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## Heavy rains, landslide warning in five districts

**LAHIRU FERNANDO**  
 The National Building Research Organization (NBRO) issued landslide early warnings for the next 24-hours for five districts due to the prevailing heavy rains throughout the country yesterday. Accordingly, the Seethawaka Divisional Secretariat Division and the

surrounding areas in the Colombo District, Elpitiya, Nelawa and Nagoda Divisional Secretariat Divisions and the surrounding areas in the Galle District, Bulathsinhala and Palindanuwara Divisional Secretariat Divisions and the surrounding areas in the Kalutara District, Dehiowita, Kegalle and Yatiyanta

Divisional Secretariat Divisions and the surrounding areas in the Kegalle District, Eheliyagoda, Ayagama, Kuruwita, Kiriella, Ratnapura and Elapatha Divisional Secretariat Divisions and the surrounding areas in the Ratnapura District have the potential risks until 6.30 p.m. today (7), it says. **TO PAGE 06**

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# WILL CREATE A HEALTHY NATION DURING TENURE - PRESIDENT

## PUBLIC HUNGRY FOR DEVELOPMENT AND TIRED OF EXCUSES

## PAYS GRATITUDE TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED TO CONTROL COVID-19

One of the important lessons emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic is the importance of maintaining a centralized healthcare system, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa said. Although the administration of most of Sri Lanka's state-run hospitals is vested with the Provincial Councils, fortunately there were enough hospitals nationwide under the Health Ministry that could be used without difficulty during the height of the pandemic, the President said. Had we been in a situation where healthcare was a subject completely devolved to the Provincial Councils, the efficacy of Sri Lanka's

response to the pandemic may have been quite different, the President pointed out. "Our recent experience reinforces the importance of maintaining responsibility for certain functions with the central Government. Education is another vital area of public life that can be similarly described". President Rajapaksa made these remarks delivering the keynote address at the launch of "Good Intern Programme 2020", a two-day workshop held at the Manelwatta Naganda International Buddhist Studies Institute in Bollegala in Kelaniya on Saturday (5). **TO PAGE 06**



President Gotabaya Rajapaksa visited the Bhikkhuni Academy of the Manelwatta Viharaya in Kelaniya on Saturday and met its staff, Buddhist nuns and children of the Dharmachakra Foundation. **Picture by President's Media Unit.**

## Brand identity for pepper, cinnamon soon

**AANYA WIPULASENA**  
 Local products such as pepper and cinnamon will soon be exported under a special brand name similar to Ceylon Tea to boost the country's visibility in the global market, Trade Minister Dr. Bandula Gunawardena said. He said research in underway to identify other spices and herbs. "We have cashew nuts, cloves, and many other spices that are either endemic or can be grown successfully. These produce will be identified and also be branded ensuring best quality," Minister Dr. Gunawardena said. **TO PAGE 06**



## Over 90,000 COVID cases recorded in India in single day

India's COVID -19 tally of cases went past 4.1 million with a record 90,632 people being infected in a day, while 31,80,865 people have recuperated so far pushing the national recovery rate to 77.32 per cent on Sunday, according to the Union Health Ministry data. The total coronavirus cases mounted to 41,13,811, while the death toll climbed to 70,626 with the novel coronavirus virus claiming 1,065 lives in a span of 24 hours in the country, the data updated at 8 am showed. The COVID-19 case fatality rate due to the coronavirus infection has further declined to 1.72 per cent. **TO PAGE 06**

## Eggs down by two rupees

The All Ceylon Egg Producers Association yesterday said that the price of an egg will be reduced by Rs. 2 from today. The Association made this decision following a discussion with Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa at Carlton House in Tangalle on Saturday. Accordingly, the wholesale price of a white egg will be Rs.19.50, the wholesale price of a brown egg will be Rs. 20. **TO PAGE 06**



## AG instructs relevant bodies on legal action

**DILSHAN THARAKA**  
 Attorney General Dappula De Livera held a meeting with the relevant parties to review and advise on issues arising from the fire aboard the Crude oil tanker 'MT New Diamond' Vessel in Eastern seas. Attorney General's Coordinating Officer, State Counsel Nishara Jayaratne told news media that the meeting had

been held with the Navy Commander, Sri Lanka Ports Authority Chairman, Director General of Merchant Shipping and the Marine Environment Protection Authority Chairman. Accordingly, the Attorney General instructed the relevant parties to prepare an estimate of the loss and expenditure incurred to the government due to this incident and to coordinate with the relevant institution. **TO PAGE 06**

## JOINT EFFORT DOUSES OIL SHIP BLAZE

## Singapore team to assist salvage efforts

**DINULI FRANCISCO and CAMELIA NATHANIEL**  
 The blaze on board MT New Diamond has been completely contained, Commander of the Sri Lanka Navy Vice Admi-

ral Nishantha Ulugetenne confirmed. He added that it is not totally assured that the fire will not rise again depending on the temperatures on the MT New Diamond.

Sri Lankan and Indian ships continued to pool their resources together from Thursday for fighting the fire on board MT New Diamond and ensuring that the



oil storage area is not affected. **TO PAGE 06**

## Proposed 20th Amendment erodes Parliament, Judiciary independence - NPP

**AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI**  
 The National People's Power (NPP) yesterday complained that the proposed 20th Amendment to the Constitution could seriously erode the independence

of Parliament and the Judiciary. The lawyers in support of the NPP made these observations at a NPP press brief held in Pitakotte yesterday (6). They accused that the 20th Amend-

ment Bill could turn Parliament into a rubber stamp. Speaking at the press brief, Attorney Sunil Watagala observed, "At present the 20th Amendment to the Constitution has been gazetted. **TO PAGE 06**

## Ranil best for National List slot now - Arjuna

**LAHIRU FERNANDO**  
 United National Party (UNP) Leader Ranil Wickremesinghe is the best option to fill the National List vacancy with the government ready to present the Twentieth Amendment to the Constitution, former Minister Arjuna Ranatunga said. He said Wickremesinghe had a broad understanding on Constitution-related affairs. Therefore, Wickremesinghe's presence in Parliament is vital to fight against such an Amendment. **TO PAGE 06**

## UNP marks 74 years



The United National Party (UNP) marked its 74th Anniversary with religious observations at the Sirikotha UNP Headquarters yesterday. UNP Leader Ranil Wickremesinghe presided at the event and former MPs Navin Dissanayake, Ruwan Wijewardene, Vajira Abeywardena, John Amarantunga, Akila Viraj Kariyawasam, Daya Gamage and Arjuna Ranatunga participated. The statues of former Party Leaders were garlanded to mark the occasion. Wickremesinghe garlanded the bust of UNP Founder and first Prime Minister D.S.Senanayake. **(Picture by UNP Media).**

## Massive timber racket in Wanathawilluwa



**MIHIRA WIJESEKARA, Marawila group corr.**  
 Nearly 100 acres of forest have been destroyed in the Kuratiyamohotte area in Eluwankulama, Wanathawilluwa. Ajith Gihan, the organizer of the Wayamba Voice Environmental Organization said the deforestation was carried out with the assistance of a local politician. He mentions that the deforestation has been going on for months using mechanical saws. Trees have been cut down using mechanical saws and timber sold later and later the forest was set on fire. Environmentalists point out that powerful local politicians in Wanathawilluwa, as well as several other government officials, were behind the deforestation. **TO PAGE 06**

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# Ray of hope for gene therapy in Sri Lanka

NADIRA GUNATILLEKE

Unlike the West, the negligence of inherited diseases in Sri Lanka has resulted in patients with genetic diseases dying for want of proper diagnosis. This is partly due to limited facilities, inaccessibility and non-affordability.

However, due to free genetic testing in the state sector established by Prof. Ranil de Silva, Director, Interdisciplinary Centre for Innovation in Biotechnology and Neuroscience (ICIBN), Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura (USJ), the provision of over 500 free molecular diagnostic reports to neurogenetic disease patients has been made possible.

This includes the following diseases: Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD), Spinocerebellar Ataxias (SCA), Huntington's Disease (HD), Spinal

Muscular Atrophy (SMA), Limb Girdle Muscular Dystrophy (LGMD) and Myotonic Dystrophy.

This was only possible due to the untiring efforts of PhD candidates Nalaka Wijekoon and Lakmal Gonawala, and a team of clinical doctors including Dr. Pulasthi Dissanayake. The success story and the roadmap of establishing a cost-effective molecular diagnostic facility in a developing country by Prof. Ranil de Silva and his team has been accepted for publication as a benchmark article in the reputed journal, *Lancet Neurology* which ranks first among clinical neurology journals.

Further expanding the molecular diagnostic facility, clinics have been conducted by ICIBN around the country for better availability and the convenience of the inherited disease community, bestowing a

unique barefoot service to the nation in collaboration with the consultant neurologists / paediatric neurologists Dr. Sunethra Senanayake (National Hospital Sri Lanka), Dr. Darshana Siri-sena (Colombo North Teaching Hospital, Ragama), Dr. Pyara Ratnayake (Lady Ridgeway Hospital for Children), Dr. Harsha Gunasekara (Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital), Dr. Janaka Peries, Dr. Sanjaya Fernando (Teaching Hospital, Kurunegala), Dr. Athula Dissanayake (Karapitiya Teaching Hospital) and Dr. Ajantha Keshavaraj (Jaffna Teaching Hospital).

