deputy Registrar and/or Senior Assistant Secretary/Senior Assistant Registrar in the U-EX 2(II) grade of the Commission/a Higher Educational Institution/Institute.

OR

(e) An Attorney-at-Law with a Degree from a recognized University/HEI who has completed three (03) years of satisfactory service in the post of Deputy Secretary/Deputy Registrar of the Commission/a Higher Educational Institution/Institute with fifteen (15) years of administrative experience after obtaining the first Degree. At least five (05) years of such experience should be at the level of a Deputy Secretary/Deputy Registrar and/or Senior Assistant Secretary/Senior Assistant Registrar in the U-EX 2(II) grade of the Commission/a Higher Educational Institution/Institute.

OR

(f) A holder of the post of Deputy Secretary/Deputy Registrar who is a graduate from a recognized University/HEI with eighteen (18) years of administrative experience of the Commission/a Higher Educational Institution/Institute out of which at least three (03) years should be in the post of Deputy Secretary/Deputy Registrar and confirmed in that post.

NOTE : "Administrative Experience" means, experience gained in a post in Sri Lanka Administrative Service or in a comparable post in a State or in a Private Sector Organization in Human Resource Management or General Administration or Overall Management after obtaining the first Degree from a recognized University/HEI. Experience gained in specialized fields such as Finance/Engineering or other Technical fields are not considered for this purpose.

Age : Not more than 45 years (The age limit does not apply to the employees in the services of the Government Departments / State Corporations / Statutory Boards / Higher Educational Institutions)

Salary Scale : U-EX 3(I) - Rs. 104,000 - 3 x 2,170; 11 x 2,700 - 140,210/-p.m.

In addition, the allowances approved by the University Grants Commission will also be paid.

Other Benefits :

- Transport will be provided from residence to work place in accordance with University Grants Commission regulation.
- Will be entitled for Sabbatical Leave of one year duration with full pay on completion of seven years of service. An officer proceeding abroad on Sabbatical Leave will be eligible to receive passage for himself/herself and his/her spouse.
- Gratuity payment in accordance with the provisions of the payment of Gratuity Act No 12 of 1983
- Provident Fund contribution of 10% by employee and 7% by the employer to the University Provident Fund.
- A contribution 8% to the University Pension Fund would be made by the employer.
- Employees Trust Fund benefits 3% by the employer.

Application Form and further particulars 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 Vice-Chancellor, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Gangodawila, Nugegoda"** or hand delivered to office of the Vice-Chancellor on or before the closing date of Application.

The University reserves the right to shortlist the candidates. Applications which do not conform to the requirements, incomplete application not in the relevant format (not downloaded from the web site) and application received after the closing date will be rejected without intimation.

Acting Vice-Chancellor
University of Sri Jayewardenepura,
Gangodawila,
Nugegoda.

Vacancies in the Travel Trade

WE ARE A WELL ESTABLISHED COMPANY IN THE PROCESS OF EXPANDING OUR OPERATIONS IN THE FIELD OF TRAVELS, TOURS & TRANSPORTATION LOCATED AT MAHARAGAMA.

WE ARE ON THE LOOK-OUT FOR SUITABLE CANDIDATES FOR THE FOLLOWING JOB POSITIONS :

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. RECEPTIONIST (FEMALE) | 5. TOUR EXECUTIVES |
| 2. CUSTOMER CARE EXECUTIVE (FEMALE) | 6. TRANSPORT SUPERVISOR |
| 3. TICKETING EXECUTIVES | 7. OFFICE ASSISTANT |
| 4. SALES EXECUTIVES | |

Basic qualification required :

- O/L with 03 passes in English and Mathematics
- A/L 02 passes with English

Age Limit : Below 35 years.

Interested applicants can forward their CV with recent photograph to the undermentioned Email ID with names and contact details of two non-related referees.

Email - traffictours999@gmail.com Contact No. 0777351507, 0777700703



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

IOM, a related Organization of the United Nations, and the leading UN Agency in the field of migration, is looking for a prospective candidate for the following position on **Special Short Term Contract (Graded)**. Deadline for the applications is **20th September 2020**.

Vacancy Number : SVN-10/2020
Position : NATIONAL MONITORING & EVALUATION OFFICER (LMR)
Duty Station : COLOMBO
Salary Per month : LKR 404,346.33 (NO-B)

The candidate must have a Master's Degree in Statistics, Demographics, Public Policy, International Development, Project Management or related field from an accredited academic institution with Two (2) years of relevant professional experience in the field of Monitoring and Evaluation (M & E); or minimum four (4) years of related work experience with a University Degree in the above fields. Experience in M & E, data collection and analysis, M & E systems and report writing, preferably within the international humanitarian field is required. Experience in liaising with senior government officials, UN organizations and/or civil society will be an added advantage. Sound knowledge of issues related to overseas employment and contractual labour in Sri Lanka or in the Asian region is desired. Proficiency in Microsoft Office package and data analysis tools such as SPSS, STATA & ArcGIS will be advantageous.

For more details on job description & instructions on how to apply for the position, please visit

<http://srilanka.iom.int/iom/?q=vacancies>

Only short-listed applications will be acknowledged.



NILIS

**National Institute of Library and Information Sciences (NILIS),
University of Colombo**

VACANCIES

**Post of Lecturer (Probationary)/ Lecturer
(Unconfirmed)/ Senior Lecturer Grade II/I**

**EDUCATION/ INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/
INFORMATION SCIENCE**

The National Institute of Library and information Science, University of Colombo will entertain applications from suitably qualified persons for the following permanent post up to **05th October 2020**.

Application forms and relevant details can be downloaded from the NILIS web site (www.nilis.cmb.ac.lk)

Senior Assistant Registrar
National Institute of Library and Information Sciences
University of Colombo
Colombo 03



Sri Lanka Medical Council

Position of Judicial Assessor

Invitations are extended to **Hon. Retired senior members of the judiciary of Sri Lanka or Hon. Retired senior members of the Attorney General Department of Sri Lanka** to facilitate the Medical Disciplinary Procedure of the Sri Lanka Medical Council as a Judicial Assessor.

Please submit your information and contact details to : slmc@lankabellnet.com to reach us, on or before 16th September 2020.

For further inquiries, kindly contact the Registrar of the SLMC

By order of the SLMC

Registrar,
Sri Lanka Medical Council
31, Norris Canal Rd,
Colombo 10.

011-2691848

06.09.2020

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 11th 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



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FUNDAMENTAL STUDIES

Applications are invited by the National Institute of Fundamental Studies from qualified candidates who possess the undermentioned qualifications to fill the following posts.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT - Gr.II

Qualifications :

1. A four year Degree with specialization in the relevant subject (Please see below) with First or Second Class (Upper Division) Honours

OR

2. A four year Degree with specialization in the relevant subject (Please see below) with Second Class (Lower Division) Honours

OR

3. A Degree with the relevant subjects (Please see below) and Postgraduate Degree in the relevant subject with a research component.

NOTE:

- (a) An applicant who is eligible under (2), (3) above could be considered for appointment only if applicants qualified under (1) above are either not available or evaluated and considered as unsatisfactory by the selection committee. Such appointment would require a special justification.

RELEVANT SUBJECTS FOR PROJECTS

Project - Environmental Science Research: Material Development and Pollutants Remediation

Relevant Subjects : Chemistry, Physics, Material Science. Preference will be given to experience with hydrothermal or microwave synthesis of porous material, material processing or nanotechnology.

Project - Environmental Science Research: Water research

Relevant Subjects : Four-year degree in Natural Sciences from a UGC recognized university majoring Environmental Science for a period of 2 yrs.

Project - Natural Products

Relevant Subjects Chemistry, Botany

Project - Molecular Microbiology & Human Diseases

Relevant subjects : A candidate majoring in Molecular Biology, Microbiology, Botany or Chemistry is given preference

Project - Condensed Matter Physics & Solid State Chemistry

Relevant Subjects Physics and Chemistry or Material Science

Project - Nanotechnology and Advanced Materials

Relevant Subjects : Chemistry with Physics/Mineral Science/ Material Science

Experience in upgrading/processing minerals or synthesis/characterization of nano-materials or electrochemical investigations/development of materials for energy related applications will be an additional qualification.

Project - Bioenergy & Soil Ecosystems

Relevant Subjects : Botany, Environmental Science or Natural Resource Management

Project - Earth Resources & Renewable Energy

Relevant Subjects : Geology and/or Physics Competency in English essential

Knowledge in the field of Remote Sensing & GIS will be preferred. Field oriented research experience in Soil Science; Forestry or Environmental Science will be an added advantage.

Project - Microbial & Biotechnology Unit (Rhizobium Project)

Relevant Subjects : Soil Microbiology and Molecular Biology (Preference Rhizobia)

Project - Plant Stress Biology & Molecular Genetics

Relevant Subjects : Plant Physiology, Plant Molecular Biology, Plant Molecular Genetics

REMUNERATION:

Employment will be on contract basis. Salary scale is as follows:

Research Assistant Gr.II - 27,775 - 3x645 - 29,710/- + 25% (Re. All.) + Govt. All.

Employees will contribute 10% of their salary to the NIFS Staff Provident Fund, while the Institute will contribute 15%. In addition, the institute will contribute 3% of the salary to the ETF.

Applicants should send detailed curriculum vitae with the names and addresses of two non-related referees together with copies of certificates in support of age and qualifications within 21 days from the date of this advertisement.

Applicants should submit separate CV for each project and mention the relevant project applied for on the left-hand corner of the envelope. Further details on research projects can be obtained from www.nifs.ac.lk

Please note that it is the NIFS policy to appoint only the Research Assistants who register for an M.Phil/PhD degree and also work for a minimum of two years.

The Director
National Institute of Fundamental Studies
Hantana Road, Kandy.

Tel: 081-2232002
Fax: 081-2232131

Quantity Surveyors
Office (Female) / Site Supervision
Work (Male)
 • QS (Civil) - NDT / NCT
 • Age - Below 50 Years
 Ananda Constructions (PVT) Ltd
 Boralesgamuwa
 Tele: 0766 058820
 E-mail CV to: anandaconcv@gmail.com

Sales Executives
Wanted
 A leading company trading in Diesel Power Generators, requires **Sales Executives** with experience. Should have own motorbike.
Training will be provided Email CV to:
info@esnaallied.com

VACANCY
 A PRIVATE SECTOR OF IMPORTERS & DISTRIBUTORS IN COLOMBO LOOKING FOR A DYNAMIC CANDIDATE FOR FOLLOWING POSITION

SENIOR IMPORTS EXECUTIVE
(MALE / FEMALE)
Qualification / Skills Required
 • More than 05 Years Experience in Similar Field
 • Well Experienced & Knowledge in Import Procedures, Banking & Customs Documentation
 • Good Communication skills in Tamil & English
 • Highly proficient in MS office packages & Good Report writing skills

OFFICE ASSISTANT
(MALE / FEMALE)
Qualification / Skills Required
 • Age Below 30 Years
 • Minimum "B" Pass in Maths and English G.C.E O/L
 • Successfully Completed G.C.E A/L
 • Good Communication skills in Written and Spoken - English & Tamil
 • Computer Literacy Specially in MS Office

Forward your CV to : vacancy.col@gmail.com

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We are looking for
SENIOR Sales Managers
PRIME RESIDENCIES (PVT) LTD

QUALIFICATIONS

- Minimum 05 Years work experience in the Real Estate Sector.
- Passionate about customer service
- Ability to develop new clients for existing products.
- Ability to meet company targets
- Good command in English

OUR OFFERS

- An attractive remuneration package commensurate with qualifications and experience.
- Challenging and supportive work environment.
- Excellent career prospects with other benefits.

Submit your CV to careers@primelands.lk with contact details of two non-related referees within 7 days of this advertisement. Please state the job title in the subject Column of your email.

SUBMIT YOUR CV TO:
careers@primelands.lk
HR DEPARTMENT
 #75, D.S. Senanayake Mawatha,
 Colombo 08, Sri Lanka.



PRIME RESIDENCIES

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 Only Real Estate Group
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UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
GENERAL SIR JOHN KOTELAWALA
DEFENCE UNIVERSITY

VACANCIES FOR
NURSING SISTERS AND NURSING OFFICERS
(HOURLY PAYMENT BASIS)

RECRUITMENT CRITERIA

Nursing Sister (Grade I Nursing Officer)

- i. Shall be a Grade I Nursing Officer.
AND
- ii. Shall have successfully completed the 1 ½ years Diploma which includes Ward Management and Supervision / Teaching and Supervision / Public Health Nursing and Midwifery / Psychiatry conducted by the National Institute for Nursing Education / Post basic Nursing School.

Nursing Officer

- i. Shall possess a BSc degree in Nursing or a Diploma in Nursing from a recognized University or from the Ministry of Health.
AND
- ii. Shall have passed all subjects in Biology or Mathematics or Agriculture Streams (except Common General Test) in one sitting at the G.C.E. (A/L) Examination or three (03) subjects of the old syllabus in the same streams in one sitting.
AND
- iii. Shall have passed six (06) subjects in not more than two sittings with four (04) Credit passes for Sinhala / Tamil Language, Mathematics, Science and English at the G.C.E. (O/L) Examination.
AND
- iv. Minimum of 05 years' working experience.

General Conditions:

1. Hourly Payments will be made on the basis of the Circular No. TA/G/PSM/13/2016 dated 02 June 2017 of the Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine.
2. Duly completed applications with certified copies of relevant certificates should be submitted under registered cover to reach, "Executive Director, University Hospital, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Werahera" on or before 21.09.2020. The applied post should be written on the top left hand corner of the envelope.
3. General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University reserves the right to shortlist prospective applicants.
4. Incomplete or late applications and those which do not comply with KDU format will be rejected.
5. Application Form and other relevant details should be downloaded from the KDU web site.

www.kdu.ac.lk



Business Adviser – MDF Sri Lanka

Market Development Facility (MDF) is an Australian Government funded multi-country initiative which promotes sustainable economic development, through higher incomes for women and men, in our partner countries. MDF connects individuals, businesses, governments and NGOs with each other, and with markets at home and abroad. This enhances investment and coordination and allows partnerships to flourish, strengthening inclusive economic growth. MDF is funded by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). It is implemented by Palladium in partnership with Swisscontact.

In Sri Lanka, MDF's focus is on promoting resilient tourism and supporting authentic Sri Lankan products which promote the country.

MDF Sri Lanka is seeking a Business Adviser for the Country Team. The purpose of the Business Adviser is to design and manage strategic interventions with a variety of private and public partners to achieve sustainable and inclusive growth. The Business Adviser will work closely with the MDF team to implement interventions, measure effectiveness and share results/lessons learned.

Responsibilities

- Identify potential for pro-poor growth and find innovative solutions to unlock the growth potential of identified business sectors in-country.
- Contribute to research to assess the performance of MDF's investment portfolio and its impact on the country economy.
- Identify potential to address other forms of inclusion, Women economic empowerment, minority participation, nutrition, disability and environment in MDF's portfolio of work.
- Work with the MDF team to develop intervention plans and results chains. Execute plans, applying good research practices.
- Work closely with the Quality and Inclusion Director and the Quality and Inclusion Specialist to construct logical result chains and effective results measurement plans, and manage them accordingly.
- Assess the technical and economic feasibility of business plans and/or develop such plans in close coordination with business partners.
- Manage at least two partnerships, with cross-cutting duties such as research and scoping for potential partners.

Eligibility criteria and how to apply

- A degree in business, agriculture, economics, business management or other related discipline (or equivalent professional experience).
- Excellent spoken and written English language skills. Fluency in Sinhala and/or Tamil would be an added advantage.
- Willingness to travel extensively within the country to meet potential partners, conduct research and monitor activities.
- International experience, either through work or study (preferred).

Please include a Cover Letter (no more than one page) demonstrating that the applicant meets the criteria specified above and an up-to-date CV with contact details of three non-related referees, combined in one file. Interested candidates can apply via the Palladium Website or the following link under current vacancies (select **SL**):
<https://marketdevelopmentfacility.org/opportunities/>

This position is open to Sri Lankan nationals and permanent residents with authority to live and work in Sri Lanka. Rates of pay are based on local labour standards and a competitive remuneration package await a high-quality candidate. The chosen candidate will be required to provide a police clearance certificate. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews. Applications will be evaluated on a rolling basis and recruitment will be closed once a suitable candidate is found.

Funded by the Australian Government, managed by Palladium
www.thepalladiumgroup.com

Ministry of Livestock, Farm Promotion and Dairy & Egg Related Industries
NATIONAL LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT BOARD
POSTS VACANT

Applications are called for the following posts from eligible citizens of Sri Lanka.

Post -
1. Deputy General Manager (Corporate Operations) HM 1-3-2016

Qualifications : Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture / Plantation Management / Veterinary Science / Animal Husbandry / Management / Public Administration / Business Administration / Commerce with a Postgraduate qualification (Masters) or Membership of a recognized Professional Institute or Fellow / Associate Member of ICASL / CIMA / ACCA with a minimum of 18 years experience in managerial level out of which three (03) years Post Qualifying experience in a Senior Management level.

2. Deputy General Manager (Livestock & Plantation Development) HM 1-3-2016

Qualifications : Bachelor's Degree in Science / Agriculture / Plantation Management / Veterinary Science / Animal Husbandry with a Postgraduate qualification (Masters) or Membership of a recognized Professional Institute in the above fields with a minimum of 18 years experience in Managerial level out of which three (03) years Post Qualifying experience in a Senior Management Level.

Salary - HM 1-3-2016 - Rs. 86,865 - 15x2,270 - Rs. 120,915/=.

3. Assistant General Manager (Regional) HM 1-1-2016

Qualifications : A Degree in Agriculture / Plantation Management / Veterinary Science / Science obtained from a recognized University with a Postgraduate Qualification (Masters) or Membership of a recognized Professional Institute in a related field with 15 years experience in a Managerial Position after obtaining 1st Degree involving Farm / Plantation and Animal Husbandry at a reputed Private / Public Organization.

Salary - HM 1-1-2016 : Rs. 80,295/= - 15x2,270/= - Rs. 114,345/=.

Age - Should be not less than 35 years and not more than 50 years.

In addition to the above salary allowances approved by the Government will be paid.

Preference will be given to those who served / are in service in similar capacity of time of applying process.

Additional Benefits :

- i. Indoor and outdoor Medical benefits.
- ii. Assigned vehicle with 960 Private mileages.

Every Applicant

- i. Should be a Sri Lankan Citizen
- ii. Should be physically and mentally fit to discharge the duties of the post well and to serve in any part of the island.
- iii. Should have an excellent character.

Self-prepared applications including all Bio-Data, their addresses and Telephone Numbers along with copies of certificates should be sent by registered post, on or before 24th September 2020 addressed to **"Chairman, National Livestock Development Board, No. 40, Nawala Road, Narahenpita, Colombo 05"**. Please indicate the post applied for on the top left-hand corner of the envelope.

Those employed in Government Institutions should forward their applications through the Heads of Institutions.

Chairman
National Livestock Development Board,
No. 40, Nawala Road,
Narahenpita, Colombo 05.

Our client, one of the leading diversified conglomerates in Sri Lanka is seeking a high calibre professional as the

HEAD OF GROUP HUMAN RESOURCES

This is a challenging opportunity for a results oriented, experienced leader with a proven track record of demonstrable achievements of group business objectives.

Job Profile

- Lead the HR function of the group in delivering overall Human Resource Services for the subsidiaries in terms of defined HR policies and procedures. (HR operations, recruitment, talent development, performance management, employee engagement and industrial relations, compensation management where you will be required to perform within defined timescales and budgets).
- Oversee all personnel-related matters and ensure Group use their resources beneficially.
- Designing budgets, applying company policies and managing internal HR systems.
- Develop and execute HR strategy to support Group's strategy and work as a strategic business partner to the business.
- Ensure the training and development needs of all employees are identified and suitable development interventions are implemented and monitored.
- Create a working environment that strengthens the values and culture by implementing employee relation activities.
- Manage KPI's and Performance Management Systems according to company policies and practices.
- Lead and manage key HR Projects of the Group while overseeing payroll and performance evaluation systems.
- Advice, guide and support the HR Team Leads in adopting best HR Practices across the group and ensure compliance with present labour legislations.

Candidate Profile

- A proven track record with a minimum of 10 years of experience in Senior HR Positions.
- Relevant professional and / or academic qualifications.
- A self-starter, a collaborative leader with good knowledge of labor legislation.
- Have extensive HR experience in senior roles and good knowledge of Human Resources Management software.
- Skills of providing solutions to various HR related issues across the Group.
- Good communication skills, a pleasing and outgoing personality with first class interpersonal skills.

An attractive and negotiable remuneration package with other fringe benefits will be offered based on qualifications, experience and competence.

Please forward your complete resume with contact details of two non-related referees to **mslr@sltnet.lk** within 10 days of this advertisement quoting **MSL Ref. No. 7508** in the subject line of your e-mail.

MSL Management Systems (Pvt) Ltd.

✉ No: 08 Tickell Road, Colombo 08.
 📧 mslr@sltnet.lk
 🌐 www.bposrilanka.com

SEC SEC

SEC SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OF SRI LANKA



The Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka (SEC), established by the SEC Act No. 36 of 1987 as amended, is statutorily empowered to regulate and facilitate the development of the capital market. As the apex regulator of the capital market, the primary objectives of the SEC include the creation and maintenance of a fair and orderly capital market; ensuring professional standards are maintained in the industry and the protection of the interest of investors.

The SEC is looking for self-motivated team player with integrity, self-discipline, positive work attitude with strong interpersonal skills for the following position in the Finance & Administration Division.

DIRECTOR FINANCE

The Director Finance will be responsible to assist in the smooth functioning of the Division and major responsibilities inter-alia includes:

- To strive for efficiency and effectiveness in all financial transactions;
- Preparation of financial and management information;
- Effective budgetary control and procurement procedures;
- Investment and cash management.

The candidate should:

- possess a Bachelor's degree in Finance/Accounting from a recognised University or be a member of a recognised professional accounting body;
- preference will be given to candidates who possess a Class in the Bachelor's degree or possess a Masters degree;
- possess minimum of 10 years experience in the relevant field in a senior managerial and/or managerial position;
- possess knowledge and experience in Government finance including financial regulation and procurement procedure and auditing;
- be articulate, analytical and decisive with excellent communication skills in English, Sinhala and/or Tamil and be computer literate;
- be between 35-55 years of age.

Please apply with names and contact details of two non-related referees indicating the position on the top left hand corner of the envelope to reach the following address by registered post on or before 17th September 2020.

The selection will be by way of an interview and only the shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Canvassing in any form will be a disqualification.

The Director General
 Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka
 Level 29, East Tower, World Trade Centre
 Echelon Square, Colombo 1
 Website: www.sec.gov.lk

SEC SEC

MINISTRY OF PLANTATION
TEA RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF SRI LANKA
TEA RESEARCH BOARD

POST OF SUPERINTENDENT (CONTRACT BASIS)
ST. COOMBS ESTATE, TALAWAKELLE

Applications are invited from the citizens of Sri Lanka for the above post.

The Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka is looking for a dynamic planter to work in a challenging environment with a team of highly qualified scientists, to be in-charge of St. Coombs Estate and Factory located in Talawakelle. This position is an opportunity for a suitably qualified person to enhance his career and gain recognition in the Tea Industry by working alongside the TRI Scientists.

Job Description:

Responsible to planning, coordinating and supervising all affairs in managing a Tea Factory. Tea Estate and Office and provide accruable information to the Management.

Educational Qualifications & Experience:

Having passed the G.C.E. (O/L) Examination in six (06) subjects in one sitting with Credit passes for four (04) subjects including language (Sinhala & Tamil), English & Mathematics

AND

Having passed three (03) subjects (other than General Paper) at the G.C.E. (A/L) Examination.

OR

Having obtained a Certificate of proficiency in Diploma in Plantation Management not below than the National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Level 05, issued by a Technical / Vocational Training Institution accepted by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission.

The ideal candidate should possess a minimum of three (03) years planting experience as a Superintendent of a high grown in tea estate, and factory and experience in bought leaf factory operations is also necessary.

Excellent interpersonal relations, team spirit and networking skills will be added qualifications.

Working knowledge in Sinhala, English and the ability to converse in Tamil is important.

This appointment will be on contract basis, initially for a period of 03 years renewable annually.

Remuneration:

Monthly all-inclusive package of approximately Rs. 125,000/-

The selected candidate will be provided with additional facilities applicable to this position as stipulated by the TRI.

Application giving full **Curriculum Vitae** along with the copy of Birth Certificate, Copies of relevant Educational and other Professional Qualifications, Service Certificates and the Names and Addresses of two Non-Related Referees who can assess the applicant skills and knowledge in the relevant field should be sent under registered cover to reach the undersigned on or before 21st September 2020.

Applications from officers in the state Service /Corporations / Statuary Board should be forwarded through the Head of the respective Institution. Non-conformity with this requirement will result in the application being rejected. Also state the post applied on the top left hand corner of the envelope.

THE DIRECTOR
 TEA RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF SRI LANKA
 ST COOMBS, TALAWAKELLE.

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If it is a vehicle you want,

YOU NAME IT, WE HAVE IT

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Hot Line **011 2 429 369**
011 2 429 368

E-mail **adzsu@gmail.com**



We are looking for highly motivated individuals with right attitudes to fill the following vacancy

POST OF HEAD OF FINANCE

- 1 **Qualifications** : a) Should possess Bachelor's Degree recognized by the UGC (preference will be given to those who possess Accounting/ Finance Degree)
AND
 b) Should be a member of ICASL/CIMA/ACCA
AND
 c) Should possess a minimum of fifteen (15) years post qualifying experience in the relevant field out of which ten (10) years should be in a Managerial level post.
- 2 **Age** : Should be below 50 years on the closing date for applications.
- 3 **Salary** : Negotiable.
- 4 **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 Finance 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 17, 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 shortlisted candidates will be notified.

**CHAIRMAN
 AIRPORT & AVIATION SERVICES (SRI LANKA) LIMITED
 BANDARANAIKE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
 KATUNAYAKE**

**IMMEDIATE VACANCIES
 for
 TECHNICAL OFFICERS**
 (Work Locations: Matale, Dambulla and Jaela)
 Personnel with NCT/NDT together with the experiences in Road Construction Projects
 careers@vkarunaratne.lk
 Contact: 071-1700111/071-0906524

Marketing Executive
 We are looking for a Marketing Executive who could communicate in English with clients on our company products and services.
Requirements
 • Fluent in English
 • Minimum of two years' experience in sales and customer handling
 • Fluent in computer literacy
Package
 • Minimum of 25,000 basic salary based on experience
 • Travelling and food allowance - 7500/-
 • Monthly Incentive based on KPI's - 20,000/-
 We are a subsidiary of an organisation that's reputed for event management, online and local trading. Our office is located in Kiribathgoda and we prefer a person in and around 10 to 15 KM distance to office.
What's App your CV 077-964-5200

VACANCY
CRICKET COACH
 St Joseph Vaz College- Wennappuwa
 •Senior Head Coach
 •Junior Head Coach
Qualification
 *SLC Coaching License Level 1 or 2
 *Five years of experience in the similar - Capacity
 *Age below 55 years
 Please send your application to shaneooray1@gmail.com or amila.prasad.priyankara@gmail.com or Send by Register post to
**Principal
 St. Joseph Vaz College
 Wennappuwa**

ENTER THE REWARDING WORLD OF INSURANCE!
**Senior Staff Officer
 (Salvage Tender Processing)**
 Our client, a member of the largest financial services group in Sri Lanka has achieved benchmark industry standards with record breaking results and a premier portfolio of customers.
 As the fastest growing insurer, they are in search of dynamic people who could build further on their hard earned reputation of reliability, trust and unparalleled service by passionately working towards the objectives of their Risk & Salvage Tender Processing function.
 Responsible to administer and follow RMV Transfer Procedure & Tender Procedure in compliance with company policy and to provide fullest contribution to RMV divisional functions, meeting deadlines in handling total loss vehicles and other salvage disposal administration.
Applicants should possess the following:
 ○ GCE O/L, GCE A/L with experience /qualification in motor technical field.
 ○ Strong acumen for customer service, effective problem solving ability.
 ○ Ability to handle situational issues, reconcile differences.
 ○ Strong negotiation skills.
 ○ Should have ability to run RMV division functions smoothly at head office in order to handle RMV Transfer and Tender procedures.
 ○ Knowledge on RMV Transfer Procedure & Tender Procedure is preferred.
 Attractive remuneration package together with the opportunity for further advancement in a team driven business awaits the right candidate.
Only those who possess the above qualifications should apply.
 Please forward your complete resume with contact details of two non-related referees to mslrecruitment@sltnet.lk within 10 days of this advertisement quoting **MSL Ref. No 7509** in the subject line of your e-mail.
**MSL Management
 Systems (Pvt) Ltd.**
 No: 08 Tickell Road, Colombo 08.
mslr@sltnet.lk
www.bposrilanka.com

Sakura Dental hospital which was closed due to Covid - 19 will be reopened from 26th September 2020

VACANCIES
Sakura Dental Hospital (Pvt) Ltd
 BOI Approved Project with Japanese Collaboration

DENTAL SURGEONS (MDS & BDS Full or Part-Time)
 • 03 years working experience for BDS Dental Surgeons will be essential.

DENTAL SURGERY ASSISTANTS (FEMALE)
 • 03 years working experience in BDS Dental theater

ASSISTANT SECRETARY (FEMALE)
 • Should have minimum of 2 years experience in similar capacity with high knowledge of computer skills and should be able to handle documents in English and Sinhala.

COMPUTER OPERATOR / TYPE SETTERS (FEMALE)
 • 02 years working experience. Knowledge of English and Sinhala type setting, E-mail, Scanning and General Office works will be an added qualifications.

ACCOUNT ASSISTANT
 • 03 years working experience in a reputed firm. Knowledge in all Tax & Bank matters, ETF & EPF, Computer literacy and English.

RECEPTIONIST CUM CASHIERS (FEMALE)
 • Pleasant personality, fluent in English & Computer Literacy. Conversancy in Japanese or Tamil or other languages would be an added qualification.

Attractive salaries depending on experience. Medical Insurance for all including their parents or husband & two children on completion of six months satisfactory service. In addition to the salary, special incentive payment and also overtime will be paid monthly on performance. Free accommodation for females.

Applications : Should be forwarded with copies of educational & experience certificates and contact numbers to reach us on or before **13th September 2020**

The Managing Director,
Sakura Dental Hospital (Pvt) Ltd.
 296, Main Street, Battaramulla.
 E-mail : mdsakuradental@sltnet.lk www.sakuradentalhospital.com

Palladium MAKE IT POSSIBLE

MDF

Interim Deputy Country Manager – MDF Sri Lanka

The Market Development Facility (MDF) is an Australian Government funded multi-country initiative which promotes sustainable economic development, through higher incomes for women and men, in our partner countries. MDF connects individuals, businesses, governments and NGOs with each other, and with markets at home and abroad. This enhances investment and coordination and allows partnerships to flourish, strengthening inclusive economic growth. MDF is funded by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). It is implemented by Palladium in partnership with Swisscontact.

In Sri Lanka, MDF's focus is on promoting resilient tourism and supporting authentic Sri Lankan products which promote the country.

MDF Sri Lanka is seeking an Interim Deputy Country Manager, who together with the Country Director, will be responsible for leading the country team. This is a challenging role open to individuals with high-level of analytical ability, negotiation skills and leadership acumen. The Deputy Country Manager will lead a team of Business Advisers and will manage MDF's existing portfolio of investments in tourism, agriculture and fisheries sectors. They will also be responsible for negotiating new investments.

Key Responsibilities:

- Support the Country Director to lead the Country Team.
- Develop and manage a diverse portfolio of investments to achieve MDF's objectives of sustainable and inclusive growth.
- Analyse markets, identify constraints to economic growth as well as opportunities to unlock growth.
- Identify potential strategic partners in the private and public sector for innovative investments
- Support the team in negotiating 'deals' with potential partners.
- Foster a culture of high achievement, continuous learning and honest inquiry.
- Lead review cycles to assess, learn and plan.
- Budget management and operational responsibilities are shared with the Country Director.

Eligibility criteria and how to apply:

- A degree in economics, business, international development or other relevant field.
- At least three years' work experience in a management role
- Experience devising strategies, mentoring teams in implementation and achieving targets.
- Experience managing a diverse portfolio of investments
- Excellent negotiation skills and experience negotiating deals with large businesses
- Excellent written and spoken English language, numeric and analytical skills
- Willingness to work in a challenging environment and to travel nationally and internationally

Please include an up-to-date CV with contact details of two non-related referees and cover letter, combined in one file. Interested candidates can apply via the Market Development Facility website using the following link under Current Vacancies (select **SL**):
<https://marketdevelopmentfacility.org/opportunities/>

This position will be initially available for a period of six months, with the possibility of extension. The type and length of contract is negotiable. For a successful, high-performing candidate, MDF has opportunities available beyond the scope of this assignment, within Sri Lanka and across the Facility internationally.

The candidates will be reviewed on a rolling basis, until the position is filled. Early application is advised.

The position is open to Sri Lankan nationals and permanent residents with authority to live and work in Sri Lanka. Rates of pay are based on local labour standards and a competitive remuneration package await a high-quality candidate. The chosen candidate will be required to provide a police clearance certificate. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.

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OFFICE COORDINATOR CUM RECEPTIONIST

FEMALE

- Age below 40
Previous experience will be an added advantage
- Should have computer literacy
- Fair knowledge in English & Sinhala
- Should have pleasant personality & Excellent interpersonal skills

Please send your CV
shohantax@sltnet.lk



SPM Corporate Accountants (Pvt) Ltd.

No 1043 B, Maradana Road, Borella, Colombo 08.
011-2678990 / 011-2678666 / 0117 533500

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We are leading shipping company in Sri Lanka we need urgently experience ranks and freshers

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▶ 2ND ENGINEER	▶ 3RD ENGINEER
▶ 4TH ENGINEER	▶ AB ▶ OS
▶ BOSUN	▶ MESSMAN
▶ CRANE OPERATOR	▶ STEWARD
▶ ENGINE CADET	▶ PASTRY CHEF
▶ COMMIS CHEF	▶ PARTY CHEF
▶ CHIEF COOK	▶ ELECTRICAL CADET
▶ 3RD COOK ▶ 2ND COOK	▶ ELECTRICIAN
▶ ELECTRICAL ENGINEER	▶ DECK HUND
▶ ELECTRICAL OFFICER	▶ CRNISE STAFF
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Replies to Classifieds & Casual Advertisements published C/o the

Daily News

should only be sent by ordinary post. Replies sent under registered cover will not be accepted.



The Company

We are a business management consultancy firm provi prospective Clients are leading Banks, Financial Institutions, Multinational Companies, Small & Medium Enterprises (SME's), various business entities and individuals with operations in and across various regions.

Call center In charge / Collection Executives

Job Profile

The Contact Center In Charge will ensure that his/her team provides customer friendly, professionally and consistent high-quality service to resolve various queries, close any collection enquiries and get it right first time. Interacting with customers on a day to day basis through calls, e-mails and personal meetings for settling outstanding payments related to recovery/collection issues. Engage in field visits in order to follow-up outstanding facilities of more than two months with a view of reducing the arrears ratio.

Key Responsibilities:

- Recruiting talented call agents / advisors, provide leadership, development and coaching of Advisors, actively engaging and supporting the development of your team to ensure better performance and succession planning
- Achieving allocated recovery targets
- Scheduling field visits and investigations in order to follow up customers
- Negotiate with customers by reaching an agreement to settle arrears
- Identify opportunities that can improve efficiency of business process

Experience and Qualifications:

- Passed GSE (A/L). Having a professional qualification would be an added advantage
- Minimum of 6 month experience in the field of collection/recoveries/contact center and school leavers are also encouraged to apply
- Fluency in English and Sinhala. Knowledge in Tamil will be an added advantage
- Good telephone etiquette and temperament
- A Valid Riding License will be an added advantage
- Age between 20-35 years

Remuneration:

Remuneration package is negotiable and would be in line with the applicant's experience and qualifications

Operating Cities:

Colombo/Kiribathgoda/Kadawatha/Kelaniya/Kaduvela/GampahaKandy/Anuradhapura/Kurunegala/Vavuniya/Trincomalee/Batticaloa/Galle/Monaragala/Kalutara
Managing Director,
CCPI Management Holdings (Pvt) Limited
No 94/3/9, Udeshi City Complex, Makola Road, Kiribathgoda.
www.ccpimgt.com



Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka



Vacancy

Assignment to a Post of Internal Auditor (Technical)

The Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka (TRCSL) is seeking the service of an **Internal Auditor (Technical)** to undertake an **Internal Technical Audits** focusing on the **Technical and Engineering aspects** of the **TRCSL's construction and technological projects**.

This appointment will be on an **Assignment Basis** for a period of **one year** commencing from November 2020.

01. Scope :-

The scope of this post covers **formulating and implementing** an **Internal Technical Audit Plan** for the **TRCSL's construction and technological projects, including its outsourced works**. It entails **evaluation** of the areas for **improvement in the systems** and examining the activities to find out as to **whether they are carried out according to the rules and regulations, ensuring proper standards**. It is expected to **undertake cost audits and cost monitoring** of the projects to ensure the projects are being developed to the **expected requirements and objectives within the best value proposition and approved budgets**.

The scope also covers the active participation in the process of **drafting Bidding Document**. The Technical Auditor is also expected to conduct audits concerning the **maintenance aspects of the projects** as well, in order to evaluate the **internal compliance with appropriate procedures and practices** and carry out audits on **procurements of materials and equipment** in order to verify their **compliance with the specifications and technical descriptions as prescribed in the contracts**.