Molecular genetic testing is the 'gold standard' in the diagnosis of genetic diseases. Though most genetic neurological disorders are currently minimally responsive to existing treatments, they are potential candidates for Gene

Therapy - an approach that can correct genetic abnormalities.

Gene therapy may revolutionize the treatment of neurological disorders in the coming decades, but there are still great challenges ahead to overcome. The treatment of genetic disorders - Gene-Based Therapy - is an ongoing battle, with clinical trials having been completed, some others ongoing, or those that have been approved worldwide.

Prof. de Silva has already established a rapport with scientists in Europe, USA and Japan who work on personalized drug development for neurogenetic diseases, where Sri Lanka has been successfully identified as a potential study site for Phase-03 clinical trials providing a silver lining for the patients in the developing world. Moreover, the proteomics and metabo-

lomics analysis results of the study will help in identifying prospective serum biomarkers to further collaboratively validate as surrogate end-points. Such surrogate endpoints will facilitate investigation of Sri Lankan natural products (cinnamon) based potential synergistic drug targets and disease modifying pathways.

Genetic testing and research has been funded solely by grants of Prof. de Silva through national (USJ, WHO) and international organizations. "Despite the national significance in genetic testing for the management of neurogenetic diseases, there has been little or no patronage from the state. We are looking forward to both, the state involvement and donations from philanthropists to support this worthy cause," Prof. De Silva said.

## More scanners at BIA to expedite exports

IRANGIKA RANGE

Tourism Minister Prasanna Ranathnga yesterday directed the airport officials to take measures to install several more scanners at the Bandaranaike International Airport to inspect export goods without any delay to exporters.

The Minister made these remarks during the discussion held with

exporters and all other relevant stakeholders in the export sector at the Ministry premises.

The meeting had been convened to discuss measures to systematise the goods imports process and also solving problems faced by exporters.

Exporters requested the Minister to take action to install a sufficient number of scanners at the

entrance to the airport to fast track inspection of their exports without hassle. They stressed that if the quality of the export goods decrease, they could incur huge losses.

The minister advised officials to install a sufficient number of scanners and officials at two points including the airport entrance and before boarding the aircraft.

## Saudi Arabia sends Labour Attache here

MOHAMMED RASOOLDEEN

Saudi Arabia has picked Sri Lanka as one of the six countries to send a Labour Attache to its mission in Colombo, the Human Resources Department of the Saudi Ministry of Labour Affairs announced in Riyadh on Saturday.

Under the new development, Saudi Arabia will send labour attaches to its diplomatic missions in six countries to promote recruitment of foreign employment and look after the employer-employee interests in Saudi Arabia.

The countries selected by Saudi Arabia under this programme include Egypt, India, the Philippines, Indonesia, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka.

According to an official in Riyadh, the purpose is to facilitate recruitment of workers for the citizens, to examine the workers and ensure their suitability for the Saudi labour market, and educate the workers on the residency and labour regulations of the Kingdom.

Muhammad Bin Obaidullah Al-Mutairi, is the first such officer to be posted from Saudi Arabia

to the Republic Philippines. Al-Mutairi has already started his work as the first labor attaché to the country.

The Kingdom's Ambassador to the Philippines Dr. Abdullah Al-Bussairy received him at the embassy headquarters in the capital, Manila, during the opening of the Kingdom's first labour attaché office abroad.

During the ensuing meeting, they reviewed the functions of the labour attaché and the tasks related to what would help strengthen cooperation.

## Navy hold stock of kendu leaves

The Navy during a special search operation conducted in the coast area of Marawila on Saturday had apprehended six suspects with about 506 KG of kendu leaves to be smuggled into the country via sea.

Two suspects were apprehended as they were smuggling the kendu leaves in 16 sacks on a dinghy. The Navy also seized a lorry with four prospective buyers who had come to the beach to transport the stock.

The beedi wrapping

industry uses kendu leaves with tobacco in several districts.

Though these products are popular among the low income rural and urban community and the fishing community, the use of beedi products is highly unhealthy.

The suspects have been identified as the residents of Pesalei, Pannala and Eluwankulam, aged between 18 to 50 years. The suspects along with the stock, dinghy and lorry were handed over to the Marawila Police.

## Five suspects arrested with narcotics

Separate search operations by the Navy and Police in Saveewa Pura in Puttalam, Poduwakattu, Mannar and Pallemunei have led to the arrest of five suspects with Crystal Methamphetamine (ICE), heroin and Kerala cannabis during the past couple of days.

The Northwestern Naval Command along with the Puttalam Police apprehended two suspects with 4.500g of ICE, 1.400g of heroin and two electric scale in Saveewa Pura, Puttalam. The Eastern Naval Command along with the Kuchchaveli Police had nabbed a

woman with 2.300g of heroin during a search conducted in the Poduwakattu area.

The North Central Naval Command along with the Division-wise Squad Mannar had arrested two suspects in Mannar and Pallemunei with 460mg of heroin and 5.160 g of Kerala cannabis.

The suspects were identified as residents of Puttalam, Trincomalee and Mannar, aged between 22 to 53 years. The suspects along with the drugs and other items were handed over to the Puttalam, Kuchchaveli and Mannar Police.

## Small, one-day fisheries vessels warned of inclement weather

The Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Department yesterday issued a notification to small and one-day fisheries vessels to temporarily suspend fishing due to inclement weather.

"This is to notify all the small and one-day fisheries vessels that intend to set off for their occupation at the sea, not to navigate off-shores until noon Monday since the wind speed across the deep and shal-

low sea area around the island would rise up to 70 kmph according to the warning notification issued by the Meteorology Department," the Department said.

The Meteorology Department informed the fishermen and naval communities that venturing into sea areas would be dangerous as the sea areas around the island can be very rough in this period.



**BOOK LAUNCH:** The formal launch of the book *Gotabaya* by Defence Secretary Major General (Retd) Kamal Gunaratne took place at the Ananda College Kularatne Hall yesterday. Here the Defence Secretary presents a memento to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa at the book launch while Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa looks on. Picture by Sulochana Gamage

## 'Vocational training paves way for sustainable development'

AMPARA DISTRICT GROUP CORR.

Livelihoods and economy of the youth and their families can be enhanced by providing vocational training to jobless youth and building them into active employees for the labour market. All Ceylon Makkal Congress (ACMC) MP Musharraf Muthunabeen said.

He was addressing an

event organised by the Divisional Secretariat of Pottuvil to provide sewing machines for the beneficiaries recently. "I urge the Government to ensure that the development projects which are going to be implemented soon should focus on Sustainable Development goals," he said.

He said that sustainable development can be enriched through improv-

ing the livelihood of the people. Today the people are pushed into a massive crisis because developments are carried out without any foresight.

MP Musharraf Muthunabeen was the chief guest. The Divisional Secretary of Pottuvil Divisional Secretariat, the Assistant Divisional Secretary and many other officials were present.

## Get together to save UNP - Ruwan Wijewardene

The United National Party (UNP) Deputy General Secretary Ruwan Wijewardene yesterday stressed the important of the unity of all members to save the party during its difficult period.

He made this request in a statement issued to mark the UNP 74th Anniversary.

"We have to stand up amidst destruction and

defeat. It is obvious that one could meet a precipice once he or she reaches the top of a mountain. We fall into a precipice if we are too weak to stay on top of the mountain. We have suffered such a fate today. It is essential that the party should understand its errors and come up once again. It is essential to unite all sections within the party and

walk towards victory. This should be done to safeguard the county's democracy for the sake of the working class, for the people whose minds are distorted by gimmicks. However, people will embrace reality soon. We should be ready for the final battle as that happens. Time has come for us to get together," Wijewardene said in his statement.

## SLFP for new Constitution - Dayasiri

S.M.WIJAYARATNE, Kurunegala Corr.

State Minister and SLFP General Secretary Dayasiri Jayasekara told the *Daily News* yesterday in Kurunegala that the SLFP leadership and the SLFP Central Committee have decided to offer its fullest support to the Government to prepare a new Constitution.

"The SLFP has already understood that the 19th

Amendment to the Constitution that was brought by the UNP has led to many obstacles to the smooth functioning of the administration of the Government. It is really harmful to the future betterment of this country. As a result of this problematic 19th Amendment, the country has become unstable and the Government has been crippled to a greater extent," Jayasekara said.

## Policing for young couples in A'pura

Anuradhapura Police yesterday arrested around 100 teenagers, including couples and later released them to their parents.

The Police said the arrests were made on the charge of "improper behaviour" at public

places. Among the arrested were students who had come to attend tuition classes in Anuradhapura Town, but had skipped their classes. Police said that the arrested were released after warning them.

## Baby elephant in marsh rescued

W A PIYATHILAKE, Medirigiriya Group Corr.

Polonnaruwa Wildlife Officers on Saturday saved an elephant calf that was stuck in mud in Divulana marsh (villuwa) of the Flood Plains National

Park. Wildlife Assistant Director (Polonnaruwa) W. M. K. S. Chandraratne said the elephant calf was about two and half years old.

He said the calf could have come to the marsh

to drink water with other elephants in the herd. A farmer who saw the elephant calf had informed the Wildlife authorities. The animal was saved with great effort by the wildlife officers.