02. Required Educational / Professional Qualifications :-

The eligible candidate should be a **Chartered Engineer with Degree in Civil Engineering** from a University recognized by the University Grants Commission or a **professional possessing equivalent Academic / Professional qualification** with more than **15 years of satisfactory service** experience in the capacity as an Engineer in **Government Department or a Public Corporation or Government Projects**

AND

He / she should have the experience in carrying out at least **two Assignments in Technical or Engineering Audits similar to this Assignment**

03. Salary :- Rs. 200,000.00 per month (Negotiable)

04. Recruitment Procedure :- On the results of a Structured Interview

05. Closing date of the Application :- 25.09.2020

06. Method of Application :-

Application together with Bio-Data and copies of supporting documents should be forwarded under registered cover to reach the Director General, Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka No 276, Elvitigala Mawatha, Colombo 08, on or before 25.09.2020. The applicants should provide following essential information in their applications:-

1. Full Name :
2. Name with initials :
3. Gender :
4. Date of Birth : National Identity Card No. :
5. Present Position :
6. Postal Address :
7. E mail Address :
8. Contact Numbers : Mobile No :
9. Educational and Professional Qualifications :
10. Experience :
11. Any Other Information :

Date : Signature of the Applicant :

Applicants are requested to state "Post of Internal Auditor (Technical)" on the top left of the envelope containing their applications.

Director General

Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka



Zahira College

CRICKET COACHES

Zahira College, one of the prominent educational institutions in the country with a history of 125 years, is looking for passionate, dynamic and inspirational candidates.

This is an excellent opportunity for highly experienced energetic, resourceful and sporty individuals, to develop sports in School Cricket. Candidates with a creditable progressive career track record can apply to below positions.

SENIOR COACH

Pre-requisites :

- Should possess minimum Level II accreditation qualification from Sri Lanka Cricket or any other recognized Cricket board.
- More than 10 years' experience with minimum of 05 years coaching experience (1st XI Team and Under 17 team) in a Division 1 school with a proven track record.
- Age below 50 years.

JUNIOR COACH

Pre-requisites :

- Should possess Level I or Level II accreditation qualification from Sri Lanka Cricket or any other recognized Cricket board.
- Minimum of 05 years coaching experience (Under 15 and Under 13 team) in a Division 1 school with a proven track record.
- Age below 45 years.

ASSISTANT COACHES - SENIOR / JUNIOR

Pre-requisites :

- Should possess Level I or Level II accreditation qualification from Sri Lanka Cricket or any other recognized Cricket board.
- Minimum of 03 years coaching experience at Junior/ Senior level in division 1 or 2 with a proven track record.
- Age below 40 years.

Fluency in spoken & written English language including substantial IT knowledge especially MS Word and MS Excel to prepare the match report and the plan.

Applicants who played first class cricket will be given priority.

Diplomas related to Sports Science, Physical Fitness, Nutrition, and Massaging Will be an added qualification. Should be available Full Time.

Please forward your application within 7 days of this advertisement to,

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P O Box 861 | Colombo
Email: careers@zahiracollege.lk

www.zahiracollege.lk

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United Nations Development Programme



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Conducting a Study on Subnational Governance E systems mapping of provincial and local administration institutes in Sri Lanka.

(RFP/CDLG/2020/61)

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Sri Lanka wishes to call for Request for Proposals from qualified service providers to provide a Proposal for Conducting a Study on Subnational Governance E systems mapping of provincial and local administration institutes in Sri Lanka.

This procurement process is being conducted through Online Tendering System of UNDP and detailed instructions, Terms of Reference and link to the e-tendering event can be accessed from www.lk.undp.org Procurement > Procurement Notices.

Bid Submission deadline appearing on e-Tendering portal will be FINAL and prevail on the ones appearing on other websites.

Proposals submitted via email or by hard copies will not be accepted.

Head of Procurement/Administration
United Nations Development Programme
202-204 Bauddhaloka Mawatha
Colombo 07, Sri Lanka.

UNDP reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal. The procurement process will be governed by the rules and regulations of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

United Nations Development Programme



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Implementation of the pilot Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) project with a selected mini hydro operating company and advocating for a PES policy in Sri Lanka.

(RFP/BIOFIN/2020/63)

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Sri Lanka wishes to call for Request for Proposals from qualified service providers to provide a Proposal for Implementation of the pilot Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) project with a selected mini hydro operating company and advocating for a PES policy in Sri Lanka.

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Head of Procurement/Administration
United Nations Development Programme
202-204 Bauddhaloka Mawatha
Colombo 07, Sri Lanka.

UNDP reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal. The procurement process will be governed by the rules and regulations of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

SALE OF MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

QUOTATIONS ARE CALLED FOR THE SALE OF THE FOLLOWING MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS FOR THE PERIOD COMMENCING 01ST OCTOBER 2020 TO 31ST DECEMBER 2020

Tender No. MSI/2020/06

Item		Refundable Deposit
1. Over Issue Newspapers & Blank Papers	(Per Kgs)	Rs. 400,000/-
2. Stripping of Newsprint & Butt Ends Less Than 2" (Unused Newsprint)	(Per Kgs)	Rs. 50,000/-
3. Used Offset Plates (Aluminum Sheets)	- do -	Rs. 25,000/-
4. Empty Reel Cores	- do -	Rs. 1,000/-
5. Cardboard (Mixed)	- do -	Rs. 10,000/-
6. Discarded Documents (File Covers, Computer-stationery, Tabloids, Periodicals)	- do -	Rs. 10,000/-
7. Burned Engine Oil	(Per Ltr)	Rs. 1,000/-
8. Waste Paper & Unusable Papers	(Per Kgs)	Rs. 50,000/-
9. Empty Plastic Cans (20 Ltr)	(Per Can)	Rs. 1,000/-
10. Wooden Pallets	(Per Pallet)	Rs. 1,000/-
11. Scrap Iron	(Per Kgs)	Rs. 1,000/-
12. Strapping Waste	(Per Kgs)	Rs. 1,000/-
13. Empty Strapping Reel Cores	(Per Kgs)	Rs. 1,000/-

Tender applications could be obtained from the Procurement Department on payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 250/- along with the refundable deposit. Quotations indicating "Sale of Miscellaneous Items" on the top left-hand corner of the envelope should be submitted to the undermentioned address before 3.00 p.m. on 21st September 2020 and will be opened immediately.

The successful tenderer should pay 8% VAT on the quoted price and shall arrange loading of goods.

However, The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited reserves the right to reject any or all offers without assigning any reason whatsoever.



Head of Procurement
The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited
No. 35, D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha,
Colombo 10.
Tel: 2429422, 2429429, Ext: 451, 452



PROCUREMENT NOTICE

SRI LANKA NAVY

INVITATION OF BIDS FROM MANUFACTURERS / SUPPLIERS / IMPORTERS / CONTRACTORS FOR THE SUPPLY OF GENERAL STORES ITEMS TO SRI LANKA NAVY FROM 01ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER IN THE YEAR 2021 ON RATE RUNNING CONTRACT BASIS

- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee of the Sri Lanka Navy (SLN), invites bids from Manufacturers, Suppliers, Importers and Contractors to supply one or more of the following separated tenders of General Stores Items to Sri Lanka Navy for the period from 01st January 2021 to 31st December 2021 on rate running contract basis. The validity of the submitted rate of the bids should be from 01st January 2021 to 31st December 2021.
 - Selected Contractors should transport all the items ordered by SLN to Transit Stores at SLNS "Mahasen", Welisara, Ragama.
 - The Suppliers who are interested should submit their bidding forms obtainable from the Director General Logistics at Navy Headquarters, Colombo 01 during working days between 1000 hrs and 1400 hrs from 10th September 2020 to 06th October 2020 on payment of a non-refundable application fee of Rs. 2000.00 in cash for each category of General Stores Items to the Director Finance, Navy Headquarters, Colombo 01.
- The detailed information of General Stores Items and approximate quantities required for the 01st January 2021 to 31st December 2021 for each tender will be issued with the bidding forms.

CATEGORY OF ITEMS AND NUMBERS

Tender Category No	Category of Items	Closing/ Opening Date and Time of bids
SLN/LOG/01/RC/2021	Batteries	07 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/02/RC/2021	Winding Wires	07 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/03/RC/2021	Cable House Wiring	07 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/04/RC/2021	Switches / MCB's / MCCB's RCCB's	07 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/05/RC/2021	Sanitary Fittings	07 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/07/RC/2021	Tyres / Tubes	07 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/08/RC/2021	Conduits and Accessories	07 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/09/RC/2021	Tor Steel	07 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/10/RC/2021	Industrial Gases	07 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/11/RC/2021 (File No. 01)	Hardware (Civil Engineering) - Mild Steel and GI Items	07 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/11/RC/2021 (File No. 02)	Hardware (Civil Engineering) - Door Window Item and Accessories	07 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/11/RC/2021 (File No. 03)	Hardware (Civil Engineering) - General Items	07 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/12/RC/2021	Cleaning Material	08 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/13/RC/2021	Telephone Cables, Indoor Drop Wires and Telephone Instruments	08 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/14/RC/2021	Office Stationery	08 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/15/RC/2021	Papers and Books	08 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/16/RC/2021	Local Timber	08 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/17/RC/2021 (File No. 01)	Hardware Items (General Engineering)	08 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/17/RC/2021 (File No. 02)	Hardware Items (General Engineering)	08 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/17/RC/2021 (File No. 03)	Hardware Items (General Engineering)	08 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/18/RC/2021	Welding Electrodes	08 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/19/RC/2021	PVC Items	08 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/20/RC/2021	Plywood Sheets	08 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/21/RC/2021	General Paints	09 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/22/RC/2021	Tar Emulsion	09 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/23/RC/2021	Bearings	09 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/24/RC/2021	Bulbs	09 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/25/RC/2021	Roofing Sheets	09 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/26/RC/2021	Auto Paints	09 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/27/RC/2021	Printing Items	09 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/28/RC/2021	Imported Timber	09 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/29/RC/2021	Glass-Reinforced Plastic (GRP) Material	09 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/30/RC/2021 (File No. 01)	Spare Parts For Vehicles	09 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/30/RC/2021 (File No. 02)	Upholstering Materials for Vehicle	09 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/33/RC/2021	Reverse Osmosis Plant (Ro Plant) Items/Accessories	09 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/34/RC/2021	Cement 50Kg	09 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/36/RC/2021	Sand River, Metal 3/4" & Rubble 6"x9"	09 th October 2020 at 1000 hrs

- The bidders shall possess the following requirements to be eligible for submission of bids. (Will be considered under the process of the evaluation of bids)
 - Two years experience in supplying of General Items to public/private organizations in similar capacity with satisfactory performance records.
 - Sound financial capability.
 - Satisfactory Tax payment records.
 - Adequate communication facilities. (Telephone/s, Mobile Phone/s, Fax/es, E- mail)
 - Adequate storage facilities. (Warehouses)
 - Adequate Staff, Personnel and Office facilities.
 - Adequate transport facilities.
 - Copy of Business Registration or Incorporation Certificate with an operational record of last three years.
- The declaration of VAT Registration Number along with the bidding document is a mandatory requirement. 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 from VAT. Any bid which does not fulfill above requirements shall be rejected.
- The bids duly signed by the applicant should be submitted after placing the official seal thereunder as a compulsory requirement. The envelope containing the tender should be marked "BID FOR THE SUPPLY OF (Category of Items) FOR THE YEAR 2021, Category No (SLN/LOG/...../RC/2021) and date/ time of opening of bids" on the top left-hand corner and should be posted to the following address under Registered Post or to be deposited in the Tender Box at Navy Headquarters ;

The Chairman,
Department Procurement Committee,
Sri Lanka Navy,
Navy Headquarters,
P.O. Box 593, Colombo 01.
- Bids will be opened immediately after the closing time. Bidding forms received after the closing time of bids will be rejected and returned without opening. Bidders or their duly authorized representatives can attend the bid opening meeting.
- 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 application.
- Selected bidders will be notified by Registered Post for signing of agreement.
- Bidding forms can be inspected free of charge at the office of the Director General Logistics, at Navy Headquarters, Colombo 01.
- For further information, please contact the Staff Officer (Rate Contract) T.P. 0117192326, Director Naval Logistics T. P. 0117192321, Director General Logistics, T.P. 011 7194995.
- Details of this tender invitation are available in Sri Lanka Navy website www.navy.lk.

**The Chairman,
Department Procurement Committee,
Sri Lanka Navy,
Colombo 01.**



SRI LANKA ARMY

SERVICING OF VEHICLES FOR THE YEAR 2021

TENDER NOTICE

Sri Lanka army invites quotations for servicing of army vehicles under credit facilities for the year 2021 .

Conditions:

- Bidders are requested to submit offers for servicing army vehicles during the period from 01 January 2021 to 31 December 2021 on credit basis, and the quoted prices can't be changed at any circumstance.
- The bidders should mention their VAT registration number and letters of above vat registration is active as per the Value Added Tax Act, No. 14 of 2002 and State Finance Circular No. 364 (3) dated 30.09.2002. Service Center not being registered for VAT shall produce a certificate obtained from the Commissioner General, Inland Revenue with the bidding document.
- The bids should be deposited in the respective tender boxes placed at following locations.
 - Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, Army Camp, Ceylinco Building, No. 167/30, Avissawella Road, Orugodawatte. - Greater Colombo Economic Commission Area of Authority
 - Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee, Security Force Headquarters (Jaffna), Army Camp, Palali. - Service stations located in Jaffna District
 - Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee, Security Force Headquarters (Wanni) Army Camp, Vavuniya. - Service stations located in Anuradhapura, Vavuniya, Mannar and Puttalam Districts
 - Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee, Security Force Headquarters (East) Army Camp, Welikanda. - Service stations located in Polonnaruwa, Batticaloa, Ampara, Trincomalee Districts and around Dambulla, Naula Town.
 - Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee, Security Force Headquarters (Kilinochchi) Army Camp, Kilinochchi. - Service stations located in Kilinochchi District.
 - Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee, Security Force Headquarters (Mullativu), Army Camp, Mullativu. - Service stations located in Mullativu District.
 - Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee, Security Force Headquarters (West) Army Camp, Panagoda, Homagama. - Service stations located in Colombo (Except Greater Colombo Economic Commission area of Authority) Kegalle, Gampaha, Kalutara, Galle, Matara, Rathnapura, Puttalam and Kurunegala Districts.
 - Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee, Security Force Headquarters (Central) Army Camp, Diyatalawa. - Service stations located in Kandy, Matale, Badulla, Moneragala, Nuwaraeliya and Hambantota Districts
- The prices excluding VAT and applicable VAT component for each type of service should be indicated separately as indicated in following example.

Example :-

Vehicle Model	Washing of the Vehicle		Oil Filter Change		Engine Oil Change (Completely)	
	Cost (Without VAT)	VAT Value (8%)	Cost (Without VAT)	VAT Value (8%)	Cost (Without VAT)	VAT Value (8%)
Toyota Hilux 4x2 Double Cab	1500.00	120.00	2500.00	200.00	4500.00	360.00

- Content in the bidding documents should not be altered by using correction fluids or otherwise and such altered bids will be rejected.
- Bidders should sign and stamp the seal on duly filled bidding documents.
- Required facilities for servicing must be available at the service centers and servicing can't be sub contracted.
- A representative of Army will inspect the vehicle after the service. In the event of the job being found unsatisfactory during such inspection the service station should be prepared to service the vehicle again free of charge.
- If the service is continuously found to be unsatisfactory, the tender will be cancelled.
- The bidders should agree to service army vehicle any day during a week.
- The bidders should agree to provide service under credit facilities for the period of three calendar months from the date of bill issued.
- Only the type of service mentioned by the Sri Lanka Army to be performed at the service station and no additional payments will be authorised for any supplementary estimates.
- Bidders can obtain further information & sample applications from the Sri Lanka Army Web Site (www.army.lk/tenders.php) or from the undermentioned Army Camps.
Army Web Site: www.army.lk/tenders.php

- Commandant Sri Lanka Electrical & Mechanical Engineers, Base Workshop, Parson Road, Colombo 2. Tel. No.: 0112 436477 Fax No.: 0112 436477 } For service stations located in greater Colombo Area
- Commanding Officer 1 Battalion Sri Lanka Electrical & Mechanical Engineers Army Camp, Panagoda, Homagama. Tel No. 0112 855463 Fax No. 0112 855463 } Service stations located in Colombo (Except Greater Colombo Economic Commission area of Authority) Kegalle, Gampaha, Kalutara, Galle, Matara, Rathnapura, Puttalam and Kurunegala Districts.

- Commanding Officer 3 Battalion Sri Lanka Electrical & Mechanical Engineers Army Camp, Mahasenpura, Minneriya Tel No. 027 2246048 Fax No. 027 2247322 } For service stations located at Batticaloa, Ampara, Trincomalee and Polonnaruwa Districts and around Dambulla, Naula town.
- Commanding Officer 4 Battalion Sri Lanka Electrical & Mechanical Engineers Army Camp, Kankesanthurai. Tel No. 021 3213036 021 3212937 Fax No. 021 3215177 } For service stations located at Jaffna District.
- Commanding Officer 5 Battalion Sri Lanka Electrical & Mechanical Engineers Army Camp, Saliyapura, Anuradhapura Tel No. 025 2220935 Fax No. 025 2222898 } For service stations located at Anuradhapura, Mannar, Puttalam and Vavuniya Districts
- Commanding Officer 6 Battalion Sri Lanka Electrical & Mechanical Engineers Army Camp, Mullative Tel No. 024 3244673 } For service stations located at Mullativu District.
- Commanding Officer 7 Battalion Sri Lanka Electrical & Mechanical Engineers Army Camp, Kokavil, Kilinochchiya Tel No. 025 3242790 } For service stations located at Kilinochchi District.
- Commanding Officer 2 (V) Battalion Sri Lanka Electrical & Mechanical Engineers Army Camp, Udawewa, Kahagolla, Diyatalawa. Tel No. 057 2224633 } For service stations located at Kandy, Matale, Badulla, Moneragala, Nuwara Eliya and Hambantota Districts.

- For further details or correspondence, please contact Staff Officer I, Directorate of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, Army Headquarters Sri Jayawardanepura on 011-3133154.
- All bidders are requested to submit their bidding documents in triplicate. Sealed quotations should be deposited in respective tender boxes **before 1000 hrs on 05th Oct. 2020**. The envelope should be marked with "Servicing of Army Vehicles - Year 2021" on the top left side corner and also to be stamped with the seal of the service station. Tender will be closed at 1000 hrs and will be opened immediately after closing. Bidder or an authorized representative will be permitted to be present at the time of opening the tender.

.....
Commander of the Army

DETAILS OF TENDERER

(Name and address of the Service Station)

Telephone No: / /2020

Chairman Tender Board

QUOTATIONS FOR SERVICING OF VEHICLES (Place) Year 2021

- Name of the tenderer:
- National Identity Card No.:
- Address:
- Name of the Service Centre:
- Location of Service Centre:
(Municipal Council/Urban Council/Pradeshia Sabha area)
- Telephone No.: 7. Fax No.:
- Business Registration Certificate No. (If available):
- VAT Registration No.:
(If not, attach certificate from Commissioner General, Inland Revenue)
- Distance to authorised Army Camp from the Service Centre:
- Have you been registered at the Ministry of Defence as a supplier: Yes/No
If registered, Registration No.:
- No. of Hoists/Ramps and capacity:
- Total No. of vehicles that can be serviced per day
Heavy Vehicles
Light Vehicles
- No. of Army vehicles that can be serviced per day:
Heavy Vehicles
Light Vehicles
- No. of employees serving at your service station:

.....
Signature
Name of Tenderer :
Stamp Seal :
/ /2020



Institute of Technology, University of Moratuwa, Diyagama, Homagama

AMENDMENT NOTICE

FOR INVITATION TO BID PUBLISHED ON 30.08.2020

It is hereby notified that Bids are invited only for the Cleaning and Janitorial Services of the ITUM.

Accordingly, bids for the Road Cleaning & Garden Maintenance Service will not be issued.

All other contents of the Advertisement remain unchanged.

The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee (Major), Institute of Technology, University of Moratuwa Diyagama, Homagama. 06.09.2020

We can Import and Supply Below Mentioned JUKI MACHINES

- JUKI DDL-8700-7 SC920 WITH THREAD TRIMMER COMPUTERIZED
- JUKI DDL-9000B DIRECT DRIVE WITH THREAD TRIMMER COMPUTERIZED
- JUKI LBH-781 BUTTON HOLE GREY COLOR
- JUKI MB-373 BUTTON STITCH GREY
- JUKI DDL-8100B-7R WITH THREAD TRIMMER COMPUTERIZED
- JUKI LK 1900A-HS COMPUTERIZED BARTACK SEWING MACHINE
- JUKI LK-1850 BARTACKER SEWING MACHINE
- JUKI MO 2514 4 THREADS OVERLOCK
- JUKI MO 2516 5 THREADS OVERLOCK
- BROTHER 430D BARTACKER FOR JEANS COMPLETE SETS COMPUTERIZED
- SIRUBA 747F FOUR THREAD OVERLOCK
- W500 FLATBED INTERLOCK SEWING MACHINE
- W600 CYLINDERBED INTERLOCK SEWING MACHINE
- JUITA VFD-3MH WHITE AUTO TRIMMER SEWING MACHINE TOP PANEL COMPLETE SETS
- CHINA 747 FOUR THREAD WITH USED MOTOR NEW TABLE NEW ACCESSORIES COMPLETE SETS.

Interested Parties Please Contact, 0761 380 184 / 0773 879 131

PUBLIC NOTICE



Mr. Lakith Nandi De Silva Dharmarathne
692670310V

No. 10, W. A. Peiris Mawatha, Uyana, Moratuwa.

This is to notify the general public that the person named here is no longer an employee with Hotel sapphire (Pvt) Limited and hence not authorized to represent, transact any business on behalf of the company. Any liabilities incurred by him will not be honored by the company.

HOTEL SAPPHERE (PVT) LIMITED
No. 371, Galle Road, Colombo 06.

BEN HOLDINGS (PVT) LIMITED
No. 42, Dr. N M Perera Mawatha, (Cotta Road), Colombo 08.

Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Formulate Guidelines for regulatory impact analysis (Ex-Ante)

The Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka (PUCSL) hereby invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) from qualified parties to assist the PUCSL in formulating a procedure (guidelines) to analyze the impact of regulatory intervention prior to such intervention as well as to assist the PUCSL to implement such procedure.

Guidelines on the submission of EOI can be found on the PUCSL website (www.pucsl.gov.lk)

EOIs must be submitted by 3:00 p.m. on 21.09.2020

Chairman
Department Consultants Procurement Committee
Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka
No.28, St. Michael's Road, Colombo 03, Sri Lanka

Telephone: + 94-112392607/8
Facsimile: + 94-112392641

E-mail: regulate@pucsl.gov.lk with copy to pucsl.regulate@gmail.com

Date: 06.09.2020

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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/2020/08

Communications campaign to address Violence Against Women and Girls - **This is to extend the deadline of submission from 7th September to 09th September 2020.**

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, a copy of your company registration and a copy of the recently audited accounts for review purposes.



INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY AGENCY OF SRI LANKA

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REOI)

Provincial Coordinators – 10 Positions

Title of the Assignment: Selection and Employment of 10 Individual Consultants as Provincial Coordinators to implement, coordinate and Support operational activities of Smart Society and Citizen Capacity Building initiative.

Reference Number : ICTA/GOSL/CON/IC/2020/03

We, Information and Communication Technology Agency (ICTA) of Sri Lanka is the apex ICT institution of the Government. In terms of the Information and Communication Technology amended Act No. 33 of 2008, (ICT Act) ICTA has been mandated to take all necessary measures to implement the Government's Policy and Action Plan in relation to ICT.

The success of a digitally inclusive and prosperous Sri Lanka depends on the real use of digital technologies by all citizens of Sri Lanka. ICTA is in the process of **Selecting Employment of 10 Individual Consultants for 09 provinces to implement, coordinate and support operational activities of smart society and citizen capacity building initiative of ICTA.**

The "Terms of Reference" and other documents are now available at ICTA website. Interested consultants may download them through <https://www.icta.lk/procurement> and respond accordingly **before 3 p.m on 21st September 2020.**

Chairman – Department Consultant Procurement Committee
Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka
160/24, Kirimandala Mawatha,
Colombo 5
Sri Lanka.

Phone: +94 11 2369099 Fax: 94 11 2369091

Website:- www.icta.lk

INVITATION FOR BIDS LAKE HOUSE CANTEN

LPA/06/2020

Sealed Bids are invited from experienced caterers to run the Lake House Canteen catering to around 1500 employees. However the actual number making use of the facility would depend on the quality of the catering service.

This canteen is kept open day and night (24 hours) and the successful caterer will have to supply varieties of quality foods and beverages in good condition at specified rates.

Kitchen appliances, canteen furniture, electricity, water and 20 Nos. (37.5 kgs) Gas Cylinders per month will be supplied free of charge and no rent will be levied.

Bidding documents comprising application, terms and conditions could be obtained from the **Procurement Department, The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited from 07th to 18th September 2020 between 9.00 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. on weekdays on payment of a refundable deposit of Rs. 5,000/= and a non-refundable fee of Rs. 1,000/=.**

Completed Bidding documents enclosed in a sealed envelope marked "Bids for Canteen" on the top left-hand corner should be sent to reach the **Head of Procurement, The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited**, by registered post **before 2.30 p.m. on 21st September 2020** or be deposited in the Tender Box provided at the Procurement Department.

Bids will be opened immediately in the presence of the Bidders or their authorized representatives at **2.30 p.m. on 21st September 2020.**

The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Ltd. reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers without assigning any reason whatsoever.



LAKE HOUSE

**Head of Procurement
THE ASSOCIATED NEWSPAPERS OF CEYLON LIMITED
No. 35, Lake House,
D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha, Colombo 10.
For Details : 2429422, 2429451**

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INVITATION FOR BIDS



MINISTRY OF PORTS & SHIPPING

SRI LANKA PORTS AUTHORITY

ROAD CONSTRUCTION WORKS FROM JCT 1 TO SUMMER HILL AREA (FROM CH 2+460 TO CH 3+320) FOR WIDENING OF INTERNAL PORT ROAD IN PORT OF COLOMBO (CONTRACT NO. SLPA/CD/RW-07)

- The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee, Ministry of Ports and Shipping, on behalf of the Secretary to the Ministry of Ports & Shipping invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the **Road Construction Works from JCT 1 to Summer Hill Area (from ch.2 + 460 to ch.3 + 320) for Widening of Internal Port Road in Port of Colombo (Contract No. SLPA/CD/RW-07)**. Work under this contract will comprise mainly the Construction of Road and Service Corridor, approximately 13,000 m² and 2,700 m² respectively.
- To be eligible for the Contract award,
 - The Bidder shall meet the CIDA (previously known as ICTAD) Registration Grade C3 Contractor or above, specialized in Road Construction.
 - A valid certificate of registration issued under section 8 of Public Contract Act No: 03 of 1987, which shall be obtained by the bidder applying online from the web site, eroc.drc.gov.lk
- Pre Bid meeting followed by a site visit will be held at 10.30 hrs on 18.09.2020 at the Technical Library, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, 45, Leyden Bastian Road, Colombo 01.
- Bidding Documents will be issued between 9.30 hrs to 14.00 hrs on working days from **03.09.2020 to 23.09.2020** (both days inclusive) by the Chief Engineer (Contracts & Designs), Contracts & Designs Division, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, No 45, Leyden Bastian Road Colombo - 01 on payment of a non-refundable tender fee of **Rs. 20,000.00** (inclusive VAT) and submission of a written request. Bidding Documents may be inspected free of charge at the same office.
- Bids shall be valid up to 120 days.
- Bidding Document enclosed in a securely sealed cover and marked "Road Construction Works from JCT 1 to Summer Hill Area (from ch.2 + 460 to ch.3 + 320) for Widening of Internal Port Road in Port of Colombo (Contract No. SLPA/CD/RW-07)" on the top left hand corner, shall be sent by registered post addressed to the Chairman - Ministry Procurement Committee, Ministry of Ports & Shipping, No.19, Chaithya Road, Colombo 01 or placed in the Tender Box kept in the office of the Ministry of Ports & Shipping, on the above address.
- All bids must be accompanied by a Bid security of **Rs. 1,800 000.00**. Bid Security shall be valid up to **18.02.2021**
- The time frame for completion of Works shall be **300 days**.
- Bids in duplicate shall be submitted by **14.00 hrs on 24.09.2020** and the Bids will be closed at **14.00 hrs**, the Bids will be opened at **14.15 hrs**. Bidders or their authorized representatives are requested to be present at the opening of the tender.
- Any Further particulars may be obtained from Chief Engineer (Contracts & Designs) on the above address. (T.P. 011 - 2380517)

All above have been published online from the web site, eroc.drc.gov.lk

**Chairman,
Ministry Procurement Committee,
Ministry of Ports and Shipping,
No. 19, Chaithya Road,
Colombo 01.**

Ansell Protects™



TENDER NOTICE - SECURITY SERVICES

Ansell is a global company, listed in the Australian Stock Exchange, the company has its global HQ in Iselin, New Jersey, USA and has operations across North America, Latin America, Europe, Middle East, Africa, as well as in the Asia Pacific region. Ansell Textiles Lanka (Pvt) Ltd is a fully owned subsidiary of Ansell Ltd and the Company manufactures a range of barrier protective products for industrial use mainly in the form of Knitted and Cut & Sewn Liners, Body Protection Coveralls and, is ISO 9001:2015 certified. We invite sealed bids from eligible bidders to supply Security Services

Quotations are hereby invited to obtain Security Services from reputed service providers who are registered at Ministry of Defense, to Ansell Textiles Lanka (Pvt.) Ltd. and its sub factories at Negombo Suburb.

- Should be able to provide trained officers / officials
- Should be able to deploy capable trained officers with sound physique. Should provide staff with professional competency in security and capable of handling emergencies such as firefighting /extinguishing etc. They should compulsorily be dressed up with proper uniforms, helmets, shoes etc.
- Organizations should possess 5 or more years of experience in this field and should be able to deploy experienced personnel who has worked for reputed organizations (Documentary proof should be submitted). Should be able to provide a permanent cadre to the operation.
- Employees should be able to provide security clearance reports.
- Security officers should not be deployed more than 12 hours and security guards are not allowed to stay in the premises after finishing their duty shift.
- The age limit of the male security guards & female security guards to be deployed should be between 18 - 55 years and 18- 50 years respectively.
- Preference will be given to those companies who could provide the personal who has been legally discharged from the three armed forces and the police.
- Organizations should have obtained ISO certification or any other merit certificates.
- As it necessary for the ATL to have contacts with the Superiors of the security service organization, institutions should be capable of providing a mobile telephone nos. reachable throughout the day.
- Institutions having facility to inspect the sites by deploying visiting/ patrol officers during all shift times

Locations

- Ansell Textile Lanka (Pvt) Ltd., located in Seeduwa
Proposals should be submitted according to the cadre requirement of our main factory Ansell Textiles Lanka (Pvt) Ltd.
- 2 Sub Factories located at Negombo
Should be able to provide a Lady Security Officer and a Junior Security Officer for day & night shifts for each Sub Factory.

General Conditions

- Bidders should be recognized / reputed service providers having valid registration for the year 2020.
- While selecting the bidders, not only bided price but also the higher standards maintained also considered.
- Employees should be paid with salaries and other benefits as per the government labour laws / regulations and should pay govern taxes as stipulated by the law. Past documentary evidence should be submitted.
- Bids should be valid for 3 months; performance bond equivalent to 10% of the contract value should be submitted after selection. (According to the contract).
- Permission to inspect the premises could be arranged upon request.
- Sealed tenders should be deposited in the tender box kept at the Supply Chain Office of the above address to receive on or before 17.00hrs. on 15th September 2020
- Pre-bid meeting and the tender form collection will be on 09th September 2020 - 15.00 hrs

Pls. forward your tenders address to;

**Senior Manager - Supply Chain Ansell Textiles Lanka (Pvt.) Ltd.,
No. 32, Kammalwatta Road, Seeduwa / Tel. 011 4676676 / Fax 0112259465**

Daily News Classifieds, the Housewives' companion



AMENDMENT TO INVITATION FOR BIDS SRI LANKA ARMY

1. Reference bid invitation published on 09th August 2020 for the purpose of supplying the following items.

S/NO.	TENDER NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	QTY
The last date of issuing of Tender Documents for undermentioned items (No. 01 to 09) is on 08.09.2020			
Tenders will be opened at 1100 hours on 09.09.2020 and late submissions will be rejected.			
01	1256	Cloth Cotton Drill Navy Blue 58"/60"	175,000 Mtrs
02	1257	Jersey Cotton White Long Sleeves	20,000 Nos.
03	1258	Towel Bath White	10,412 Nos.
04	1259	Socks Polyester Cotton Olive Green For Officers	38,000 Pairs
05	1286	Cloth Cotton Drill Blue 58"/60"	20,000 Mtrs.
06	1287	T-Shirts Camouflage Round Neck	150,000 Nos.
07	1288	T-Shirts Olive Green Round Neck	275,000 Nos.
08	1289	Socks Polyester Cotton (Terry) Olive Green	660,000 Pairs
09	1290	Stockings	5,000 Nos.

NOTE:

2. The Following clauses are added in addition to the content of the advertisement.
 - a. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
 - b. Bid submissions will be closed by 1100 hrs on 9th September 2020 and late submissions will be rejected.
 - c. Detailed bidding conditions are indicated in bidding documents which have to be purchased from document issuing counter.
 - d. The Required bid security amount is indicated in bidding documents separately according to the estimated cost of the goods.
 - e. Letter of Credit payment mode will be used to pay for the successful international bidders and credit payment by cheque will be made for Local suppliers on acceptance of the goods.

Further details could be obtained from:

011-2987537
011-2987532
011-2987534

**Commander of the Army
Sri Lanka Army Headquarters,
Sri Jayawardenepura,
Colombo.**

INVITATION FOR BIDS



STATE MINISTRY OF SKILLS DEVELOPMENT, VOCATIONAL EDUCATION,
RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

SRI LANKA INSTITUTE OF NANOTECHNOLOGY (PVT.) LTD. PROCUREMENT FOR SUPPLYING, INSTALLATION, TESTING, COMMISSIONING AND REMEDYING DEFECTS OF BUILDING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR PHASE 1B OF THE NANOTECHNOLOGY CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE AT THE NANOTECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE PARK CONTRACT NO:MSTR/TRD/SLINTEC/15-02

- i. The Chairperson, Ministry Procurement Committee on behalf of the **State Ministry of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research and Innovation** now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders under **National Competitive Bidding** process for the above and estimated cost is Rs. 36,000,000.00 excluding VAT and Construction Period is 119 Calendar Days.
- ii. To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder:
 - i. should not have been blacklisted; and
 - ii. shall meet qualification requirements in Item iii below.
- iii. Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:

Requirement	Limit
Past experience	<i>should have completed at least one project with supply and installation of Building Management System of similar nature and complexity, with the value of Rupees 30.00 Million (or maximum three projects with the total value of 30.00 Million) or above within immediate last five years.</i>
Average annual volume.	<i>Minimum Rs. 50.00 million in the last three years</i>
VAT	<i>Should be registered for the collection of Value Added Tax (VAT) in the Department of Inland Revenue</i>
Public Contracts Act No.03 of 1987.	<i>Should be registered for this Bid.</i>

- iv. Interested bidders may obtain further information from **Head of Technical Services and Infrastructure Management, Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology, Pitipana, Homagama. Telephone 011-4650504, Fax 011-4650532, e-mail sunandag@slintec.lk** and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below from 9.00 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. from 7th September 2020 until 21st September 2020.
- v. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to **Chief Accountant, State Ministry of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research and Innovation, 3rd Floor, Sethsiripaya Stage 1, Battaramulla** from 7th September 2020 until 21st September 2020 from 9.00 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rupees Ten Thousand (Rs. 10,000.00). The method of payment will be in cash only.
- vi. The bidder will be required to confirm in writing that they will use the digital data of all the drawings only for this specific project at the time of collecting the bidding document.
- vii. Bids shall be delivered in duplicate (clearly marked Original and Duplicate separately and sealed separately) to **Chief Accountant, State Ministry of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research and Innovation, 3rd Floor, Sethsiripaya Stage 1, Battaramulla** at or before **11.30 a.m. on 5th October 2020**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- viii. Bids shall be valid up to **1st February 2021**.
- ix. All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid-Security of Rupees **Five Hundred and Forty Thousand (Rs. 540,000.00)**. Bid Security shall be valid up to **1st March 2021**.
- x. A pre-bid meeting will be held at 2.30 p.m. on **15th September 2020** at the Auditorium, Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology, Pitipana, Homagama.

**Chairperson,
Ministry Procurement Committee
State Ministry of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research and Innovation,
3rd Floor, Sethsiripaya, Stage 1, Battaramulla.**

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Save the Children

Tender Notice PR-LKA-COL-2020-0290

Save the Children International in Sri Lanka, a duly registered NGO, wishes to call for Invitation to Bid from qualified two-wheelers dealers to supply **brand-new motorbikes and scooters with registration for USDA PALAM/A Project.**

1. Motorbikes 34 Nos
2. Scooters 14 Nos

Detailed technical specifications, price schedule, delivery terms/conditions are included in the associated public tender documents, which are available via email at tenders.srilanka@savethechildren.org. Tender documents will be sent electronically to applicants in a return email.

- OR -

Potential bidders may collect the tender documents in-person from the following person/location:

Save the Children International,
Manager – Supply Chain, Admin & IT
No: 8 Sinsapa Road, Colombo 06.

It is recommended to request or collect tender documents as soon as possible.

Bid submissions received after the closing date of **September 26, 2020 at 4:30pm** will not be accepted.

SUCCESS AZ

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



OXFAM

Tender Notice

Supply and Delivery of Dignity and Maternity Kits

Oxfam, an International Non-Governmental Organisation implementing both humanitarian and development programmes in Sri Lanka, invites qualified and potential suppliers to "Bid" for supply and delivery of 3025 Nos of Dignity and 500 Nos Maternity Kits through a **competitive bidding process**, for the project funded by the United Nations Population Fund.

The tender or bid document with the detailed specifications for the above can be obtained from the following link

<https://oxfam.box.com/v/DignityandMaternityKit>

Bids prices needs to be valid for at least 3 months from the date of tender deadline.