Baby elephant being rescued

## Monk in molest case bailed

SHAVINI MADHARA

A monk who was arrested over allegedly molesting a law student at an office of the Supreme Court was granted bail by Colombo Chief Magistrate Lanka

Jayarathne yesterday. The monk was released on a cash bail of Rs.10,000 and two sureties of Rs.500,000 each. The Children and Women's Bureau of the Maradana Police had arrested the

suspect following an order issued by the Colombo Chief Magistrate's Court on August 21.

The Magistrate fixed further inquiries for September 11.

## Dhaka gas explosion kills 24

The death toll from a gas pipeline explosion in a mosque outside Bangladesh's capital has risen to 24 on Sunday while authorities were examining how a leakage caused the accident during evening prayers.

The explosion, which fire service officials suspect was caused by leakage from the pipeline in the mosque in Narayanganj district on Friday

night, also injured dozens with critical burns as worshippers were about to end their prayers.

Dozens were rushed to Dhaka's state-run specialised burn and plastic-surgery hospital, most of them with severe burns.

Samanta Lal Sen, coordinator of the burn unit, on Saturday said the dead included a seven-year-old boy. He said doctors were treating at least 37 people

with burns on up to 90 percent of their bodies.

"I saw smoke was belching out of the mosque after the sudden explosion with a big bang and people were screaming. Some were rolling on the street as they tried to put out the flames on their bodies," Mohammad Ratan, a local resident, said. Fire officials said gas that accumulated from a leak in a pipeline running

underneath the mosque likely triggered the explosion.

"We primarily suspect that gas leaked from the pipeline and accumulated inside the mosque since the windows were shut. When the air conditioners were turned on, due to sparks the gas could have exploded," said Abdullah Al Arefin, a senior fire service official. Local TV stations reported that

because of the impact of the blast, at least six air conditioners also exploded inside the mosque.

Authorities have launched an investigation into the blast. In Bangladesh, safety regulations are often flouted in construction. Hundreds are killed each year in fires in the nation of 168 million people.

Faulty installation of gas lines are often report-

ed by Bangladeshi media, while unplanned road-digging work often leads to disasters in the country which is seeking rapid industrial expansion and economic development.

In February last year, an inferno in Dhaka's old quarters killed 78 people. One month later, 25 people were killed when a blaze engulfed an office building in the city.

(Al Jazeera)



A vintage car rally was held in Colombo yesterday. Here several old mini cars taking part in the rally. Xinhua



# Drug menace will be eradicated very soon - Army Commander

**HIDOGAMA GROUP CORR.**

Army Commander Lieutenant General Shavendra Silva stated that the drug menace will be eradicated very soon.

He was speaking at the inauguration of several Army Training Centers at the Gajaba Regiment in Saliyapura, Anuradhapura recently.

"The Gajaba Regiment is its strongest. A fully equipped training zone was opened today. The training centres will train 500 newly recruited grad-

uates under President Gotabhaya Rajapaksa's 'vistas of prosperity'. Thereafter, officers and other ranks will be employed there," he said.

"Ten thousand newly recruited graduates are undergoing training under the Army. Five hundred members of the Gajaba Regiment are also undergoing training. Tri Forces, including the Army with the assistance of the Police are conducting drug raids these days. On the instructions of



Defence Secretary Kamal Gunaratne, the Inspector General of Police is carrying out the training together with the three

Commanders of the Tri Forces. The drug menace will definitely be eradicated. The support given by the people and parents for these raids is highly appreciated," he said.

The Army Commander said that within 50 days, the Covid-19 epidemic that engulfed the entire world has been controlled in Sri Lanka. Infected people are brought to Sri Lanka daily from foreign countries.

We need to bring all those who have gone

abroad for employment to our country. There are 7,576 persons in the 71 Tri-Forces Quarantine Centers in Sri Lanka. Infected are still in hospitals. Covid-19 can spread again. Therefore, everyone has to be careful and must follow health guidelines. Everyone should support to prevent the disease," he said.

The Commander of the Saliyapura Gajaba Regiment and other ranks were present.



A tree fell on top of a long distance bus on Duplication Road in Bambalapitiya due to high winds yesterday. No injuries were reported. The route was temporarily blocked. Picture by Pranavesh Sivakumar

## Suspect arrested for throwing contraband into Welikada Prison

The Colombo Crime Division (CCD) yesterday arrested a suspect for attempting to throw contraband into the Welikada Magazine Prison over its walls.

The Police said the suspect attempted to throw 10 charged mobile phone

batteries and a packet of heroin into the prison.

The prison officials seized 13 mobile phones from the Female Ward of the Welikada Prison complex during a search operation yesterday by the Prison Intelligence Unit.

The Unit found 13

mobile phones, seven SIM cards, 150 batteries, and two hands free headsets.

The Prison officers said these types of contraband could have been passed into the female ward over the wall at the rear of the complex.

## Black money not earned through MIG-27 fighter jets deal - Udayanga

**RAKSHANA SRIYANTHA**

Former Sri Lankan Ambassador to Russia Udayanga Weerathunga testified before the Presidential Commission of Inquiry investigating allegations of political victimisation that it has not been confirmed that he has earned any black money through the procurement of MIG-27 fighter jets for the Sri Lanka Air Force.

Weerathunga appeared before the commission on August 5 and said that this is an allegation of political revenge. He said that steps had been taken to suspend his several bank accounts by the Financial Crimes investigations Division and the Intelligence Unit of the Central Bank over the MIG-27 fighters' jets deal. All bank accounts bearing the name under Udayanga Weerathunga were temporarily suspended since April 29, 2015 by the Central Bank, and he had not been named as a suspect by any court during that period

and there was no court order to suspend the bank accounts, he said.

The bank accounts had been investigated for 64 months since April 29, 2015 by the Central Bank and the Police under the Good Governance Government, and they were unable to prove that he earned any black money through the MIG-27 jets deal, he said.

According to the agreement, there is no evidence to prove that the money was deposited to his accounts by the two companies including the Sri Lankan Air Force, he said. He further said that this was an allegation of political revenge as no information or evidence of any illicit deal had been established so far.

He told the Commission that the disclosure of bank accounts to the media has made the account holders insecure. Udayanga weerathunga was ordered to re-appear before the Commission on September 12.



The turmeric in sacks.

## Navy seizes 815kg of dried turmeric

The navy seized about 815kg of dried turmeric in Ettalai, Kalpitiya yesterday, and three suspects who were attempted to smuggle them into the

country have been arrested.

The turmeric has been stuffed in 30 gunny sacks to be transferred. Along with the suspects, a small

lorry was detained. The suspects are residents of the area. The suspects along with turmeric and lorry were handed over to the Kalpitiya Police.

## Six persons test COVID-19 positive, eleven recover

**DILSHAN THARAKA**

The National Operations Centre for Prevention of COVID-19 in a press release stated that six persons had tested positive for the COVID-19 and another eleven persons had recovered from the

virus by yesterday morning.

One of the affected persons had been identified as an inmate of the Kandakadu Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre and the rest were returned to the country

from India, Bahrain and Qatar.

The recovered persons also were overseas returnees.

According to the press release, 37, 522 persons have so far completed their quarantine and 7, 403 per-

sons are in quarantine at 70 quarantine centres operated by the tri-forces.

Another 552 persons were also released after completion of their quarantine yesterday.

Further 1, 880 PCR tests were carried out yes-

terday. The total number of 237, 610 PCR tests were carried out in the country so far.

Forty-three Sri Lankans who were stranded in Dubai and Doha had returned to the Country yesterday.

Twenty-one persons had arrived in Sri Lanka from Dubai by EK 648 aircraft and 64 had arrived from Doha by QR 668 aircraft; later they were directed to quarantine centers which are operated by the tri forces.

## Customs destroy counterfeit cigarettes



The illegal stock of cigarettes being destroyed by the officials at CTC crusher in the presence of Customs Director General Retired Major General Vijitha Ravipriya and company CEO Nadel Salem. Picture by Ranjith Asanka

A stock of illegal cigarettes was destroyed on Friday in the sophisticated crusher at the CTC head office in the presence of Senior Customs Officials including Customs Director General Retired Major General Vijitha Ravipriya and CTC Chief Executive Officer Nadel Salem.

The destruction of contraband containing 2,353,780 sticks gives a strong message that the Government does not tolerate the entry of counterfeit cigarettes which would cause massive loss

of revenue to the Government.

Custom officials said the stock of counterfeit cigarettes came from a European country through Dubai and the relevant container has been declared as soft tobacco for re-export.

The stock had been found after the officials on suspicion, opened the container.

CTC Chief Executive Officer Nadel Salem said CTC being the largest tax payer for the Government had paid Rs. 120 billion as Government tax.

## Another cargo ship suffers fire off Sri Lanka

On September 1, the boxship MOL Charisma suffered a cargo hold fire off Sri Lanka, and the crew has brought it under control.

According to Hapag-Lloyd, a partner in THE Alliance with MOL/NYK/K-Line's Ocean Network Express, MOL Charisma experienced a fire in her number five cargo hold while she was under way some 250 miles to the east of Sri Lanka.

At the time of the incident she was headed from Port Klang to Nhava

Sheva. The crew brought the blaze under control by discharging CO2 into the hold, and the vessel diverted to Colombo for an inspection. All personnel are unharmed and there is no pollution reported, according to Hapag-Lloyd. The carrier is evaluating any possible impact on vessel and cargo operations and berthing dates for the next ports in the vessel's rotation.