Interested suppliers are requested to submit their price proposals with the sample kits in a **sealed envelope**, "Tender for Supply and Delivery of Dignity and Maternity Kits" written in the left hand corner of the envelop, hand deliver to **Procurement Dept, Oxfam, #15, Manthri Place, Colombo 05**, on or before **Sunday 20th September 2020, 1700HRS.**

Logistics Department,
OXFAM,
15, Manthri Place, Colombo 05
For inquiries: 2585855/6



INVITATION FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS

PROVIDING GARDEN MAINTENANCE SERVICES TO SRILANKAN CATERING LIMITED

SLC/PRO/SER/2020/013

Srilankan Catering Limited hereby invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for providing Garden Maintenance Services to SriLankan Catering Limited for the year 2020/2022.

Prospective bidders could obtain the bidding document and more details from the web link of <http://www.srilankancatering.com/procurement-notice> after 08th September 2020.

Sealed bids should be delivered to Chief Executive Officer, SriLankan Catering Limited on or before 22nd September 2020 at 12.30pm.

Prospective bidders could obtain further details from,

Thilina - thilina.siriwardana@srilankancatering.com or 0197334241

Rohan - rohan.silva@srilankancatering.com or 0197334140 with reference to the bid documents.

Chief Executive Officer
SRILANKAN CATERING LIMITED
Airline Centre
Bandaranaike International Airport
Katunayake, Sri Lanka.



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CAMSO LOADSTAR (PVT) LTD

Re-Invitation For Bids - Sale Of Used Vehicles

We hereby invite sealed bids for the sale of the following used Vehicle

Vehicle Number	Vehicle Type	Manufacture year	Engine Capacity
KU-XXXX	Honda-CRV	2012	1997 CC
KU-XXXX	Honda-CRV	2012	1997 CC
CAJ-XXXX	Toyota Voxy	2015	1790 CC
KE-XXXX	Toyota Allion(240)	2006	1490 CC
KG-XXXX	Toyota Allion(260)	2007	1490 CC
KU-XXXX	Hyundai - SUV	2011	1998 CC
51-XXXX	Isuzu Crew Cab	1991	2499 CC
48-XXXX	Tata Lorry	1996	5675 CC
290-XXXX	Tata Prime Mover	1995	5675 CC
JP-XXXX	Freedom Motor Bike	2004	110 CC

Conditions of the Sale of Used Vehicles

- Bidding documents could be obtained from our Finance office at the below mentioned address between 08.00 hrs and 16.00 hrs on a payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs.500/- for vehicles and Rs.250/- for motor cycles during 07th September 2020 to 14th September 2020. Vehicles cannot be inspected on weekends.
- Separate tender documents should be submitted for each vehicle.
- Sealed bids may be submitted by registered post or should be logged in the Tender Box at our office on or before 12.00 noon on 15th September 2020.
- Selected bidders will be notified by letter. 10% advance payment should pay within 48 hours.
- Vehicles sold must be removed within 7 days after completion of payment.
- We will hold no responsibility after the sale for the items sold.
- The company decision is final concerning the tender procedure.

Central Logistics Division,
Camso Loadstar (Pvt) Ltd
No. 76/2, Minuwangoda Road, Ekala, Ja Ela, Sri Lanka
Contact: 0114 837658

INVITATION FOR BIDS



PROCUREMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES FOR THE SRI LANKA AIR FORCE ON ANNUAL CONTRACT BASIS FOR THE YEAR 2021

1. The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee of the Sri Lanka Air Force invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the under mentioned goods/services for the year 2021 on Rate Running Contract basis;

S/ No.	Tender Identification Number	Description	Date of Bid Issuing	Date and time of Bid closing / opening	Non Refundable Fee (Rs.)
1	AHQ/20/PUB/B&CE/1001	Paints	03 September 2020	23 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	6,000.00
2	AHQ/20/PUB/B&CE/1002	Wire Nail, Screw Nail, J' & L" Hooks and Pop rivets	03 September 2020	23 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
3	AHQ/20/PUB/B&CE/1003	Building Materials	03 September 2020	23 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
4	AHQ/20/PUB/B&CE/1004	Rib Steel & Mild Steel Rods	03 September 2020	23 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	6,000.00
5	AHQ/20/PUB/B&CE/1005	Chemicals and Water Proofing Materials	03 September 2020	23 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
6	AHQ/20/PUB/B&CE/1006	GI Pipes	03 September 2020	23 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
7	AHQ/20/PUB/B&CE/1007	Road Tar	03 September 2020	23 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
8	AHQ/20/PUB/B&CE/1008	Sanitary Fittings	04 September 2020	24 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
9	AHQ/20/PUB/B&CE/1009	Asbestos	03 September 2020	23 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
10	AHQ/20/PUB/B&CE/1010	GI / Aluminium / Colour Bonded Sheets	04 September 2020	24 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
11	AHQ/20/PUB/B&CE/1011	Timber	07 September 2020	28 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
12	AHQ/20/PUB/B&CE/1012	Miscellaneous items	07 September 2020	28 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	6,000.00
13	AHQ/20/PUB/B&CE/1013	Aluminium Extrusions	09 September 2020	29 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
14	AHQ/20/PUB/B&CE/1014	Angle/Flat Iron/Box Iron, "C" Channel & MS Plate	04 September 2020	24 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
15	AHQ/20/PUB/B&CE/1015	Plywood Sheets and Plywood Doors	04 September 2020	24 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
16	AHQ/20/PUB/B&CE/1016	Plumbing items	09 September 2020	29 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
17	AHQ/20/PUB/B&CE/1017	Auto Paint Items	04 September 2020	24 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	6,000.00
18	AHQ/20/PUB/B&CE/1018	Melamine Boards and Accessories	04 September 2020	24 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
19	AHQ/20/PUB/M&E/1001	Fans	07 September 2020	28 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
20	AHQ/20/PUB/M&E/1002	GI Accessories	07 September 2020	28 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
21	AHQ/20/PUB/M&E/1003	Air Conditioner Spare Parts	07 September 2020	28 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
22	AHQ/20/PUB/M&E/1004	Welding Rods	07 September 2020	28 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
23	AHQ/20/PUB/M&E/1005	Conduit items	09 September 2020	29 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
24	AHQ/20/PUB/M&E/1006	Electrical items	10 September 2020	30 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
25	AHQ/20/PUB/M&E/1007	Wires and Cables	09 September 2020	29 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
26	AHQ/20/PUB/M&E/1008	Electrical items (Switch Gears)	10 September 2020	30 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
27	AHQ/20/PUB/M&E/1009	Electrical items (Switches)	10 September 2020	30 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
28	AHQ/20/PUB/M&E/1010	Lamps and Lamp Fittings	10 September 2020	30 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
29	AHQ/20/PUB/D/1001	Oil and Lubricants	11 September 2020	02 October 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
30	AHQ/20/PUB/D/1002	Floor Polish and Wax	11 September 2020	02 October 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
31	AHQ/20/PUB/D/1003	Cleaning Materials	11 September 2020	02 October 2020 at 1030 Hrs	6,000.00
32	AHQ/20/PUB/D/1004	Fabric Material	11 September 2020	02 October 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
33	AHQ/20/PUB/BRK/1004	Curtain Materials and Accessories	10 September 2020	30 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
34	AHQ/20/PUB/BRK/1005	Floor Carpet (Loop Pile/ Cut Pile) and Accessories	10 September 2020	30 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
35	AHQ/20/PUB/MIS/1003	Washing and Dry Cleaning of Uniforms and Barrack Linen	04 September 2020	24 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
36	AHQ/20/PUB/MIS/1004	Horse Food	03 September 2020	23 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
37	AHQ/20/PUB/MIS/1005	Dog Food	03 September 2020	23 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	6,000.00
38	AHQ/20/PUB/MIS/1006	Obtaining of Full Janitorial Services for SLAF Hospital Colombo & Diyathalawa	04 September 2020	24 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
39	AHQ/20/PUB/ST/1001	Printing Materials	11 September 2020	02 October 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
40	AHQ/20/PUB/ST/1002	Stationary items	11 September 2020	02 October 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
41	AHQ/20/PUB/MT/1003	Vehicle Tyres/Tubes and Tyre Collars	04 September 2020	24 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	6,000.00
42	AHQ/20/PUB/E/1005	Vehicle Batteries	04 September 2020	24 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
43	AHQ/20/PUB/E/1006	Industrial, Medical and Balloon Gases	04 September 2020	24 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
44	AHQ/20/PUB/DEN/1001	Dental Materials	07 September 2020	28 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
45	AHQ/20/PUB/MED/1001	Insecticides	07 September 2020	28 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
46	AHQ/20/PUB/MED/1002	Surgical items	10 September 2020	30 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
47	AHQ/20/PUB/MED/1005	Drugs and Medical items	09 September 2020	29 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
48	AHQ/20/PUB/MED/1006	Spectacle Lenses	09 September 2020	29 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
49	AHQ/20/PUB/MED/1007	Laboratory items	09 September 2020	29 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
50	AHQ/20/PUB/MT/1001	Engine overhaul Repair of Vehicles	09 September 2020	29 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	6,000.00
51	AHQ/20/PUB/MT/1002	Engine Rework Repair of Vehicles	09 September 2020	29 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00
52	AHQ/20/PUB/MED/1003	Hiring of Medical Instruments required to perform orthopaedic Surgeries	09 September 2020	29 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
53	AHQ/20/PUB/MED/1004	Perform CT and Coronary Angiogram service	10 September 2020	30 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
54	AHQ/20/PUB/MED/1008	Obtaining Medical Investigations Facility from Private Sector Hospitals	10 September 2020	30 September 2020 at 1030 Hrs	3,500.00

2. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure and tender mentioned in above para 01 from Ser No 50 to 54 are subjected to two envelop method. Furthermore, tender opening date of tender serial nos. 29, 30, 31, 32, 39 and 40 of above Para 01 to be amended as 02nd October 2020 which have been published in Daily News and Dinamina newspapers on 02nd September 2020.

3. Complete set of bidding documents in English language could be inspected by interested bidders from the Sri Lanka Air Force website www.airforce.lk. Further Bidding documents may purchase from 1000 hrs and 1300 hrs on every working day from the Procurement Division before the closing date of the respective procurement upon payment of a non-refundable fee to the Shroff at Sri Lanka Air Force Station Colombo. Deadline for the payment and document collection will be the closing date of the respective procurement. The offers submitted without the payment will not be accepted and the receipt for the payment shall be attached to the offer at the time of submitting.

4. The sealed bids shall be submitted in duplicate and be addressed to the "Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee". The sealed bids may be either dispatched by registered post to the address mentioned below or deposited in the Tender Box at the Main Guard Room well before the closing time. Bids will be opened soon after closing the bids and late bids will not be accepted. Bidders or their authorized representatives will be permitted to be present at the opening of the bids, upon presentation of their National Identity Card and letters of authorization from their employers. No bidder or his representative will be permitted to attend the bid opening after the bid closing time.

5. The special conditions for the procurement and required goods/services are listed in the each bidding document. The applicable rates of goods/services shall be indicated separately for each item/service only in the "price Schedule". The rates quoted by each bidder in the Price Schedule shall be valid till 31st December 2021 and shall not be subjected to variation on any account.

6. The delivery of goods/services with regard to Dry Cleaning and Laundering, Industrial Gases, Building Materials, Dog Food and Horse Food shall be made to Bases/Stations listed below and each delivery considered as a separate procurement. The details of the Base/Station to which the bid is submitted, shall be clearly marked on the sealed envelop and the bid. The delivery for all other procurements shall be made to Sri Lanka Air Force Base Katunayake. The prospective bidders shall be aware that they shall include all their expenses with all taxes including VAT and other levies in the quotations submitted.

Building Materials - Sri Lanka Air Force Academy Chinabay, Sri Lanka Air Force Bases Katunayake, Ratmalana, Anuradhapura, Vavuniya, Hingurakgoda, Sri Lanka Air Force Stations Colombo, Katukurunda, Palaly, Mirigama, Sigiriya, Koggala, Diyathalawa, Pidurutalagala, Weerawila, Ampara, Batticaloa, Morawewa, Iranamadu, Mullaitivu, Palavi (Puttalam), Trade Training School - Ekala, Bandaranayake International Airport - Katunayake, Regiment Training School Vanni and Defence Services Command and Staff College - Batalanda.

Washing and Dry Cleaning of Uniforms and Barrack Linen - Sri Lanka Air Force Academy Chinabay, Sri Lanka Air Force Bases Katunayake, Ratmalana, Anuradhapura, Hingurakgoda, Sri Lanka Air Force Stations Colombo, Palaly, Ampara, Morawewa, Weerawila, Sigiriya, Koggala, Katukurunda, Batticaloa, Palavi (Puttalam), Mirigama, Iranamadu, Mullaitivu, Bandaranayake International Airport - Katunayake, Regiment Training School Vanni and Trade Training School - Ekala.

Industrial Gases - Sri Lanka Air Force Academy Chinabay, Ratmalana, Anuradhapura, Hingurakgoda.

Dog Food - Sri Lanka Air Force Base Katunayake

Horse Food - Combat Training School - Diyathalawa

7. Interested and eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Chief Procurement Officer (Tel. 011-2325468) or Procurement Officer Tenders (Tel. 011-2441553 or 011-2441044 Extension 23569 Fax: 011- 2441553 and 011-2347694).

8. The address referred to above is:

**Sri Lanka Air Force
No.140, Sir Chittampalam A Gardiner Mawatha
Colombo 02**

**Air Force Headquarters
P.O. Box 1592
Colombo 02**

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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 Bid Documents	Non Refundable Bid Fee (LKR)
DHS/SUS/WW/264/21	21.10.2020 At 9.00 a.m.	Male Condoms	08.09.2020	3,000/= + 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



Ministry of Health

National Nutrition Policy (Draft) 2020 – 2030

The above mentioned draft policy is open for public comments for one month of duration. For view and comments please contact,

**Director,
Nutrition Division,
555/5,
Public Health Complex,
Narahenpita.**

**Telephone No : 011-2368320
Fax No : 011-2368320**

Email : nutritiondivisiongov@gmail.com

The above draft policy can be downloaded through the following link

http://www.health.gov.lk/moh_final/english/public/elfinder/files/publications/publishpolicy/2020/NNP-2020-30-E.pdf



SRILANKAN AIRLINES LTD TENDER NOTICE

TENDER NO: FF/EPC/01/2020

INVITATION FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS FOR A FREIGHT FORWARDING SERVICE PROVIDER TO HANDLE SRILANKAN AIRLINES' IMPORT & EXPORT CONSIGNMENTS FROM/TO EUROPE EXCLUDING UK & IRELAND ON SERVICE FREIGHT/FREIGHT COLLECT BASIS BY AIR & DOOR TO DESTINATION AIRPORT AND ORIGIN AIRPORT TO DOOR DELIVERY OF CARGO

The tender forms could be downloaded directly from the following link

https://www.srilankan.com/en_uk/corporate/tender-notices

With effect from 07th September 2020 after 09.30 hrs (Sri Lankan Time -GMT+0530)

Tender bid closing date: 19th October 2020 at 10.00 hrs (Sri Lankan Time - GMT +0530)

**ENTERPRISE PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE,
ON BEHALF OF
SRILANKAN AIRLINES**



INSURANCE REGULATORY COMMISSION OF SRI LANKA (Regulator of the Insurance Industry)



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES - INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT SELECTION)

DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA FINANCIAL SECTOR MODERNIZATION PROJECT (FSMP)

Credit No. : 6006 - LK

Assignment Title : Insurance Expertise to the Insurance Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka

Reference No. : LK-SLRC-172704-CS-INDV

The Borrower, Government of Sri Lanka has received financing from the World Bank towards the cost of the Financial Sector Modernization Project (FSMP), and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services for the Insurance Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka (IRCSL).

The component relating to the IRCSL under the project aims to strengthen legal, regulatory and supervisory frameworks as well as enhance supervisory expertise and powers of the IRCSL with a focus on migration to Risk Based Supervision (RBS), strengthening reinsurance arrangements, modernizing the IT infrastructure to enable RBS, developing micro-insurance, restructuring of motor third-party liability insurance, etc. Please refer to <http://projects.worldbank.org/P159303?lang=en> for further the details about the FSMP.

Detailed terms of reference for this assignment can be found in www.ircls.gov.lk.

The consulting services ("the Services") include:

- To strengthen the legal, regulatory and supervisory framework and capacity of the Client, in line with international standards;
- To advise and make recommendations to the Client on strengthening the business processes, procedures and practices of the insurance industry in line with international best practices; and
- To build skills and capacity of the staff of Client.

Assignment duration will be 24 months.

The IRCSL now invites eligible **Individual Consultants** ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Individual Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. Please complete the information required in the format given in www.ircls.gov.lk under 'News Announcements' when submitting the resume, supported with testimonials, copies of certificates etc.

The shortlisting criteria are:

- Have more than 15 years of experience in working for an insurance regulator in a supervisory capacity related to the proposed assignment;
- Minimum of 5 (five) years' work experience in Risk Based Supervision including Risk Based Capital implementation at an insurance supervisory authority.
- Following will be added qualifications:
 - Be a Fellow or an Associate Member of the Chartered Insurance Institute;
 - Have a Professional qualification in Law;
 - Be involved in work relating to micro-insurance/ inclusive insurance supervision & regulation;
 - Have work experience in Asian emerging/ developing jurisdictions; and

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's Guidelines: *Selection and Employment of Consultants* [under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants] by World Bank Borrowers "Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers" dated January 2011 (revised July 2014) ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Section V - Individual Consultants Selection method set out in the Consultant Guideline.

Expressions of interest **shall be emailed to fsmp@ircls.gov.lk by 16:00 hours** Sri Lanka time (Sri Lanka time is 5 hours and 30 minutes ahead of GMT) on or before **20th September 2020** mentioning the subject as **"Insurance Expertise to the Insurance Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka"**

Further information/ clarification pertaining to the contents of this document is required to be sent to dg@ircls.gov.lk five days prior to above deadline.

**Attn: Mrs. Damayanthi Fernando - The Director General/ Project Director
Insurance Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka
Level 11, East Tower, World Trade Centre, Colombo 01
Sri Lanka.**

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Harsichandra Mawatha, Bank-Town
025 222 2370

Jaffna Branch
JAFFNA
No.06, Sirampirady,
Off Stanley Road
077 616 4901

Maradana k/v Branch
MARADANA
No.383, D R Wijewardena
Mawatha, Colombo 10
011 242 9336

Matara Branch
MATARA
No.29, Upper Floor,
Main Bus Stand
041 223 5412

Nugegoda Branch
NUGEGODA
4th Floor Savisit Complex,
High Level Road
011 282 8114

Kataragama Branch
KATARAGAMA
Opposite Kataragama
Bus Stand,
Pussadewa Mawatha
047 223 5291

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LAKE HOUSE No.35,
D R Wijewardena Mawatha,
Colombo 10



Able affluent professional family seeks a tall, very smart, cultured partner, a well qualified, financially well established professional or a businessman, TT/NS, fluent in English from similar background, age 40-48, for only daughter, very fair and slim, considered extremely attractive, and charming, 40, but looks 25, foreign qualified graduate, well employed, substantial assets. Divorced innocent party and Christians considered. Contact numbers essential with full details. Self replies also encouraged. E-Mail: p bhm285@gmail.com OB150401

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. OB150482

About our daughter, she is brought up with Buddhist cultural values. A smart 5'6", slim, well accomplished born in 1989/Oct. educated at a leading school in Colombo BSA Statistics (Special) University of Colombo CIMA, ACMA, MSc, Business Analytics (UK) working at a leading company in Colombo in the field of Data Analytics (Managerial Level) planning to migrate to Australia professional parents. The only younger brother is working in Sydney Australia. Reply with family details contact numbers and horoscope. E-mail: proposal.ksak@gmail.com 011-2955255 (weekdays after 7.30 p.m.). OB150432

About 1986 Colombo Roman Catholic 5'4" LLB and post graduate, house and property, below 38 handsome Doctor, Engineer religion imaterial. 0115685642 anurap1977@gmail.com OB150490

Academically and professionally accomplished son is sought by G/B parents for 35-year-old pretty daughter, academically qualified and employed in a highly recognized profession. Legally separated after a very brief, deceitful incompatible marriage with no encumbrances. Reply with family details, horoscope to: proposalsrilanka2019@gmail.com OB150165

Academically and professionally accomplished son, only living in US/UK/Canada, is sought by S/G/B mother from Colombo residing in New York, for her daughter 34, 5'3", brought up with Sri Lankan values, qualified with a Master's Degree and working at a well-established company in a higher position. Please email with family details, horoscope. mproposals2020@gmail.com OB150296

Academically and professionally compatible caring partner sought by Govi Buddhist respectable parents for 1992 January born 5'6" tall pretty well brought up daughter. She is a qualified Software Engineer. BSc, MSc and has permanent employment in related IT field with Australian PR. Reply with horoscope and family details to: asin ghe1992@yahoo.com OB150455

Academically and professionally compatible caring partner sought by Govi Buddhist respectable parents for 1992 January, born 5'6" tall pretty well brought up daughter. She is a qualified Software Engineer, BSc, MSc and has permanent employment in related IT field with Australian PR. Reply with horoscope and family details to: asin ghe1992@yahoo.com OB150417

Academically and professionally qualified caring son is sought by Sinhalese, Buddhist/Govi professional parents for their fair pretty daughter 5'4", 31+ years, graduated from prestigious university and employed in healthcare field in Canada. Please reply with family details and horoscope. E-mail: prop01866@gmail.com OB150471

Academically and professionally qualified employed well mannered caring son is sought by retired G/B parents from Colombo suburbs for their pretty well accomplished only daughter. She is well employed with post graduate qualification from UK University. Also a qualified UK solicitor. Born in May 86. Height 5'8". Kuja in 7th House but favourable. Prefer a son who can converse fluently in English and has a good personality. Please reply with horoscope to manide.e.proposal@yahoo.com OB150528

Academically and professionally qualified fair, pretty daughter 89/05 born 5'2" in height PR and CIMA holder postgraduate pursuing CPA working as a Finance Associate in Toronto S/B/G parents seek a suitable educated partner residing in Canada only. Reply with horoscope and contact numbers. E-mail: dansulak7@gmail.com OB150438

Academically and professionally qualified partner for IT graduate and government employed daughter (1987, June/5'3") sought by Kandyan B/G retired principal parents. hmsenevirathna@gmail.com 081-2573206. OB150469

Academically and professionally qualified partner is sought by BG parents from Kandy for their only daughter of 28 yrs. pretty and fair. She holds a degree in management and is CIMA qualified, presently employed in a leading private company in Colombo. Please reply with horoscope and family details. OB150263

Marriage Proposals

Academically and professionally qualified permanently employed well mannered kind hearted honest caring NS/TT age 28 - 31 handsome son from a respectable family is South by S/B well connected respectable parents from Colombo for their only daughter pleasant and slim 27 years 5' 4 1/2" holding an LLB Degree from London University taking Oaths in few months father and only brother professionals, no barriers. Reply with all family details horoscope and contact no. to smproposal2020@gmail.com OB150317

Academically and professionally qualified son is sought by respectable Buddhist parents from Colombo for their youngest daughter born in 1992 March. She is 5'2" pretty fair studied in an International School Colombo, at present she is holding a managerial position in our family business. Reply with horoscope and family details to email: horoscopes7890@gmail.com OB150151

Academically and professionally qualified son is sought for G/B pretty lawyer 29 years old from a respectable family businessman considered Kuja in 7. proposal393@gmail.com OB150255

Academically and professionally qualified well mannered caring son is sought by G/B parents for our daughter 33 years, 5'1" fair and pretty. She is a graduate English teacher. Rahu 7, Kuja 7. Please reply only malefic horoscopes. E-mail - horoscopesam87@gmail.com OB150463

Academically and professionally qualified well mannered son for our daughter B/G Chartered Architect working in Colombo. Own properties in Kandy KMC limits. Reply with family details and horoscope. mwp.wa500@gmail.com OB150198

Academically and professionally qualified well mannered son from a respectable family is sought by B/G mother from Colombo suburbs for her slim fair daughter 25 yrs. old 5'4" tall. She is a final year Undergraduate at State University BSc. (Special) and hoping to commence M.Phil afterwards. Inherits valuable assets. Please respond with family details and a horoscope. jatung0803@gmail.com 0112765347. OB150134

Academically and professionally qualified well mannered son is sought by B/G parents from Gampola for their pleasant daughter born in 1986 height 4'10" professionally and academically qualified (BA) Econ., daughter employed as Teacher in a government school, she has two elder brothers and both of them are Accountants, One brother is married, kindly reply with full family details copy of horoscope and contact number/email. Email: pro18mg@gmail.com OB150450

Academically and professionally qualified well mannered son is sought by B/G respectable parents from Galle for their daughter born 1986, 4' height 5" working in the academic staff at state university. Please send horoscope and family details with contact No.: (Kuja in seventh house). OB150475

Academically and professionally qualified well mannered son is sought by B/K parents (father retired Engineer) for their 32, 5'4", BSc. (Hons) pretty, decent daughter recently migrated and working as a Senior IT professional in New Zealand. Please reply with horoscope and family details. mpropos20@gmail.com OB150364

Academically and professionally qualified well mannered, pleasant son sought by S/B professional family for daughter, born in 1987, She is pretty, 5'6", smart, well mannered and educated from leading schools in Colombo and graduated from reputed Universities with professional qualifications (BSc, MBA CIM) employed in a senior role at a leading multinational organization, will inherit assets seeking comparative status in a partner. Horoscope and caste not important. Please reply with family details. Email: lkproposal1987@gmail.com OB150320

Academically and professionally qualified well-mannered son is sought by Kandyan, Govi/Buddhist parents living in Canada, for their daughter, born 1996 and 5'0" height. She is an active, honest, kind-hearted, caring, pretty daughter who was brought up with Sri Lankan Buddhist values. Preferred those who live in Canada. Please reply with horoscope and family details to: propothinkpad7@gmail.com OB150287

Academically and professionally qualified well-mannered son is sought by respectable Buddhist parents from Colombo for their eldest daughter born in 1988. She is 5'4" pretty fair slim qualified and well-occupied daughter. Please reply with family details and the horoscope to: hscope783@gmail.com OB150157

Academically and professionally qualified well-mannered son (Catholic Buddhist) from a respectable family is sought by retired bank manager parents from Colombo for their daughter Govi / Catholic born 1991 Jan, 5'3" pretty BA/MA in French language presently employed as a Teacher at a reputed school in Colombo. Reply with full family details, contact No. and horoscope to vinrun850@gmail.com OB150200

Academically and professionally qualified, pleasant kind hearted son (between 28 and 32) from a good family, preferably living in Australia is sought by Sinhala Buddhist professional parents for their well accomplished youngest daughter born in 1992 September. Height 5'4", slim, fair and pretty. Completed Bachelor's Degree and currently reading for a Master's Degree in the Biological Sciences in Australia. This course will be completed by June 2021. She inherits substantial assets. Reply with family details. premprop82@gmail.com OB150178

Academically professionally qualified son for our daughter 1983, 5'2" Buddhist parents, from Colombo. Reply with horoscope. 011-5768795. OB150542

Academically professionally qualified son from a good family background is sought by mother from a Bodu-Govi respectable family for her educated well accomplished daughter 41 years 5'5" holder of BA (Hons) Sri Lanka MBA (UK) and a government department executive much younger looking and owns properties in Colombo. Willing to migrate if necessary. Please reply with family details to: milinahetti@gmail.com OB150232

Academically professionally qualified well-mannered son from Sri Lanka or Australia sought by respectable G/B parents from Colombo for their slim pretty attractive 5'2" daughter born in 1991 studied at leading girls' school Colombo graduated with BSc (Hons) Software Engineering employed as an Executive in reputed firm currently pursuing her Masters Degree in Australian University, Sydney. She inherits substantial assets and a car only brother is working as an Optics Engineer Sydney, Australia. Kuja 1247812. Reply with horoscope and family details. pr opdhhammi@gmail.com OB149361

Academically qualified well-mannered kind son in (Sri Lanka) or overseas is sought by B/G parents for their only daughter fair and pretty 85/09, 5'3" studied at leading Buddhist Girls' School in Colombo and graduated from University of Colombo with BSc., CIMA partly qualified willing to migrate. Kuja in 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 12 horoscopes are preferred. Reply with family details & horoscope. Email : proposals12342019@gmail.com OB150372

Academically and professionally qualified son is sought by B/G parents living in Canada for their daughter, 5'0" slim, kind, attractive daughter born in 1991 Sep. She holds a Bachelor's Degree and She is financially well established. She lives a very healthy lifestyle and prefers someone with similar interests. Please send family details of your son. Email - canadaproposal25@yahoo.com OB150206

Academically & professionally qualified locally employed son below 35 is sought by BK parents for elder daughter 1989 Sept. 5'3" holding BSc Engineering and PhD qualified Lecturer. Mesha Lagna, Deta Nekatha, non malefic HC Sikuru 7, Sandu 8. Karawa and Govi only. Reply with family details horoscope, contact numbers. ml989proposal@gmail.com OB150488

Academically / professionally qualified NS/TT son is sought by B/G parents from Colombo suburbs for 83/8 born, slim, fair, pretty, 5'5" daughter BSc / MSc (Bio Medical Science) working in semi-government hospital as Senior Executive owns new car, inherits new house and valuable family assets. Horoscope, full family details. No migration. proposals7923@gmail.com OB149566

Academically & professionally qualified partner is sought by B/G parents for their pretty daughter born 1981, 5'4" graduate in English & MBA qualified currently working as an Assistant Director marketing. She inherits valuable assets. Divorced innocent party considered. Email:- thilakwps@gmail.com OB150310

Academically & professionally qualified, Sinhala B/G Kandyan parents living in Colombo seek well educated, religious, fair, handsome, engineering / entrepreneur, below 28 years son for their 24 years old, 5' 3" height, pretty, fair, slim, charming & well educated eldest daughter brought up with Sinhala buddhist religious values, sober habits & excellent character. Educated at a leading Convent in Colombo. Graduated from Plymouth University, UK & Post Graduate, Diploma from CA SL. Works as a Director in the family business. She inherits substantial assets & other valuable things. Respond with family details & horoscope (non-malefic). E-mail : khp59581@gmail.com OB150370

Affluent respectable Buddhist Karawa / Govi parents from South living in Colombo suburbs seek an academically and professionally qualified son below 30 years from a respectable family for their elder daughter 5'6" tall born in 1996 Jan. Pretty fair studied in leading Buddhist School in Colombo, Hon. Graduate in International Business Management. Works in a leading Group of Companies as an Executive. She inherits substantial assets. Non-malefic horoscope. No intention of migrating. Please reply with full family details and horoscope, contact numbers in first letter. E-mail : m arriagepro1996@gmail.com OB150107

Anuradhapura Bodu Govi, 87, 5'2" respectable family seeks an educated handsome partner for their beautiful, attractive daughter. Physiotherapist. Email: ththncr@gmail.com OB150446

Bodu Govi 24 yrs. height 4'11" fair HRM diploma holder working at an establishment as permanent employer. Basic inherits new two storeyed house at Gampaha Town and other assets. Mother seeks suitable partner for her daughter. OB150276

A Buddhist Govi / Deva parents from a respectable family of Colombo suburbs seek a professionally qualified, kind hearted son for their only daughter of two children. She is 1991 born, 5'2", very fair, pretty, educated at a leading girls' school in Colombo, holds Graduate Diploma in Accounting (UK), works at a leading institution while studying for CIMA (Management level) and MBA (finish in November), inherits Colombo suburb land, a house and other substantial assets. Email: propose581@gmail.com OB150498

A kind caring well-mannered son with either MBBS/BSc Eng. preferably living abroad is sought by Sinhala Buddhist retired parents residing in Colombo suburbs for their fair pretty well-mannered daughter 5'4" 1991 born. Dental Surgeon working in a government hospital. Reply with details and horoscope. marriageproposal248@gmail.com OB150281

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 wgp proposals@gmail.com OB150480

A well-mannered, educated and caring son is sought by respectable Buddhist parents from down south for their elder daughter aged 25 5'3". Who is fair and pretty and brought up with cultural values. Currently living in Australia pursuing her higher studies. Castes not considered. Respond with family details and a horoscope copy to: dssam1966m@gmail.com OB150249

BG retired father from high Govt. post and mother graduate teacher seek academically professionally qualified partner with sober habits for pleasant MBBS / MD/ SL Doctor born 79 July 62" with an unblemished character studied in a leading girls' school at Colombo inherits large house in Colombo and more property with Ten Million in cash. Migration possible. OB150202

Bodu Govi parents from Colombo seek a qualified partner for their age 30, 5'3" (August 1990) very fair slim pretty daughter who has studied at leading Christian School in Colombo and graduated and done Master's Degree in Engineering at University in UK. Only elder brother Engineer married and living in USA. ncnsi ssanke@yahoo.com OB150195

Bodu Govi 24 yrs. height 4'11" fair HRM diploma holder working at an establishment as permanent employer. Basic inherits new two storeyed house at Gampaha Town and other assets. Mother seeks suitable partner for her daughter. OB150276

Bodu, Govi, Colombo, respectable family, professional parents, seek an educated son of similar family background, for their B.Eng. & MSc. (State University) qualified Engineer daughter, slim, fair, kind-hearted, well-mannered, with excellent character, 5'3", born in 1990, currently working in an international firm in Colombo. She inherits a large modern upstairs house in Colombo and a luxury vehicle, savings. Please send your family details with a copy of horoscope. Email: p roposal715@gmail.com OB150164

Born in September 1990, 5' in height pretty BSc., MSc. Graduate Executive Grade employee daughter. She inherits assets and expecting to migrate. Bodu Govi parents with a good family background seek an equal caste educated partner less than 33 years. Partners who have migrated or expecting to migrate are special. Reply with Telephone Number, all the details and horoscope copy from the first letter. OB150144

Born in 1984 December, Buddhist, Govi, 5'3" in height, fair in complexion, Software Engineer, Project Manager, BSc, MBA. Inherits assets, wishing a compatible partner compatible to Rahu 7. OB150241

Born 1992, Medical Degree holder from foreign university and passed E.R.P.M. and working as a Doctor in a private Hospital till receiving internship, son, state employed parents seek Buddhist / Govi, kind daughter, medical student or having equivalent qualifications, to be kept proposed. Horoscopes compatible to Kuja 7 preferred. OB150170

Brother looking for a suitable partner for a sister who is legally separated from marriage confined only to a signature Govi Buddhist 47 height 5'3" fair in complexion. She inherits a coconut land and has a monthly income. Send details with a copy of the horoscope. Send contact No. (Divorced or widowers considered). OB150377

Buddhist Govi mixed parents seek educated partner for their 27 years, 5'3", pretty, slim, employed daughter with dowry. Holds First Class BA from State University and completed Masters. dprop4572@gmail.com OB150368

Buddhist parents living in Colombo suburbs looking for a smart, qualified son preferably below 28 years with a very good family background for marriage with their younger daughter, 26 years, 5'3", working as an Accountant in Australia, Academically/ professionally qualified, smart well disciplined girl with a very pleasing personality. Please send details of your son/family to: m pr1994sl@gmail.com OB150426

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Sunday Observer

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Buddhist Sinhala V/K respectable family living in the UK seeks academically and professionally qualified son for their daughter born 1992/4, 5'2", pretty, fair, slim brought up with Sri Lankan values studied in Sri Lanka, graduated from a foreign country and currently reading Masters in UK. Only brother reading Engineering degree in UK. Inherits assets. Migration to UK can be considered. Reply with family details, horoscope, contact number to mp rop9220@gmail.com OB150524

B/Govigama Colombo professional parents seek well-mannered qualified son age between 34-38 years for 5'7" slim fair pretty daughter 33 years working in the US University. Kethu in seven house. proposa lkandyan@gmail.com OB150176

B/G business parents from Colombo seek an academically & professionally qualified son for their eldest daughter born in 1990/08 5' currently she is following a Masters in a leading university in Melbourne (Australia) she owns a valuable luxury house in Colombo and inherits income from family business or assets. Kindly reply with family details with a copy of horoscope. Email: proposa al.19908@gmail.com OB150397

B/G Galle 1990/11 5'1" Jayawardanapura Graduate Kuja 4 Sitha 1 pretty IT Officer daughter works in Colombo international company. Teacher mother seeks teetotaler son. 091-2243276. OB150141

B/G Kandy 1993/10 daughter, 5', fair, Bio-Science (Special) Degree University of Colombo. Government Service parents seek educated son Sri Lanka / Abroad (Shani 7). Reply with horoscope. Email - w elig0929@gmail.com OB150339

B/G parents from respectable family seek a suitable son for their daughter (born in 1986-5, 5'2" tall) BSc., MSc. qualified and applied for PhD. in J'Pura currently working in Government Executive Grade. Please reply with family details and horoscope. OB150204

B/G parents in Colombo seek a professionally qualified partner for their 35 yrs 5' pretty, daughter works in a private institute. Reply with horoscope (Kuja 8) and family details. sw arna.peris@yahoo.com OB150448

B/G parents seek educated partner between 37 & 45 for their daughter born 1982, graduate. Educated SL & UK. Employed SL with assets. Email: marriageprop osals9@outlook.com OB150352

B/G parents seek partner for their pleasant daughter born 1982, graduate studied SL & UK. Worked in Colombo. With assets. Email: t he2017proposal@gm ail.com OB150358

B/G retired senior managerial parents seek an academically and professionally qualified son over 5'7" height for their eldest daughter (PR holder USA). She has completed her BSc and MSc in USA and currently employed in a leading multinational institution. Please send family details along with a copy of the horoscope to: las antha1956@gmail.com OB150396

Canadian dual citizen professional Sinhala parents seek an academically qualified professional son below 35 for their pretty daughter 5' academically qualified healthcare professional enjoying a permanent position in a government hospital in Ontario. She has a non-malefic horoscope. Those living in Canada USA or willing to relocate preferred. Please forward details with horoscope to: c aslbride@gmail.com OB150360

Christian parents seek teetotaler partner from same faith for professionally qualified and employed daughter 31. Write full details and requirements to: ecd chris960@gmail.com OB150350

Christian respectable parents in Puttalam District seek a well-mannered, educated loving son from a respectable Christian family for their youngest daughter born in 1993, 5'4" pretty & educated. She is currently working as a Teacher. OB150538