After completing this rotation, MOL Charisma was slated to deploy on

the Hapag-Lloyd Indamex service between the Indian Subcontinent and the US East Coast. The Indamex voyage will instead be carried out by the MOL Courage.

Marine insurers have called for action on container ship fires after a string of casualties last year, including the blazes aboard the Yantian Express, APL Vancouver, Grande America, E.R. Kobe and KMTC Hong-Kong. Mis-declaration and non-declaration of cargo is the root cause behind


many of these incidents, but IUMI has also called for improvements in ship-board fire systems.



"There is agreement among experts that the current means of controlling a fire in the cargo hold are of little effect. The safety objectives set out in SOLAS do not seem to be met, and in light of the various recent casualties the time for action is now," said Helle Hammer, chair of IUMI's fire policy forum in a statement last year. - Maritime Executive

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# Kithul: Perfect palm, perfect taste

NIMAL WIJAYATUNGA  
Eheliyagoda Special Correspondent

**A**fter the coconut tree, the kithul tree that stands majestically throughout the wet and semi-wet zones in Sri Lanka can be called the *kapruka* or the 'fortunate tree' which supplies us with several benefits throughout the year.

We obtain delicious treacle from its flower and nutritious flour from its pith. Its steel-like timber is used to make a variety of items and furniture. The kithul tree grows well especially in hilly areas in the Sripada range. Erathna, Mahawattalanda, Gilemale and Deraniyagala are some of the areas 1,000 to 6,000 feet above sea level where this tree grows very well.

*Thellija* obtained from the kithul flower is converted into treacle or jaggery. Flour is made out of its trunk and used to prepare gruel and other food items. The ayurveda system of treatment believes that kithul products are capable of controlling high blood pressure and cholesterol levels.

Kithul is also an alternative to sugar. Apart from that, this tree with its strong cluster of roots helps to prevent soil erosion.

Among the firms that deal with the kithul treacle and timber in Sri Lanka, Eheliyagoda Eco Products in Araliya Uyana, Baduwatte, plays a leading role. This institution established by L.K. Priyantha Kumara in 2001 won the first place at the Kithukaka Waruna all-island competition in 2011 plus several awards related to the kithul industry.

Priyantha Kumara told the *Daily News* that the aim of his venture is to obtain the 'hidden treasure' from the kithul tree and to uplift the living standards of the women and youth who deal with kithul-based products.

A considerable number of food products such as treacle, flour, syrup, ice cream and jaggery are made by this venture under strict hygienic conditions. These products are distributed among the leading hotels under the trade name Mihirasa Eco Products and exported to six countries including Japan under the trade name Lanka Pure Kithul.

Extra-strong kithul timber is used in making household items such as kitchen mortars and pestles, door planks, axe handles, stools, wall decorations, plates, cups and saucers, spoons, combs, key tags and more.

According to Priyantha Kumara, groups of kithul tappers are called to the firm from time to time and awareness programmes are held on how to obtain more treacle from the kithul flower perennially. Kithul plants and safety equipment sets are also presented to them.

Recently, an air rifle worth



L.K. Priyantha Kumara

Rs.25,000 was also presented to a kithul tapper to scare away the troublesome red monkeys that damage the kithul flowers. "We hope to provide free air rifles to every kithul tappers' society," said Priyantha Kumara. "We have started to plant one lakh of kithul saplings in selected areas and hope to establish a modern training centre for the newcomers to the field."

Lanka Eco Products has taken steps to cover eight districts in the island including Ratnapura, Kegalle, Kandy and Kalutara. According to a study conducted throughout the island, there are about 3,000,000 kithul trees and around 500,000 are being tapped. There are around 25,000 active kithul tappers and about 5,000 provide kithul products to Lanka Eco Products.

The monthly income of a tapper is about Rs. 40,000. To make a bottle of kithul treacle, six *thellija* bottles are needed. Nine *thellija* bottles are needed to make a kilo of jaggery.

Lanka Eco Products recently opened a cafe and sales centre by the name Kithula close to Eheliyagoda town, by the side of the Ratnapura road for the convenience of customers. "To uplift the kithul industry, several institutions have given us encouragement and support. The Small Scale Agro Business Participation Programme of the Mahaweli Ministry, United Nations Development Programme and International Organisation of Consumers Unions (IOCU) are assisting us," said Priyantha Kumara.



A tapper climbs the kithul tree



Household items made from kithul timber



Kithul jaggery

**“ We have started to plant one lakh of kithul saplings in selected areas and hope to establish a modern training centre for the newcomers to the field. ”**



A workshop conducted in Eheliyagoda for kithul entrepreneurs

Nutrient (% dry basis)	Kithul Flour	Wheat Flour
Starch (% dry basis)	66.0	70-73
Protein (% dry basis)	1.0	10.0
Fat (% dry basis)	0.3	0.9
Crude fibre (% dry basis)	1.0	0.5
Ash (% dry basis)	0.8	0.9
Fe (mg/100 g)	14.0	1.38
Ca (mg/100 g)	70.1	15.0
Zn (mg/100 g)	3.3	20-35





# 'Over 14,000 rural tanks to be renovated this month'

**S.M.WIJAYARATNE**  
Kurunegala Corr.

Over 14,000 rural tanks will be renovated this month, Irrigation Minister Chamal Rajapaksa said. The Mahaweli Develop-

ment Ministry and the Special Task Force (STF) will assist the project, Kurunegala District Agriculture Assistant Director A.M. Jayawardena said. "President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has instructed the Agriculture Ministry to restore abandoned rural tanks to irri-

gate the paddy fields to increase paddy production to make the country self-sufficient in rice next year. The project will cost Rs. 5,500 million to the Government," he said.

## Jaffna residents seek peace and harmony

**ARIYAPALA WANSATHILAKE,**  
Kurunegala Central Special Corr.

Tobacco, chilies, red onions, potatoes and vegetables in Jaffna are sold in the south. But the products have to be transported

to the south by sea or air, the cost was high, Jaffna farmers said. The people move about in Jaffna without any restriction. Shops, filling stations, liquor shops and state offices are functioning smoothly. The

residents told that they prefer to live in harmony with Sinhala people. They said they can visit Kataragama and Munneswaram freely. Many people from the south visit Nagadeepa and Madu as well, they said.

## No restriction for me to serve people - Speaker



**RAJA WAIIDYASEKERA,**  
Tissamaharama Special Corr.

Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena said that he has no restriction just because he is the Speaker of Parliament to serve the people who voted for him at the last General Election.

He was addressing a meeting in Deiyandara where the people of the area felicitated him recently.

He said that he served the people of Matara for the last 37 years.

"The people who did not vote for me are attempting to sabotage my public service, but I am here to serve them as well without any discrimination," he said.

He said that President Gotabaya Rajapaksa will steer the country towards prosperity.

He said that racism and communal disharmony wreaked havoc in the country in the past, but today the people live in peace and harmony without fear psychosis.

## Twelve-year-old drowns

**SIVAM PACKIYANATHAN,**  
Batticaloa Special Corr.

Twelve-year-old Grade VI student, Shanmuganathan Vijayarubini of Kali Kovil Road, Kuganesapuram in the Valaich-

chenai Police area, died falling into a waterhole last Saturday (5). She and her sister had gone to drink water when the bank of the waterhole collapsed and she

fell into the water. Her sister had alerted the neighbours. They rescued the girl and took her to the Valaichchenai Base Hospital where she was pronounced dead.

Her mother, 35-year-old Bandaiyah Valliammai, is a single parent with three children. She rears cattle for their livelihood. Valaichchenai Police are investigating.

## Bumper maize harvest in Matale next month

**A.A.L.DIAS,**  
MATALE  
Group Corr.

Farmers in Matale cultivate maize as a supplementary crop in over 5,000 acres this year. They have cultivate maize in unused paddy lands as well.

Agriculture officials said that the farmers have cultivated more lands with maize since the Government has granted a control price for the crop. The farmers said they expect a bumper maize harvest next month.



A maize cultivation in Dambulla.

## People in Kurunegala encouraged to plant Kithul

**ARIYAPALA WANSATHILAKE,**  
Kurunegala Central Special Corr.

Over 25,000 Kithul saplings will be planted on the hill slopes of the Mawathagama, Galagedara, Dodangaslanda and Hiriya Divisional Secretary areas in Kurunegala where illicit clearing and distilling liquor largely take place.

The Forest Department will provide the saplings and the Divisional Secretariats of Mawathagama and Ridigama will identify the areas for planting.

Within five years, the trees will be ready for tapping and will provide livelihoods for over 1,000 villagers.

The North Western Province Youth Council will train toddy tappers.



Ampara Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) R.M.B. Jayantha Ratnayake, Kalmunai Police OIC Sujith Priyantha under the guidance of Kalmunai ASP Buddhika Jayasundara organised a beach cleaning campaign to mark the 154th Sri Lanka Police Day recently. Sainthamaruthu Divisional Secretariat (DS) staff, police officers, Development Officers and residents participated. Picture by Addalalaichena Central Corr.



The fallen trees in the sea erosion.