Colombo Bodu Govi respectable business parents seek professionally qualified, kind and caring son with sober habits from a respectable family for their elder daughter born in 1993/12. 5'4", very pretty, fair, slim, caring, an excellent character. She obtained her MBBS degree from Monash University. Currently she is working at a Government hospital in the Colombo District. Please send your family details horoscope. proposalfinder3@gmail.com OB150300

Colombo B/G mother seeks kind caring partner for daughter 5'3" 38 yrs Visakian MBA qualified holds substantial assets including a house & car. quickprop2015@gmail.com Divorced from a nully marriage OB150545

Colombo B/G parents hailing from an affluent family seeks a suitable partner for their professionally qualified daughter employed in the medical sector. (Born in 1985, height 5'8"). Reply with horoscope. r uwi1720@gmail.com OB150226

Colombo B/G parents hailing from an affluent family seeks a suitable partner for their professionally qualified daughter LLB (London) (Attorney-at-Law) currently reading for LLM (U.K.) (Age 32, height 5'5"). Reply with horoscope. ru wi1720@gmail.com OB150222

Colombo B/V parents seek a suitable educated son for their pretty daughter born in 1986 5'1" MBA Graduate employed as a head of a department in hospital sector. Legally divorced with no children as the complained party Kala Sarpa Yoga included. chandrawad58@gmail.com 0112796179. OB150506

Colombo Govi Buddhist fair sister in advanced age. Gentleman between 60-70 years is sought with pension / business / government with or without house or living overseas. No malefics. Please reply with horoscope. OB150473

Colombo suburb Sinhala Buddhist K/G parents (father Doctor) from very respectable family seek an academically, professionally qualified well-mannered, teetotaler, non-smoker son from a respectable family for their pretty, fair, slim daughter, graduated from United Kingdom University. Management Degree and employed at a private company in Colombo. Born in 1996 January height 5'7". Please send full family details and Telephone Number, Email : bmnnp.2019@gmail .com OB150212

Colombo, Govi Buddhist, government MBBS lady Doctor (female Medical Practitioner) pretty, fair, height 5'2", seeks an Executive officer, aged 50 - 54 years. She owns a house and a motor car. Divorced, with one child, aged below 7 years, too, considered. E-mail: roneldkx@gmail.com OB150403

Educated and kind-hearted partner working in Australia or willing to migrate is sought by respectable Catholic parents for their slim, tall, pretty daughter, born in 1985, height 5'8", working in a leading firm in Australia. Height, caste and religion immaterial. Email: jazzy2791@icloud.com OB150346

Educated moderate Muslim family in Polonnaruwa District seeks a well-educated son from a moderate Malay or Muslim family for their 27 yrs. (5'6") Graduate younger daughter Teacher by profession. Father BA, MA qualified Teacher, School text book author Educational Publication Department, Sworn Language Translator. Elder daughter Graduate Teacher. Elder son Graduate Project Officer reading for MA University of Colombo. Email : yusrinsf@gmail.com Contact Number : 0272056756 (after 8 p.m.) OB150180

Father seeks academically and professionally qualified partner for B/G Lady Doctor, age 39, height 5'4". Reply with horoscope. pkvijayananda@gmail.com OB150247

For a very attractive young looking unmarried daughter received higher degrees from foreign Universities and well employed overseas with citizenship, B/G parents invite suitable groom (44 - 49) especially from abroad, divorcees without encumbrances also considered. gunaw a1942@gmail.com OB150274

Galle, Buddhist Durawa height 5'0", 1988 IT degree from NSBM employed in private sector only daughter of the family retired bank officer mother seeks non-smoker teetotaler son permanently employed in government or private sector. All details with horoscope copy from the first letter. Email: proposa lsgr2019@gmail.com OB150391

Gampaha Govi Catholic father seeks educated partner for slim pleasant daughter born 1980, 5'4", qualified graduate teacher with BSc, MSc. Tel: 011-2235156. E-mail: pcrukmal@yahoo.com OB150242

Govi Buddhist parents with a good education background look for a suitable partner for their daughter 28 years 5 ft 2 inch MBBS, expecting internship appointments, educated in a Colombo school, grown up with Buddhist values, well-mannered, friendly and fair. Tel: 0714441235 (from Sat. 8 p.m. onwards). Email: 123proposa l2020@gmail.com OB150298

G/B parents are seeking a well-educated, professional son for their 30-year-old, 5'2" attractive daughter, a medical student in USA. Please reply with all the details to email: marriageproposal033@gmail.com OB150308

G/B parents Colombo seek son for daughter 41 (looks 30), very young looking fair slim pretty 5'1" CIMA part qualified inherits house. Reply with full details and horoscope. E-Mail : marriage2233@yahoo.com OB150196

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, proposalg@gmail.com OB150449

G/B 48 years divorced no children degree from Colombo, Peradeniya Campus Business Management newly built house elders seek educated honest groom replies appreciated from parents or elders from family. tammalwis61@gmail.com OB150447

I'm looking for a kind and understanding gentleman for my friend who is a divorcee with two grown up children and living in USA. She's pleasant, 65 years old, a Montessori teacher in USA. Looking for a respectable gentleman who lives in USA or in a foreign country for marriage. Please reply to: (piedmont2020@hotmail.com). OB150465

Kandy professional parents B/Bodiwansa seek an academically and professionally qualified son for their daughter born 1995/09, 5'2", she has a Honours Degree in Business Management, caste immaterial. Abroad also considered. prop1995js@gmail.com OB150135

Looking for suitable professional for 34 yrs. 0115761200. rabbitaswim@yahoo.com SL / Foreigners / Jpns. etc. welcome. OB150194

Moor family from Colombo seeks educated, well-employed partner for pretty, graduated, English Teacher daughter age 38 and single. Overseas proposals are also welcome. Interested grooms below 45 can contact us through: fathima640@yahoo.com OB150189

Moor parents from Moratuwa seek a professionally qualified partner preferably a Doctor or an Engineer, living in Australia as a permanent resident for their fair complexioned daughter age 26, who has completed BSc Civil Engineering at Victoria University in Australia. Presently in Australia. Please reply with full details and contact information to E-mail: sjminizam@gmail.com or C/o Sunday Observer. OB150428

Moor parents from respectable and well connected family seek for their daughter, MBBS Doctor (Kuja in 8th house) studied in a leading Buddhist Girls' School in Colombo, born in mid 1985 & employed in Colombo suburb as a Medical Officer. Please forward all details with copy of horoscope to "family sl2020@outlook.com". OB149823

Professional son is sought for very pretty, well-mannered daughter living in the UK, working as an Assistant Professor, PhD (UK), 42 (1978), 5'8" never been married, G/B. Please reply with contact details. Happy to get to know first and meet in Sri Lanka or UK soon. Differences immaterial. Personal or family reply to: proposaluksl78@gmail.com OB150494

RC mother seeks suitable partner for daughter working in an executive position in an private establishment age 46 height 5'4" slim J/Tamil studied in Colombo Convent in Sinhala medium not married before, possesses substantial assets. Email - augustid3@yahoo.com OB150267

Respectable affluent G/B parents seek a professionally and academically qualified son age below 40 years for their well educated and occupied pretty and accomplished daughter age 33+. E-mail: proposals1999@outlook.com OB150516

Respectable Bodu Govi parents (Rathnapura) seek a suitable partner for their pleasant looking daughter Senior Lecturer Government University Colombo suburb 5'2" born July 1978. pathirana76@yahoo.com OB150269

Retired G/B professional parents looking for a suitable, well educated, financially well established son devoid of all vices for their 1985 August born, 5'6" tall, fair, slim, very pretty Postgraduate qualified (Medicine, Science) daughter inheriting valuable assets, divorced last December as Plaintiff from a proposed marriage limited only to registration. Migration considered. Please reply with true details and horoscope. 1411 appymarriage@gmail.com OB150496

Pleasant, attractive and compassionate Tamil lady from educated background mid-forties, looking for a compatible life-partner to settle in SL or overseas. Decent, moral and cultured gentlemen aged 41-49, with soft positive attitude are welcomed (self-proposals) to write to: partnerforlife082020@gmail.com OB150512

Professionally qualified handsome son from Sri Lanka or overseas sought for MBBS Doctor specialist trainee Colombo 1983 September, 5'4", slim, beautiful caring, younger looking daughter of BG parents. hemalthiru@gmail.com 011-2413685. OB150424

Professionally qualified parents (B/G/K) seek a suitable partner for their 24 year old 5'2" pretty, kind-hearted and well-mannered daughter, a final year undergraduate student at a popular state university in Sri Lanka for a stable relationship leading to marriage. Please respond with a copy of the horoscope. marriageproposals404@gmail.com OB150406

Professional parents S/B in Colombo suburb seek a professionally qualified partner for their pleasant/fair cheerful daughter MBBS Doctor (Kuja in 8th house) studied in a leading Buddhist Girls' School in Colombo, born in mid 1985 & employed in Colombo suburb as a Medical Officer. Please forward all details with copy of horoscope to "family sl2020@outlook.com". OB149823

Professional son is sought for very pretty, well-mannered daughter living in the UK, working as an Assistant Professor, PhD (UK), 42 (1978), 5'8" never been married, G/B. Please reply with contact details. Happy to get to know first and meet in Sri Lanka or UK soon. Differences immaterial. Personal or family reply to: proposaluksl78@gmail.com OB150494

RC mother seeks suitable partner for daughter working in an executive position in an private establishment age 46 height 5'4" slim J/Tamil studied in Colombo Convent in Sinhala medium not married before, possesses substantial assets. Email - augustid3@yahoo.com OB150267

Respectable affluent G/B parents seek a professionally and academically qualified son age below 40 years for their well educated and occupied pretty and accomplished daughter age 33+. E-mail: proposals1999@outlook.com OB150516

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Retired G/B professional parents looking for a suitable, well educated, financially well established son devoid of all vices for their 1985 August born, 5'6" tall, fair, slim, very pretty Postgraduate qualified (Medicine, Science) daughter inheriting valuable assets, divorced last December as Plaintiff from a proposed marriage limited only to registration. Migration considered. Please reply with true details and horoscope. 1411 appymarriage@gmail.com OB150496

Rev Sister (nun) is looking for a Catholic groom for her Tamil Catholic niece who is born and brought up abroad but presently living in Galle, gamuwa as she is 5'2" in height, 30 years old with a pleasant look, for more information. Please contact us via email sujanina ravindra@gmail.com OB150514

R.C/Govi, Colombo suburbs, 1990, 5ft, very fair and beautiful, our well-mannered daughter educated in a convent is currently employed in a shipping line as a Senior Executive. Parents looking for an educated, handsome, kind hearted son from a respectable family, permanently employed in a senior position below 40yrs legally divorced or widowed with a kid for our daughter legally divorced with 1 kid for an under-standing marriage. Only sister is a catholic nun. Religion caste immaterial. chrismpropos30@gmail.com OB150543

Sinhala Bodu Govi respectable parents, retired Government Officers from Badulla, seek a suitable pleasant academically and professionally qualified son for their 93 January born pleasant pretty 5'2" height MBBS Doctor daughter, passed out from University of Peradeniya, serving in a Provincial General Hospital. She inherits substantial assets. Elder brother married and father of two sons, Graduated from Faculty of AHS Peradeniya. Younger brother Senior Software Engineer attached to a reputed International Software Company in Colombo. Engineer or Doctor son is sought. Please reply with horoscope and family details. Email : Inhlabb@sltnet.lk OB150203

Sinhala Buddhist Durawa parents Colombo suburbs seek qualified partner for youngest daughter 30 yrs. fair pretty 5'4" hold degree business administrations Sri Jayawardanapura University working in finance section private company father Medical Officer brother and sister married living Australia, caste immaterial. Send details with horoscope. proposedau90@gmail.com OB150314

Sinhala Buddhist parents living in the USA seek an academically and professionally qualified partner grew up in the USA, UK or Canada, with a similar background, for their daughter, 36 years, 5'3", slim, fair, PhD qualified, grew up in the USA. Please reply with family details, horoscope. Email: pmpropos a12020@gmail.com OB150502

Sinhala B/G parents from Colombo suburbs seek well-mannered academically/ professionally qualified partner below 28 years and above 5'8" for their elder daughter. She is 23 years, 5'7" slim fair attractive well brought-up currently working in consulting area of work in Colombo reputed international firm after completing her first degree and masters in UK reputed universities. Only sister is a medical student in a foreign university. She inherits its valuable properties and other assets. Reply with family details and a copy of horoscope. Email: pr oposalm18@gmail.com OB150408

Sinhala, Buddhist respectable, wealthy & well connected parents from Sri Jayawardanapura, seek an academically qualified & well established caring son for our second daughter who is 27 years of age, 5'8" height, fair & very pretty, educated & qualified in Sri Lanka & Masters from Australia. Currently working to develop on her own fashion designing business in Sri Lanka. She is a kind, caring, lovely & family oriented person who is very fluent in English. (Kuja 2, Rahu 7). She is not willing to migrate. Suitable son must be conversant well in English. Reply with family details, horoscope. mpropos e1993@gmail.com OB150508

Sinhalese Buddhist / Karawa retired parents residing in Canada seek professionally qualified well-mannered son for their eldest daughter born in 1985, currently studying in a State Medical Faculty Sri Lanka, completing M.B.B.S. in 2020 brought up with Sri Lankan Buddhist values. Please reply with family details, horoscope, contact numbers to proposa lcan.sl@gmail.com OB150526

Sinhalese Catholic parents living in Australia seek an academically qualified caring partner for Engineer daughter 23 years, 5'2" height. Prefer those who live in Australia or willing to migrate. Email : sh an2020aus@gmail.com OB150213

Sinhalese parents residing in USA seek marriage partner for pretty daughter born 1985, 5'3" tall employed US citizen having own home in US. Marriage partner should be Sri Lankan living in US working or studying or immigrant due to arrive shortly. Family is Govi Catholic but caste and religion immaterial. Email: rsur awee@gmail.com or 12020@gmail.com OB150312

Sinhala Buddhist parents living in the USA seek an academically and professionally qualified partner grew up in the USA, UK or Canada, with a similar background, for their daughter, 36 years, 5'3", slim, fair, PhD qualified, grew up in the USA. Please reply with family details, horoscope. Email: pmpropos a12020@gmail.com OB150502

S/B respectable parents from Colombo seek academically professionally qualified handsome son with sober habits below 34 yrs. for their daughter 5'1" 31 yrs. pretty smart studied at Colombo leading school, qualified BSc special, MBA CIMA CIM holding managerial position in reputed company, inherits Colombo house, car. Father retired Ministry Secretary, mother housewife, three married elder brothers. MBBS Doctor, IT professional, Engineer U.S.A. Reply with horoscope and family details. weeraha@hotmail .com 0112699591. OB150171

1968 Christian Karawa 5'3" pleasant looking working as an Accounts Clerk at Private Firm mother seek suitable partner for her daughter. Contact No.: 011-2644616. Email: ren ukadesilva571@gmail.com OB150454

1987, UK born 5'7", pretty, slim & fair, parents seek a partner for their daughter, she is an MD, MBA and currently residing in Canada, preferred a Doctor working in the USA. Caste, religion and nationality are immaterial. Please email with details to hperera3044@gmail.com Hector Perera. OB150187

1990 Colombo B/G 5'2" parents seek a suitable partner for their only daughter now in America for her higher studies (PhD in Chemistry). Please reply with family details and horoscope. OB150235

1997 B/G Kadawatha, 5'4" pretty, virtuous daughter studying at private university. Owns luxury three storey house, vehicle valuable land and other properties. Only child. Father is an M.B.B.S. Doctor. Parents seek a decent son from a respectable family who is academically qualified highly employed or working in business field or studying at a university. Reply with horoscope. OB150366



Absolutely pretty fair slim educated daughter sought by Colombo suburb G/B respectable parents for 1979 Sept 5'11" fair handsome only son Hons graduate All Swinburne UK Birmingham Universities Executive position Architectural Design Company Colombo studied leading Christian school Colombo own houses assets differences immaterial. ratnapura_42@yahoo.com OG150341

Academically and professionally qualified, slim, pretty daughter is sought for a 28 years old son of Buddhist Govi parents, 5'2". He owns an export oriented company in Sri Lanka and has investments overseas as well. He inherits substantial family assets. Residing in Piliyandala. Email: ggmrpaec@gmail.com OG150277

Academically and professionally qualified B/G, 5'7", 1986 born Senior Software Engineer employed in a well known IT Company with sober habits is looking for a kind-hearted bride. Father (Doctor) and mother (Teacher) deceased. Elder brother lives in Australia with his wife. Having migration plans. Email - dasun.suranjaya@gmail.com OG150148

Academically qualified daughter, living in Australia or willing to migrate sought by retired bank AGM father for their younger son. He is teetotaler, non-smoker, BSc qualified Software Engineer, Australian citizen working for Australia government. He is 33 years and 5'10" height. He had unsuccessful marriage and got divorced within short period time, no encumbrances. We are Buddhists, Vishwakula family. Caste immaterial. Reply with family details, horoscope tel. no. 011-4935705. 1217kw@gmail.com OG150239

Academically qualified pleasant kind-hearted daughter is sought by B/G parents for their son born in 1973 March, slim, 6 ft., Assistant Professor in USA, young looking non-smoker and teetotaler. He is legally separated after brief incompatible marriage (No encumbrances). Reply with family details, contact number and horoscope. bouldercreek321@gmail.com OG149318

Academically qualified slim pleasant kind hearted daughter from a respectable family is sought by Buddhist Karawa respectable well to do parents in Colombo suburbs for their handsome young looking well-mannered son 32 yrs 5'8" NS/TT PhD in Science (Australia) currently working as a Lecturer at a government university in Sri Lanka. Inherits substantial assets. Brother Doctor. Caste immaterial. Email: prop osalmarriage8790@gmail.com OG150399

Academically qualified well-mannered daughter is sought by Buddhist family living in Canada, for their son Electrical Engineer 5'11", slim, handsome 30 years old non-smoker with sober habits. Family or international student in Canada is preferred. Caste immaterial. Communicate with kingrawana51@gmail.com OG150540

Academically qualified, well-mannered pretty daughter is sought by respectable Kandyan G/B parents living in Colombo, for their son 35, 5'6" currently working in a largest five star hotel in Colombo, as a Director. He inherits and owns substantial assets. Reply with family details and horoscope. Only sister migrated to Australia, with her husband. Both are Software Engineers. (Specially Kuja 7). m appproposal@gmail.com OG150415

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Academically & professionally qualified daughter is sought by S/C parents in Colombo, for their son 39, currently working as an A Manager / Businessman. He inherits substantial assets. Legally divorced, no kids. Reply with family details & contact number. proposalvl@yahoo.com OG150539

Academically, professionally qualified same caste fair, pretty daughter sought by very respectable Govi Buddhist parents residing in Colombo for their never married son, BSc (Hons), MSc degree holder Software Engineer born 1982, height 5'8". Australian PR holder, living in Melbourne, Australia. Reply with family details and horoscope. E-mail: so nproposal500@gmail.com OG150467

Affluent Kandyan Govigama Buddhist professional parents seek caring daughter for 24 years, very handsome, 5'10" tall, Engineer son in Australia for marriage. Please respond with details to: mproposals4321@gmail.com OG150243