## Sea erosion in Kalpitiya intensifies

**RASEEN RASMIN,**  
Kalpitiya Special Corr.

The Koyyawadi, Ilandhaiyadi and Alankuda coastal areas in Kalpitiya have been largely eroded by sea.

Many tourists said that they undergo many risks

when they visit the area because of the sea erosion.

About a kilometer has heavily eroded now, residents said.

Although trees have been planted along the lower coast to prevent erosion and to attract tourists, the rough sea waves make

them fall every day, they said.

Fishermen said that stones have been laid in the area to prevent sea erosion, but the destruction continues. The residents, therefore, urged the authorities to take steps to prevent sea erosion.

## Kithul tree falls over house, woman dies

**MAHINDA P.LIYANAGE,**  
Galle Central Special Corr.

A woman died when a part of her house collapsed on her when a Kithul tree fell over the house in Rumassala, Galle in strong winds and heavy rains yesterday, Galle District Dis-

aster Management Centre (DMC) said.

The deceased was identified as Sunila Kanthi Jayasinghe (59) of Pahalawela, Rumassala, Unawatuna. The tree had fallen about 1 am yesterday, DMC said.

## Ammunition found from land

**MAHINDA P.LIYANAGE,**  
Galle Central Special Corr.

A villager had come across 123 T56 live bullets, while he was weeding his land on Saturday in Totagoda in the Akmeemana police area, Akmeema-

na police said. The villager had found the rusted ammunitions hidden under thickly grown grass and informed police over the police emergency number. Akmeemana police had rushed to

the place and taken the bullets into their custody.

Akmeemana police said that they would get a court order to destroy the ammunition. Investigations are continuing.

## 'Accountant - Strong pillar of institution'

**AMPARA DISTRICT GROUP CORR.**

The efficient service of an institution or a company depends on dedicated service of accountants of the company, Health Services Director Dr. G. Sukunan said.

He was addressing the gathering at the farewell held for the accountant, who has been transferred to the Sammanthurai Divisional Secretariat.

The function was organised at the RDHS Office in Kalmunai.

Dr. G.Sugunan said that I.M.Faris, who worked as an accountant at the Kalmunai Regional Health Service Office was recently transferred to the

Sammanthurai Divisional Secretariat.

"When the Establishment Code is handled by the Executive Officer and the Financial Accounts is handled by the Accountant, they both carry out their services for the Government to the best of their ability," Dr. Sugunan said.

"Accountant I.M.Faris is not only an accountant but also a humanitarian even in the most difficult situations. He was a powerful force in moving the RDHS Office forward. Even though, he was transferred to the Sammanthurai Divisional Secretariat, we still feel like he is with us," he said



The Mass in progress.

## Annual feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Succor Ayethiyamalai



**SIVAM PACKIYANATHAN,**  
Batticaloa Special Corr.

The annual feast of the Our Lady of Perpetual Succor Ayethiyamalai, Batticaloa was celebrated yesterday. The Mass was concelebrated with the Bishop of Batticaloa Rt. Rev. Dr. Joseph Ponniah and other priests. Devotees from all over the island participated.

Batticaloa District TNA Parliamentarian Rasamanikkam Sanakkian, District Government Agent Kalamathy Pathmaraja, Mayor Thiagaraja Saravanapavan, Vavunativu Assistant Divisional Secretary Suba Satha and Eastern University Senior Lecturer Dr.Chandrantha Mahendranathan and Police and Army officers were present.



Accountant I.M.Faris being felicitated.

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# CRIB to introduce 'credit score' to assess loans

JAYASIRI MUNASINGHE

The Sri Lanka Credit Information Bureau (SLCIB) is set to introduce a 'credit score' that measures a person's ability to repay a loan.

The Sri Lanka Credit Information Bureau (SLCIB) is set to introduce a new program called 'CRIB SCORE' in the middle of this week to scientifically measure a person's debt repayment capacity and his credit risk

according to a globally accepted methodology.

Sri Lanka Credit Information Bureau Director and General Manager Nandimitra Anthony said the introduction of such a credit facility will facilitate both the customer applying for a loan from the bank and the lending bank.

He said that with the introduction of the new methodology, the Credit



Information Bureau's reports will be available to financial institutions fast,

eliminating existing delays in obtaining a loan and making them more efficient. With the introduction of the credit rating programme for individuals or joint ventures, lenders will be able to gain an understanding of the current creditworthiness of any individual. In addition, the customer will have the opportunity to see the potential of his or her repayment in the presence of the bank clerk, he said.

The CBSL introduced a credit rating scheme for Sri Lankan banks and financial institutions earlier this year. The General Manager stressed that Sri Lanka will be able to obtain the next number in the Business Facilitation Index named by the World Bank and with the implementation of this credit score introduction programme.

Individuals and businesses will receive between 250 and 900 marks

under the new programme, which measures debt repayment viability and credit risk. According to those scores, six classifications will be made as A, B, C, D, E, and X. Under A rating, a person with an A score has a very low risk in repaying a loan. B is less risky, C is the average risk, D is at high risk, E is at a very high risk, X is considered as insufficient information.

## Will create... From page 01

The workshop organized by Government Medical Officers' Association (GMOA) was attended by 680 medical graduates awaiting internship. The workshop is the eighth in the series. More than 100 Professors and Medical Consultants shared their thoughts during the workshop.

Commencing the address President said Sri Lanka was successful in containing COVID-19 pandemic primarily to due decisive, early action taken by multiple arms of the Government, and the truly outstanding efforts of our health personnel.

"The outstanding success Sri Lanka achieved in this endeavour

came at a time when even some of the most developed countries in the world were unable to respond adequately to the pandemic. Due to a variety of factors, ranging from a delayed response by their Governments, to the lack of universal health insurance, the unpreparedness of their healthcare institutions, the lack of sufficient testing, to the inadequacy of their management systems, the spread of the virus could not be contained in several developed nations".

The President paid tribute and expressed his sincere gratitude to all healthcare professionals and others who contributed to Sri Lanka's response to the COVID-19

pandemic. "Sri Lanka's success in dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic has been justly commended by international institutions including the World Health Organization and UNICEF, as well as many foreign nations, international commentators and individuals," the President said.

One of the core pillars of development is the maintenance of a healthy population. Achieving certain public health goals remains a core responsibility of the Government. I am determined to work towards creating a healthy nation during my tenure as President of this country.

While there is certainly a need

to further strengthen the state healthcare system, I believe it is time that we encourage greater use of the facilities we have within this system said the President adding that some innovative thinking towards absorbing state generated funds into the public healthcare system will ultimately benefit the citizens.

"The mandate given to the Government by the people at the Parliamentary Elections just a month ago makes it very clear that the Sri Lankan public is hungry for development and tired of excuses" the President added.

Health Ministry Secretary Major General (Retd.) Sanjeeva Munas-

inghe, medial officers, GMOA President Dr. Anuruddha Padeniya and its members and delegated of Society for Health Research and Innovation attended the inaugural session. Later, President called on the Chief Executive of Manelwatta Nagananda International Buddhist Studies Institute and Chief Incumbent of Kelaniya Manelwatta Vihara Ven. Dr. Bodagama Chandima Thera.

The Thera gifted the President a replica of Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi. The President posed for a group photo with Bhikkunis of Buddha Shrivaka Educational Center in Manelwatta Vihara and children of Dharmachakra Lama Padanama.

## Singapore team... From page 01

The salvage operation was carried out in safe waters 40 nautical miles (about 74 km) away from land and it was joined by the Indian tug 'Ocean Bliss' on Saturday (5).

Disaster Management Operations continued amidst the rough seas and arrangements have been made to diminish the aftermath of this disaster with cooperative efforts.

The distressed oil tanker in eastern seas was manned by 23 crew members including five Greeks and 18 Philippine nationals. The tanker was transporting 270,000 metric tons of crude oil from the port of Mina Al Ahmadi in Kuwait to the Indian port of Paradip when this happened.

New Shipping Limited, the commercial owner of New Diamond in Athens, Greece also appointed SMIT Singapore Pte Ltd, an international company based in Singapore, as its Emergency Rescue Party yesterday.

The company is currently providing professionals in crude oil



Before



After

Pictures courtesy SLAF

disaster management and equipment to the MT New Diamond for salvage. The TTT One, which is currently at the distressed vessel, has a team including a rescue chief who can handle such disasters.

Meanwhile two more large tug boats that can handle crude oil tankers are to join TTT One and those two tugs have already left Singapore and Mauritius.

SMIT Singapore Pte Ltd has

taken action to inform the Sri Lanka Navy about the persons and goods being brought in and the Sri Lanka Navy is ready to assist in this regard.

Ten British and Netherlands experts in rescue operations, disaster evaluation and legal consultation were expected to arrive yesterday and make future recommendations regarding the upcoming events, with the inspection of the

disaster management work of the MT New Diamond.

In addition, a team including the Chief Fire Officer of the Sri Lanka Ports Authority was scheduled to inspect the ship yesterday.

For the first time after this incident, the Sri Lankan Navy has provided the opportunity to the 20 crew members who were rescued from the distressed vessel now safely onboard SLNS Sindurala to

connect with their dear ones through telephone.

Apart from that, three capital ships of Sri Lanka Navy, five ships of Indian Coast Guard, one ship belonging to the Indian Navy, two tugs of Hambantota International Port Group - Wasaba and Rawana, the ALP Winger tug, the TTT One tug with firefighting equipment and professionals and the Ocean Bliss tug were engaged in firefighting efforts.

Additionally, three Sri Lanka Navy FACs and two ships belonging to the Sri Lanka Coast Guard have been deployed as supply vessels for the operation.

A Dornier aircraft of the Indian Coast Guard was scheduled to take off from Mattala Airport to monitor the sea area where the distressed oil tanker is placed.

Navy sources further mentioned that the joint disaster rescue carried out on the instructions of the experts has successfully controlled the fire and there is no oil leaking from the ship to the sea.

## AG instructs... From page 01

Further, The Marine Environment Protection Authority was informed to visit the location of the vessel and investigate whether the fire had caused marine pollution in the area.

And also, the Attorney General instructed relevant parties to

obtain an assessment of the vessel's stability at sea and the possible and future damage caused by this incident, as well as the potential for an oil spill and possible damage to the environment.

The AG further said that the foreign teams who arrived at Sri

Lanka to conduct an investigation over the vessel must follow COVID-19 health guidelines.

He also stressed that in the event of such a disaster in the future, disaster management methods should be properly prepared.

## Massive timber... From page 01

This forest is located close to the Wilpattu National Park. Due to this, elephants and other wildlife in Wilpattu are constantly roaming in this ecosystem. With deforestation, wildlife encroachment on villages cannot be prevented.

Environmentalists also point out that there is a plan to destroy the forest and then secretly sell the land to the rich in the outlying areas.

Therefore, environmentalists are requesting the relevant parties to conduct a formal

investigation into this matter immediately. When inquired from Wanathawilluwa Divisional Secretary Chathuraka Jayasinghe, he said that steps have been taken to enforce the law regarding this massive deforestation.

## Brand identity for... From page 01

He added that amendments will be made to the Intellectual Property Act in a bid to introduce a Geographical Indication (GI) Certificate. The GI sign is used on products with a specific geographical origin ensuring that they originate from that specific place.

Minister Gunawardena said he is carrying out discussions with the European Union and the Sri Lanka Export Development Board on how the country can acquire the GI certification for soon to be branded and exported local products.

This week President Gotabaya

Rajapaksa said cultivators of minor crops including turmeric and pepper should be protected by ensuring stable prices for them. In a bid to aid local producers, the importation of turmeric and pepper has been completely suspended.

The President's Media Division (PMD) said in a statement on Thursday (3) said the President has highlighted the importance of creating an environment to earn the highest possible income by harnessing more international markets.

According to the PMD annual

demand for maize in the country is 500,000 metric tons, and the area to be cultivated to yield this harvest is one hundred and ten thousand hectares. "At present 80,000 hectares of land is cultivated with maize and the Government aims to increase it to 110,000 hectares of land by the end of next year," the PMD said in its statement.

It stated that plans are underway to cultivate turmeric and ginger in 100 villages and it is planned to establish an Export Zone in the Kurundughahatappa area in the South.

## Heavy rains, landslide... From page 01

Of them, the Palindanuwara and Eheliyagoda Divisional Secretariat Divisions and the surrounding areas have been marked under the Level II risk while the rest remains under the Level I, which warns the public in those areas to be watchful and be on alert respectively.

Meanwhile, the Meteorology Department said the prevailing

showery condition over the island expected to continue further particularly in the "high risk" districts.

Heavy rainfalls above 150 mm are likely in some places throughout the country, it said.

Wind speed also can increase up to 50-60 kmph at times across the country.

## Proposed 20th Amendment... From page 01

The 20th has been brought to repeal the 19th Amendment completely. We wonder whether the 20th Amendment is being used to bulldoze democracy. The independence of Parliament and the independence of the judiciary have been compromised. The Cabinet and MPs have been relegated back put and the President has become powerful. The Prime Minister's authority has been

turned into a blank slate." Watagala said Article 28E of the Constitution states that the Constitution is bound to respect the rights of others and the freedom of all. But this amendment has blatantly violated the sovereignty of Parliament. A law has been brought that allows laws to be passed within 24 hours. People have been deprived of the opportunity to seek redress in court and seek an opinion on those laws. What kind of democracy is this? Especially the powers of the Auditor General have been abolished. The Audit Commission established under the 19th Amend-

ment has been abolished. "Does this government say that an audit is not necessary?" Watagala queried.

He alleged that, according to the 20th Amendment, the oath of allegiance to the Constitution, which does not support a separate state, has been taken out by this amendment.

Pointing out that this is a very serious constitutional amendment, Watagala said "We are still studying this. At first glance, this is an amendment to Article 3 and 4 of the Constitution that would affect the sovereignty of the people. This amendment comes with a two third majority. But the people who voted did not believe that such anti-people,

anti-democratic amendments would be brought."

"This amendment is brought especially to consolidate the power of one family in the government. This is a very tragic situation," Watagala added.

Attorney Harshana Nanayakkara observed that, "The Constitution is not just a document. It is the general consensus of the people of the country. That is why when the Constitution is changed, a two thirds majority in Parliament, and sometimes a referendum is required. In the past, humans have used various methods to control themselves. During the tribal and feudal eras, they followed different methods. In the

tribal era, individual decisions were made by the leader. With the advancement of human civilization, steps were taken to adopt a collectively correct decision-making system.

"The constitutions of any country are formed by giving priority to the aspirations of the people. None of this was put on a tray by the rulers. It is through the struggle and struggle of the people that these democratic reforms were won. In such a situation, I see the 20th Amendment as a return to the Stone Age. This entire amendment is designed to make Parliament a mere rubber stamp." Nanayakkara observed.

## Ranil best for... From page 01

Ranatunga stated this to the media while leaving the 'Sirikotha', the party headquarters after participating in a simple ceremony held to mark the UNP's 74th anniversary yesterday.

However, the former Minister said the UNP leader is yet to express his agreement to accept the national list seat. "We also opposed him accepting the National List seat earlier. But, now with the Twentieth Amend-

ment we stress that he is the best person to represent Parliament and fight against the harmful amendments", he added.

Ranatunga also said the United National Party is a political movement that cannot be left behind. Now the Party is planning to rectify the previous mistakes and restart a new journey with grassroots level supporters.

When asked if he was willing to lead the UNP after the general election defeat, Ranatunge

said he is not doing any cheap propaganda inside or outside the party to grab the leadership, but is ready to accept the position if the party decides. The age of the new leader to be appointed makes no issue with the future journey of the party, he said.

Speaking on the re-joining with the break-away faction of the UNP, Samagi Jana Balawegaya, Ranatunge said the present government should be

given some time to perform and all the anti-government forces will have to get-together against any wrong committed by the government then.

"Today the media are shouting at us. They have forgotten the freedom given to them by our previous government. No doubt, you guys will come back to us seeking support after about five six months when you lose that freedom under this regime," he said.

## CCD's heroin smuggling PC arrested in Dhanushkodi

The Constable attached to the Colombo Crimes Division (CCD), wanted in connection with the 23kg of heroin seized in Sapugaskanda last week, was arrested in Dhanushkodi, on Saturday.

The Asian News International (ANI) reported on Saturday night that the arrest was made by the Coastal Security wing police when the suspect tried to illegally enter Tamil Nadu by boat.

The ANI said the suspect (30) was taken to the Dhanushkodi police station for interrogation.

The Indian police had been conducting a search operation on the smuggling of drugs, gold and other items between Sri Lanka and India across the international maritime border on information received by the Coast Guard officers in Rameswaram.

The Meegahawatta Police recovered a haul of heroin worth over Rs.230 million in a carpenter's shed in Samadhi Mawatha in Sapugaskanda on September 2. It has been found during the investigation that the Police Constable had hidden the stock of heroin in his brother's carpentry shed and had fled the area.

## Appoint Estate Tamil to Committee - Mano Ganesan

Tamil Progressive Alliance (TPA) leader Mano Ganesan has requested President Gotabaya Rajapaksa to nominate a member representing Tamil Sri Lankans of recent Indian origin living outside the North and the East to the constitutional drafting committee. Ganesan made this request in writing to the President.

The TPA leader said he also spoke to Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa on this issue over the phone yesterday.

"Already Dr. Sarveshwaran and Prof. Kamarden had been nominated to this nine member committee providing a sense of inclusiveness to the Tamils in the North and the East and the Muslims. I want the same sense of inclusiveness for the recent Indian origin Tamils living outside the Northern and Eastern Provinces," Ganesan said in a Facebook post.

## New detention centre for Tangalle



DILSHAN THARAKA

The old Prison in Tangalle has been declared as a detention centre for persons arrested under the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has taken this decision as per the powers vested in him under the Section 09 of the Prevention of Terrorism Act No 48 of 1979 (Temporary Provision).

An extraordinary gazette notification had been issued of Defence Secretary Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Kamal Gunaratne as per the powers vested in him under the Section 15(a) of the Prevention of Terrorism Act No 48 of 1979 (Temporary Provision) read with the Prevention of Terrorism Act No 10 of 1982 (Temporary Provision) (Amendment).

## Eggs down... From page 01

The retail price of a white egg will be Rs. 21 and retail price of a brown egg will be Rs. 22, Association President R. M. Sarath told the media. He also said that there was no shortage of eggs in the country.

The issues of egg producers had been discussed at the meeting with the PM.