An academically or professionally qualified, pretty, fair, slim, well-mannered daughter from a respectable family is sought by Sinhala, Govi Buddhist (father), Govi Christian (mother) professionally qualified parents from Colombo suburbs for their Buddhist son, born in 1991 June, (29 years) and 5'7" tall. He is handsome, slim, well-mannered with sober habits (NS/TT), educated in a leading school in Colombo 7 and has obtained a B.Sc. degree in Electronic Engineering from the University of Moratuwa and M.Sc. from Nanyang Technological University of Singapore / Carnegie Mellon University, USA. Presently employed in Singapore and planning to settle down in Sri Lanka. Please reply with family details to Email: mprop1953@gmail.com OG150541

An educated beautiful fair slim daughter below 40 is sought by GB mother for MBBS Doctor son age 47 5'3" much younger looking, working in UK dual citizenship. He is a nonsmoker with sober habits, educated in Colombo leading school. Email: olomboproposal19@gmail.com OG150456

A BG 26 USA 5'10" college graduate, finance professional, high net worth, steady. Parents seek a compatible beautiful college grad below 24 from an established family currently living in USA only. Full details of the girl in 1st mail enabling us to return a reply. br idestat@gmail.com OG150422

A Buddhist retired father (mother is a house wife) from Galle District seeks a suitable beautiful daughter below 33 yrs old for their son. He is a Commissioned Officer in Sri Lanka Air Force in Squadron Leader Rank. Currently, he is reading for an MBA at KDU. He was born in 1983 and 5'11" in height. Please respond with contact details to: kankanthanthrikaru naseri@gmail.com OG150210

A Govigama Buddhist respectable family in Colombo seeks a pretty accomplished bride for foreign educated NS/TT son born mid 1981, 5'5", fair and handsome engaged in the family business. p ropmakara2016@gmail.com OG150478

A Govi / Buddhist respectable business family residing in Kurunegala District, seeks an academically qualified, pretty, well-mannered and kindhearted daughter with Buddhist values below 29 years of similar caste & religion for their elder son. He is 31 years 5'6", handsome, well-mannered, studied in Colombo leading college, NS/TT, Educationally qualified with master's from leading state university. He owns a coconut based products manufacturing factory and affiliated with the university as Guest speaker and a recourse person. He owns a luxury modern car and new house is under construction. He inherits substantial family assets. Only brother is an Engineer. Please reply with full family details & horoscope. Email: marrproperera@outlook.com OG150510

A never-married University Senior Lecturer PhD (North America) (expecting professorial position), son of respectful G/B Principal parents, and 5'7" tall. He is handsome, slim, well-mannered with sober habits (NS/TT), educated in a leading school in Colombo 7 and has obtained a B.Sc. degree in Electronic Engineering and dedicated Buddhist down-to-earth with many national and international professional contacts. Approximately another 20-year service at the University. Marriage delayed purely due to education and as did not find compatible partner. General compatibility of horoscopes and good mutual understanding are expected. Thula Lagna. Budha, Shani 7. Bodu, Govi only please. marrypr op2020@gmail.com OG150336

A suitable educated and kind-hearted daughter from a respectable family is sought by Buddhist business parents from Negombo. Academically qualified Mechatronics Engineer born 1992 July, height 6 feet with excellent personality. He is currently employed in the family business. Two younger sisters pursuing PhD and Master's degrees. Caste differences are immaterial. Kindly reply with family details and horoscope to: dsds45@yahoo.com OG150192

A suitable partner, preferably living in the USA is sought by Sinhala parents from Colombo for their son who is a very qualified and a well accomplished professional holding a Senior Managerial position in a prestigious company in Colombo. He frequently travels to the USA on work and is well acquainted with the life and culture in USA. A teetotaler, non-smoker. He is 46 years old but looks much younger than that. Divorcees are also considered. Please send us your daughter's details to: sudafer@gmail.com OG150214

A well established Moor businessman with professional qualification and divorced with no encumbrances. He is 50 years old. Parents are looking for a tall fair and an educated compatible partner divorcees with no encumbrances will also be considered. If interested please contact. 011-2822927. OG150238

BG 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 OG150348

Buddhist medium level parents residing in Ganemulla seek 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. Horoscope is immaterial. Please reply with full family details & photograph to: proposals on1988@gmail.com OG150315

Buddhist parents from Colombo seek well-mannered pretty daughter for their elder son. He is 29 years old and 5'8". Employed as a Software Engineer at a well-reputed company. He is a B.Sc. (Special) Graduate and awaiting final results of M.Sc. in IT. Inherits a big wealth. (Assets over 250 million). Family of only two sons. Educated parents. Younger son Medical Student. Caste differences are immaterial. Kindly reply with family details and horoscope to: dsds45@yahoo.com OG150192

Buddhist Sinhalese parents seek an educated, fair girl around 28 yrs from Australia, for professionally qualified son - 34 yrs, 5'7", Engineer in Sydney. Please forward your response to our email: ranjveras@gmail.com OG150522

Buddhist Sinhalese parents seek an educated, fair girl around 30 yrs, for professionally qualified son - 35 years, 5'7", Manager in Sydney. Prefer a resident in Australia. Please forward your response to our email: ranweraus@gmail.com OG150520

B/G Buddhist Sinhala mother from Kandy seeks a daughter for her 38 years old son, who is a successful Businessman. He is a 6'2" tall, fair and handsome gentleman who has studied at a private leading school in Kandy. Forward horoscope with family details to: pmproposals02@gmail.com or contact me on 081-2404016. OG150230

B/G parents seek an educated daughter for their son, 28 years, 6', Senior Lecturer with BSc./PhD and Australian PR. 0112706379. proposalna20@gmail.com OG150376

B/K respectable parents from Colombo seek an educated kind hearted partner for their son, 39 years NS/TT very handsome, professionally qualified drawing high income inherits substantial assets. Divorced no childrens. Reply with horoscope. Email: csmar2020@gmail.com OG150453

Catholic parents Negombo seek a suitable partner for their only son born in 1984, height 5'7" Executive job and valuable assets. pereralink@gmail.com OG150367

Catholic relatively rich family with Liberal values, mother searches an educated and pretty girl below 30 years old for her son born 1989 and working in New Zealand with a Work Visa. Son is planning to settle and further study his PhD in Computer Science. Son owns a house and two small building properties. We do not look for dowry, caste or religion. He is a Liberal person and wants someone to share and do everything equally. Can provide horoscope for any details. Email: p ropnzjcs@gmail.com OG150174

Close to Colombo, parents seek pretty, fair bride, willing to migrate to Australia with malefic in Shani Mangala Dosha for their son aged 31 height 5'9" permanent resident in Australia an Executive Officer in the Hotel Trade in Australia. OG150136

Colombo Bodu G/D parents seek for their son with exemplary character N/S T/T born in February 1987, height 6'5", educated at a leading Buddhist school in Colombo, BSc Special degree from University of Colombo CIMA - ACMA CFA employed at an investment company. Pretty, fair girl suitably qualified will be ideal. A non malefic horoscope. Please forward the relevant details contact number and the copy of the horoscope. dulshimp@gmail.com OG149950

Colombo B/G mother seeks suitable partner for son 1985 5'9" B/Sc Graduate lives in UK. 0112884390 dev ikabasnayake403@gmail.com OG150500

Colombo B/V 28 years old 5'11" Business Analyst (IT) son. Masters completed in UK. Parents seek partner possessing horoscope with no Kuja Rahu Kethu in 1 & 8 places. chandrawad58@gmail.com 0112-796179. OG150504

Colombo Mount Lavinia Sinhalese Buddhist height 5'6" Businessman wife passed away last year due to Cancer have two young sons ages 21 and 19. Elder son studying abroad have three storied house in Mount Lavinia. Looking fair and beautiful partner ages around 38-45. Christian, Catholics are not an issue. E-mail: dgnp5555@gmail.com OG150216

Colombo Sinhala Buddhist Vishva professional parents seek well brought-up educated partner for their slim beautiful daughter 26 yrs. 5 ft. currently employed in a reputed software company returned from USA in June with bachelor's and Master's. Please reply with family details and copy of horoscope. Contact after 6 p.m. 011-2556726. email mplb9420@gmail.com OG150142

Dehiwala Buddhist Govigama reputed business family, born in 1996, 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, seeks educated lady above 5'5" height. He owns house, vehicles, etc. all necessities. s warnapala61@gmail.com 0114-884261. OG150484

Educated well mannered pretty slim daughter with Sinhala Buddhist values for a decent family is sought by Sinhala Buddhist Deva family residing in Galle for their handsome / youngest son, he is graduated from Masters in Accountancy in Australia. Works in a reputed firm in Colombo, 30 years, 5'6", owns substantial assets and a car. Reply with horoscope, family details in English or Sinhala. (Caste immaterial). proposal209@gmail.com OG150179

Govi Buddhist age 30, 5'10", residing in New Zealand, engaged in the Aviation Industry. Parents seek professionally qualified attractive girl from a respectable family. Send details to prasannapre maratna@gmail.com OG150430

Govi Buddhist parents seek a slim daughter for their smart younger looking Lawyer son 41, working as a government officer. Differences immaterial. Foreign proposals considered. indika.is haraclothing@gmail.com OG150434

Govi Buddhist 44 1976 Lawyer Senior position leading corporate teetotaler NS, 5'6 1/2". OG149288

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: tdkan2020@gmail.com OG149914

G/B professional parents hailing from Kandy and living in the US seek a girl with similar background living in US or Canada for eldest son 1989 Nov. born, Computer Technician. Reply with family details. chandrah alambe@gmail.com OG150208

G/B respectable parents from Battaramulla suburbs, seek for their handsome, fair son 27 years 1993, 5'7" height, Civil Engineer a pretty educated well mannered daughter, below 25 years. 011 2867463. wed.proposal93@gmail.com OG150436

G/K, Buddhist parents living in Canada seek an educated, pretty, slim, well mannered daughter who should be outgoing and sociable with leadership qualities for their only son. Born in 1985, 5'10" tall, smart, handsome. A teetotaler / non-smoker with Sinhalese values. MBA, well employed IT Recruiter. Caste is immaterial. Please reply with family details and social media profile. danlankak@gmail.com OG150451

Hindu, Tamil parents of Indian Origin seek a suitable bride for their 1984 born Cambridge educated son. He is currently in Sri Lanka continuing the family business in Colombo. He is a British / Dual citizen. One younger sister married and settled overseas. Please contact s ivakumar97@hotmail.com OG150289

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. 0112334035 OG149738

Matale Kandyan Govt. Graduate Officer, divorcee, 42 yrs., 2 children, seeking loving marriage partner. (age, religion immaterial). OG150131

Moor highly qualified (Doctorate PhD in Economics) 52+, 5'5" very fair smart handsome with one girl (yr. 7) having experience of UK, KSA Maldives and now operating in Sri Lanka, looking for a qualified life partner. E-mail: s mrmoffice@gmail.com m/mrmlawsl@gmail.com OG150146

Moor parents from Colombo seek a partner for son Management Assistant, Government Sector, Ht. 5'8", age 32. T.Phone : 2534396. nikaham uslim@yahoo.com OG150362

Mother from an affluent and well respected Govigama, Buddhist family seeks for a kind hearted 25 year old daughter, not highly academically qualified but with an aptitude for art and design, a caring, educated partner from a well respected family of a similar background. Horoscope essential. Contact p ropd29@gmail.com OG150402

Muslim well to do parents from Western Province seek for son 31, 5'10" tall, a working girl preferably none Abaya wearing. Email: paperproposals31@gmail.com OG150266

Parents are Doctors and Directors of a private hospital. Proposed B/G Doctor son foreign graduate 32 years, 5'6" medium built, finished internship NS/TT. We are inviting an MBBS/ foreign graduate Doctor daughter who has finished internship who enjoys private practice. His elder brother and sister-in-law are Doctors attached to NHSL. Kuja in 8th position. Please reply to mdo hospital@gmail.com OG150182

RC Banker well qualified worked abroad age 56 height 5'8" not married before J/Tamil educated in Colombo, Sinhala medium seeks suitable partner. Email : nim eshp5@yahoo.com OG150261

Respectable affluent established G/B business parents seek a suitable daughter for their educated established handsome businessman NS/TT son age 31+. E-mail: proposals1999@outlook.com OG150518

Respectable B/G family from Colombo with well mannered 2 sons born and brought up abroad. Elder son 1989/5'8" NS/TT, completed his MBA and Bachelors in UK universities, prefers reside in Sri Lanka. Younger son 1990 height 5'9" NS/TT working abroad is an Engineer, completed his Bachelors & Masters in UK universities. We are looking for pleasant, well mannered, kind, caring, educated daughters from B/G family, grown up with Sinhala Buddhist values. Kindly email with family details, horoscope & contact numbers. math5perera@gmail.com OG150486

Respectable B/G/K well established business parents seek an educated fair slim pretty well mannered kind hearted daughter for their eldest son educated at Trinity College Kandy, Cricketer very good sportsman all rounder graduated from his Masters in Business Administration in a prestigious University in Melbourne Australia. Presently he is the Managing Director of the family owned Hotel Business 37 years of age height 5'11" fair very handsome smart excellent character with an attractive personality friendly well mannered person with great family values. Inherits substantial valuable assets. Please reply with family details and a copy of horoscope. Email: p roposal8765@gmail.com OG150440

Respectable Sinhala G/K Catholic parents in UK seek suitable daughter for their son Mechatronic Engineer working as a System Engineer in a reputed company in England, holding a diploma - UK citizen. DOB 18.11.1986 non-smoker 5'3" medium complexion, good character seek a bride with good character and good nature, living in England. Email: manelleitan@hotmail.com 031-4301943. OG150420

Sinhala Buddhist parents (retired Government Servants) from Pannipitiya, seek educated and pleasant bride for their son, 34 years old, 5" in height who's an owner of a startup company and holding an MBA. Kindly reply if the horoscope contains Rahu 7 or 8, Kuja 1, 2, 4, 12 with family details and a copy of the horoscope. Email - proposals.198612@gmail.com OG150264

Sinhala Buddhist professional parents residing in Australia seek an educated pretty daughter for their well-mannered son 27, 5'4" graduated Engineer working in public sector. Daughter living in Australia or willing to migrate preferred. Please reply with family details, horoscope, and contact details to: Email: wasana3562@hotmail.com OG150292

Sinhala Buddhist respectable family living in USA is looking for a bride for our handsome 5'6" well-mannered son born in 1987, Royalist, graduated as an Aircraft Engineer (UK), living in US. He inherits properties both in US and Sri Lanka. The prospective daughter to be good natured & educated, living in the US only. Please reply with details & the horoscope. 7604246667. mproposal1987@yahoo.com OG150354

Sinhala B/G well connected parents from Colombo invite pretty kind hearted daughter for their only child son, studied in a leading school in Colombo, qualified Accountant Company Director 45 yrs. (looks about 32 yrs.) fair 5'8" handsome son divorcee no encumbrance and having a wealth 2 houses in Colombo commercial building and properties (Kuja 7th House). Please reply full details with copy of horoscope. OG150322

S/B/G parents from Colombo suburb seeking a pleasant fair slim daughter below 35 years for their very handsome fair younger 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 OG149330

S/B/G parents living abroad seek an academically qualified, preferably graduate, well-mannered daughter from a respectable family G/B. Son has MD working in Doha Qatar as residence doctor. Studied in World top 20 university in Qatar affiliated to USA. He is 26 years of age (Nov. 1994), 5'6" gentleman with great qualities. Please respond with family details and horoscope to: nimalsuresh@hotmail.com or nimala suresh@gmail.com or 00966541380346. OG150279

Well mannered daughter is sought for the MBBS Japura Doctor who is currently attached to the government sector Base Hospital at Down South, who is currently reading for Higher Medical Education, well mannered, coloured sportsman and currently part timing as TV presenter of medical program at national TV channel. 1984 Born, Buddhist business family, he has 02 cars and newly built residential property. Cousin sister is looking for a suitable bride on behalf of the family. dr.chanith@gmail.com OG150491

Western Province Buddhist Karawa mother seeks a partner for her son age 52 years height 5'5" holding a Senior Executive post in state owned authority. Owns a house at Nawala. Reply family details with horoscope. OG150138

GROOM
A Govi Buddhist respectable business parents seek fair pretty characterized daughter from a respectable religious family for their son handsome educated 31 years 5'8", non smoker and teetotaler and a person with good religious and cultural values. He owns a well recognized and established vehicle importing enterprise and owns multiple luxury vehicles and a house at present He is following a NBA.
Please respond with horoscope details and contact number.
037-4941388

BRIDE
Academically and professionally qualified caring well-mannered son from a respectable family is sought by Govi Buddhist parents father retired Senior DIG for L.L.B., L.L.M. (London) qualified well-accomplished fair 5'6" tall daughter educated in girls school in Colombo attached to the Air-Force, born in 1986, she inherits a two storeyed house and another building block in Colombo suburb, twenty three acres of Coconut land in Kurunegala, permit car, eldest daughter married to a Pilot, living abroad, second daughter attached to a leading firm in Colombo as a D.G.M.
Reply with full family details and contact: nkrmail2016@gmail.com

We are Govi/Buddhist family living in USA. Retired parents looking for pretty, slim, educated girl brought up with S/L Buddhist values for our son. He is a US citizen. He graduated from prestigious university. He is an executive PMP IT Project Manager working for the US Government. Our son born in October 1992 5'9". He is kind hearted smart handsome boy who values S/L traditions. Please reply with horoscope family details and contact email, Phone Numbers. Email: nse kara557@gmail.com OG150442

We are Sinhalese - Catholic from Kochchikade (Negombo) our son born in 1991 April - Electronics Engineer, working at a reputed company. He is 5'8" - well mannered good looking and teetotaler. Elder daughter is married and living separately. He inherits our living house and owns a car. He is looking for a fair-slim, pretty and educated girl from a respectable family. Pls call: 0312279058. OG150452

50 yrs old handsome tall entrepreneur and employed single gentleman looking female 30-50 yrs age. Inherits Rs 40 Million from old mother. She is lean thin dynamic with similar background. Email: danu fernando1@gmail.com OG150492

BRIDE
Kandyan, Sinhala, Govi Buddhist, Medical Specialists parents seek for their only daughter, 1994 born, fair, attractive medical student attending a local Medical Faculty, a professionally qualified partner from a similar respectable background.
She has only one sibling a brother who is an Engineering U n d e r g r a d u a t e attending the Moratuwa University. Please reply with family details and a copy of the horoscope.
0150231
C/o Sunday Observer, Lake House, Colombo 10.

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BRIDE
Academically and professionally qualified caring well-mannered son from a respectable family is sought by Govi Buddhist parents father retired Senior DIG for L.L.B., L.L.M. (London) qualified well-accomplished fair 5'6" tall daughter educated in girls school in Colombo attached to the Air-Force, born in 1986, she inherits a two storeyed house and another building block in Colombo suburb, twenty three acres of Coconut land in Kurunegala, permit car, eldest daughter married to a Pilot, living abroad, second daughter attached to a leading firm in Colombo as a D.G.M.
Reply with full family details and contact: nkrmail2016@gmail.com