## Over 90,000 COVID... From page 01

There are 8,62,320 active cases of coronavirus infection in the country which comprises 20.96 per cent of the total caseload, the data stated.

India's Covid-19 tally had crossed the 2 million mark on August 7, 3 million on August 23 and it went past 4 million on September 5.

According to the ICMR, a cumulative total of 4,88,31,145 samples have been tested up to September 5 with 10,92,654 samples being tested on Saturday.

Of the total 70,626 deaths, Maharashtra has reported the maximum at 26,276 followed by 7,748 in Tamil Nadu, 6,298 in Karnataka, 4,538 in Delhi, 4,347 in Andhra Pradesh, 3,843 in Uttar Pradesh, 3,510 in West Bengal, 3,091 in Gujarat and 1,808 in Punjab.

The health ministry stressed that more than 70 per cent of the deaths occurred due to comorbidities.

"Our figures are being reconciled with the Indian Council of Medical Research," the ministry said on its website, adding that state-wise distribution of figures is subject to further verification and reconciliation. (Hindustan Times.com)

**IF YOU ARE IN DIFFICULTY SAY THIS PRAYER AND YOUR REQUEST WILL BE GRANTED**

Holy Spirit, You who makes me to see everything and who shows me the way to reach my ideas. You who gives me the divine gift to forgive and forget all that is done to me, and you who are in all instances of my life with me, I in this short dialogue, want to thank you for everything and affirm once more that I never want to be separated from you, no matter how great the material desires may be.

I want to be with you and my loved ones in your Perpetual Glory. To this end and submitting to God's Holy will, I ask you (mention your request)

This prayer should be said for 3 consecutive days. After the 3rd day the request will be granted no matter how difficult it may be. While making the request one must either:

1. Promise to publish it on granting of the favour; or
2. Promise to circulate copies of it to as many people as possible.

(This is to spread the wonder of the Holy Spirit)

**THANK YOU**  
INDRICA





**IN THE SUPREME COURT LIST OF CASES FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7**

B.P. ALUVIHARA (P.C.) (J)  
P. PADMAN SURASENA J.  
E.A.G.R. AMARASEKERA J.

**COURT NO. 502 (FROM 10.00 A.M. - 11.30 A.M.) TO BE MENTIONED**

1. SC. (CHC) Appeal No. 28/15 - HC. (Civil) 14/60
2. SC. (CHC) Appeal No. 30/15 - HC. (Civil) 16/13
3. SC. (CHC) Appeal No. 31/15 - HC. (Civil) 64/13
4. SC. Contempt No. 01/17

**FOR SUPPORT**

1. SC.HC.CA.LA 184/18 - HCCA 211/11
2. SC. (Spl.) LA 358/18 - CA No. 1191/00

**FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED**

1. SC. Application FR 185/13
2. SC. Application FR 135/19

**(FROM 11.30 A.M. - 12.45 P.M.) FOR GRANTING OF LEAVE**

1. SC.HC.CA.LA 37/19 - HCCA 79/14 (Top of the list)
2. SC. HC. LA 76/18 - HCCA No. 20/16
3. SC.HC.CA.LA 290/18 - HCCA 147/11
4. SC.HC.LA 70/19 - CHC 191/19
5. SC.HC.CA.LA 107/19 - HCCA 50/15
6. SC.HC.CA.LA 186/19 - HCCA 115/08
7. SC.HC.LA 33/20 - HC 82/11

**(FROM 01.30 P.M. - 03.00 P.M.) FOR ARGUMENT**

1. SC. Appeal No. 167/12 - CA 52/08 (Top of the list)
2. SC. Application FR 265/19

B.P. ALUVIHARA (P.C.) (J)  
MURDU N.B. FERNANDO P.C.J.  
P. PADMAN SURASENA J.

**COURT NO. 502 (FROM 01.30 - 03.00 P.M.) TO BE RESUMED**

1. SC. Appeal No. 77/16 - HCCA 67/12

PRİYANTHA JAYAWARDANE (P.C.) (J)  
L.T.B. DEHIDENIYA J.  
Y. KODAGODA P.C. J.

**COURT NO. 403 (FROM 10.00 A.M. - 11.30 A.M.) TO BE MENTIONED**

1. SC. Application FR 577/10
2. SC. Appeal No. 69/17 - HCCA 70/10
3. SC. HC.CA.LA. 321/19 - HCCA 14/18
4. SC. HC.CA.LA. 138/20 - HCCA 52/19

**FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED**

1. SC. Application FR 90/19
2. SC. Application FR No. 296/19
3. SC. Application FR No. 55/20
4. SC. Application FR No. 223/20

**FOR GRANTING OF LEAVE**

1. SC.HC.CA.LA 267/17 - HCCA 25/14
2. SC. (Spl.) LA 351/18 - CA 65/15
3. SC.HC.CA.LA 86/19 - HCCA 24/17
4. SC.HC.CA.LA 310/19 - HCCA 07/17

**(FROM 11.30 A.M. - 12.45 P.M.) FOR GRANTING OF LEAVE**

1. SC. (Spl.) LA 29/2020 - CA 469/08
2. SC. (Spl.) LA 81/20 - CA No. 381/17

**FOR INQUIRY**

1. SC.HC.CA.LA 273/17 - HCCA 06/10

**FOR ARGUMENT**

1. SC. Application FR No. 591/12 (Top of the list)
2. SC. Application FR No. 460/17 (Top of the list)
3. SC. CHC. Appeal No. 26/14 - HC (Civil) No. 224/11
4. SC. Appeal No. 180/15 - CA 250/96

**(FROM 01.30 P.M. - 03.00 P.M.) FOR ARGUMENT**

1. SC. Appeal No. 197/15 - CA 1114/98
2. SC. Appeal No. 201/16 - HCCA 17/13
3. SC. Appeal No. 235/16 - HCCA 111/06
4. SC. Application FR 330/16
5. SC. Appeal No. 139/18 - HC. (Civil) 23/17
6. SC. Appeal No. 187/18 - HC. MCA 10/18

VIJITH K. MALALGODA P.C. J.  
MURDU N.B. FERNANDO P.C.J.  
S. THURAIRAJA P.C. J.

**COURT NO. 404 (FROM 10.00 A.M. - 11.30 A.M.) TO BE MENTIONED**

1. SC. CHC. Appeal. 86/14 - HC (Civil) No. 167/13
2. SC. Application FR 454/19
3. SC. HC.CA.LA. 181/20 - HCCA 152/15

**FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED**

1. SC. Application FR 38/20
2. SC. Application FR No. 39/20
3. SC. Application FR No. 40/20
4. SC. Application FR No. 41/20 with FR 42/20
5. SC. Application FR No. 43/20
6. SC. Application FR No. 44/20
7. SC. Application FR No. 45/20
8. SC. Application FR No. 56/20

**(FROM 11.30 A.M. - 12.45 P.M.)**

1. SC. (Spl.) LA 274/17 - CA 402/97

2. SC.HC.CA.LA 19/19 - HCCA 62/16
3. SC.HC.CA.LA 157/19 - HCCA 31/1/14
4. SC.HC.CA.LA 20/20 - HCCA 30/15

**FOR ARGUMENT**

1. SC. Appeal No. 181/10 - CA. PHC No. 78/08
2. SC. Appeal No. 163/15 - CA. 181/14

**IN THE COURT OF APPEAL LIST OF CASES FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.**

A.H.M.D NAWAZ (J)(P/CA)  
SOBITHA RAJAKARUNA J.

**COURT NO. 301 AT 10.00 A.M. TO BE MENTIONED**

1. 452/11 Writ of Cert
2. 45/19 Writ of Cert (A.H.M.D. Nawaz J.) (P/CA) (Arjuna Obeyesekere J.) (Sobhitha Rajakaruna J.)
3. 534/19 Writ of Cert
4. 84/20 Writ of Cert
5. 151/20 Writ of Cert
6. 05/18 COC with WR 125/17, WR 53/17, 7. 06/14 TAX

**FOR SUPPORT**

1. 240/19 Writ of Cert
2. 482/19 Writ of Cert
3. 483/19 Writ of Cert
4. 484/19 Writ of Cert
5. 485/19 Writ of Cert
6. 533/19 Writ of Cert

**FOR INQUIRY**

1. 06/19 TAX
1. 12/19 Writ of Cert
2. 29/19 Writ of Cert
3. 137/19 Writ of Cert with WR 18/18
4. 14/13 TAX
5. 23/18 TAX with TAX 19/17, TAX 07/09, TAX 04/15

- (A.H.M.D. Nawaz J.) (P/CA)  
(Janak De Silva J.)  
(Sobhitha Rajakaruna J.)  
6. 281-282/15 HC  
7. 318/14 RII

**A.H.M.D NAWAZ (J)(P/CA) SOBITHA RAJAKARUNA J.**

**COURT NO. 301 OTHERS AT 10.00 A.M. TO BE MENTIONED**

1. 715/97 (F) DC
2. 240/99 (F) DC
3. 387/12 Writ of Cert WITH 380/12 WR
4. 195/13 Writ of Cert
5. 251/16 Writ of Cert
6. 16/18 TAX
7. 17/18 TAX
8. 1198/06 REV

K.K. WICKRAMASINGHE (J.)  
DEVIKA ABEYRATHNE J.

**COURT NO. 107 AT 10.00 A.M. TO BE MENTIONED**

1. 65/19 PA
2. 193/16 HC
3. 213/16 HC
4. 221/16 HC
5. 215/17 HC
6. 39 - 41/18 HC
7. 243 - 244/18 HC
8. 279/18 HC
9. 361 - 362/18 HC
10. 384/18 HC
11. 26/19 HC
12. 145/19 HC
13. 205/19 HC
14. 235/19 HC
15. 303/19 HC
16. 327/19 HC
17. 334/19 HC
18. 335/19 HC
19. 05/20 HC
20. 07/20 HC

**FOR SUPPORT**

1. 99/20 PA
- NOTICE RETURNABLE**
1. 47/20 PA

A. L. S. GOONERATNE J.  
DR. RUWAN FERNANDO (J)

**COURT NO. 204 AT 10.00 A.M. TO BE MENTIONED**

2. 1132/99 (F) DC
3. 95/15 PHC
4. 118/01 LTA

**FOR SUPPORT**

1. 86/20 PA
2. 90/20 PA

**NOTICE RETURNABLE**

1. 03/19 REV
- FOR ARGUMENT**
1. 64/14 PHC
2. 124/14 PHC
3. 214/15 PHC

ACHALA WENGAPPULI J.  
K. PRIYANTHA FERNANDO (J)

**COURT NO. (110) AT 10.00 A.M. TO BE MENTIONED**

1. 58/19 PA
2. 94/20 PA
3. 444/17 HC

**FOR INQUIRY**

1. 36/19 BA
2. 38/19 BA

**FOR ARGUMENT**

1. 120 - 122/18 HC
2. 28 - 36/19 HC
3. 288/19 HC

ACHALA WENGAPPULI J.  
MAHINDA SAMAYAWARDHANA J.  
K. PRIYANTHA FERNANDO (J)

**COURT NO. (110) AT 02.00 P.M. TO BE RESUMED**

1. PA 166/19 WITH 16/20 PA, 18/20 PA

MAHINDA SAMAYAWARDHANA J.  
ARJUNA OBEYESEKERE J.

**COURT NO. (206) AT 10.00 A.M. FOR JUDGEMENT**

1. 227/12 Writ of Cert (Hon. Arjuna Obeyesekere J.)
2. 294/15 Writ of Cert (Hon. Arjuna Obeyesekere J.)
3. 310/17 Writ of Cert (Hon. Arjuna Obeyesekere J.)

**TO BE MENTIONED**

1. 207/12 Writ of Cert
2. 461/13 Writ of Cert

**FOR ARGUMENT**

1. 323/17 Writ of Cert
2. 136/18 Writ of Cert

**CIVIL APPEAL WESTERN PROVINCE (COLOMBO)**

**LIST OF CASES FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.**

LAFFAR TAHIR (H.C.J.)  
SAMPATH B. ABAYAKOON (H.C.J.)

**( AT 10.00 A.M.) FOR JUDGEMENT**

- 11/19 RA HCCA/Colombo (Sampath B. Abayakoon (H.C.J.)

**TO BE MENTIONED**

- LA 112/17 HCCA/Colombo
- 180/18 (F) HCCA/Colombo
- 33/18 RA HCCA/Colombo
- 154/17 (F) HCCA/Colombo

**FOR SUPPORT**

- LA 46/18 HCCA/Colombo
- LA 85/16 HCCA/Colombo
- LA 58/20 HCCA/Colombo
- LA 13/20 HCCA/Colombo

**FOR ARGUMENT**

- 34/18 (F) AB HCCA/Colombo
- 180/15 (F) HCCA/Colombo
- 92/17 (F) HCCA/Colombo
- 170/15 (F) HCCA/Colombo
- 248/15 (F) HCCA/Colombo

**SUPER BALL**  
Draw Number: 1206 | Colour: Blue  
Draw Date: 05.09.2020 | Date: Saturday

Winning English Letter and Numbers: **R 02 33 41 47**

Total Value of Prizes: **Rs. 3,411,280/-**

**SUPER 500** SPECIAL NUMBER: 1 6 1 5

Development Lotteries Board  
356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02  
Tel: 0112 333 546-47  
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919  
SMS: DLB-appeals-LOT-appeals-SB & send to 900  
For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825

English Letter & Winning Numbers: **Q 02 35 63 69**  
Draw No: 620 | Colour: Green  
Date: 04 Sep. 2020 | Friday

Total Value of Prizes: **Rs. 3,331,520/-**

Next Super Jackpot: **Rs. 82,531,895/-**

Development Lotteries Board  
356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02  
Tel: 0112 333 546-47  
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919  
SMS: DLB-appeals-LOT-appeals-SB & send to 900  
For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825

**ශ්‍රී ජය**  
Date: 05.09.2020 | Total Value of Prizes: **Rs. 4,969,800/-**  
Draw No.: 3362 | Colour: GREEN

Winning Numbers: **07 58 60 71** | English Letter: **R**

Winning number for Rs. 500/- cash prizes: **5917**

Development Lotteries Board  
356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02  
Tel: 0112 333 546-47  
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919  
SMS: DLB-appeals-LOT-appeals-SB & send to 900  
For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825

**SUPER BALL**  
Draw Number: 1205 | Colour: Pink  
Draw Date: 04.09.2020 | Date: Friday

Winning English Letter and Numbers: **U 14 21 62 65**

Total Value of Prizes: **Rs. 3,724,760/-**

**SUPER 500** SPECIAL NUMBER: 4 9 8 4

Development Lotteries Board  
356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02  
Tel: 0112 333 546-47  
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919  
SMS: DLB-appeals-LOT-appeals-SB & send to 900  
For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825

**කවර්ත වාසනාව**  
Date: 05-09-2020 | Draw Number: 364 | Colour: Red

Super Jackpot: **Rs. 11,193,684/-**

English Letter: **F** | Winning Numbers: **13 34 61** | Fate Number: **5**

Total Value of Prizes: **Rs. 3,507,380/-**

Next Super Jackpot: **Rs. 11,342,524/-**

Development Lotteries Board  
356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02  
Tel: 0112 333 546-47  
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919  
SMS: DLB-appeals-LOT-appeals-SB & send to 900  
For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825

**ADA KOTIPATHI**  
FRIDAY | Date: 04.09.2020 | Draw No.: 1081 | Colour: PURPLE

Winning Numbers: **13 27 56 67** | English Letter: **B**

Total Value of Prizes: **Rs. 4,655,200/-**

Winning number for Rs. 500/- cash prizes: **2261**  
Winning number for Rs. 100/- cash prizes: **930**

Development Lotteries Board  
356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02  
Tel: 0112 333 546-47  
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919  
SMS: DLB-appeals-LOT-appeals-SB & send to 900  
For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825

**ADA KOTIPATHI**  
SATURDAY | Date: 05.09.2020 | Draw No.: 1032 | Colour: YELLOW

Winning Numbers: **22 28 30 34** | English Letter: **Y**

Total Value of Prizes: **Rs. 4,220,380/-**

Winning number for Rs. 500/- cash prizes: **7508**  
Winning number for Rs. 100/- cash prizes: **535**

Development Lotteries Board  
356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02  
Tel: 0112 333 546-47  
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919  
SMS: DLB-appeals-LOT-appeals-SB & send to 900  
For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825

**ශ්‍රී ජය**  
FRIDAY | Date: 04.09.2020 | Draw No.: 3361 | Colour: ORANGE

Winning Numbers: **03 13 22 30** | English Letter: **F**

Total Value of Prizes: **Rs. 5,449,040/-**

Winning number for Rs. 500/- cash prizes: **9863**

Development Lotteries Board  
356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02  
Tel: 0112 333 546-47  
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919  
SMS: DLB-appeals-LOT-appeals-SB & send to 900  
For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825

**වර්ත වාසනාව**  
Date: 04-09-2020 | Draw Number: 2912 | Colour: Dark Blue

Super Jackpot: **Rs. 2,357,124/-**

Winning Numbers: **10 27 29 39** | Scorpio

Total value of prizes: **Rs. 9,861,920/-**

Double Chance SPECIAL NUMBERS: **3345** (For Rs.500 prizes), **841** (For Rs.100 prizes)

Development Lotteries Board  
356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02  
Tel: 0112 333 546-47  
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919  
SMS: DLB-appeals-LOT-appeals-SB & send to 900  
For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825

**වර්ත වාසනාව**  
Date: 05-09-2020 | Draw Number: 2913 | Colour: Light Blue

Super Jackpot has been won: **Rs. 2,545,732/-**

Winning Numbers: **07 14 39 60** | Libra

Total value of prizes: **Rs. 11,001,732/-**

Double Chance SPECIAL NUMBERS: **5502** (For Rs.500 prizes), **724** (For Rs.100 prizes)

Development Lotteries Board  
356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Place, Colombo 02  
Tel: 0112 333 546-47  
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919  
SMS: DLB-appeals-LOT-appeals-SB & send to 900  
For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825

**Term of PCoI into Easter attacks extended**

The term of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) to probe into the Easter Sunday terrorist attacks has been extended by another three months. The Presidential Secretariat, issuing a Gazette Extraordinary, said the extension of term is to complete the final report of the PCoI. The term, which was to expire on September 20, has been extended till December 20. The PCoI was appointed to investigate, inquire into and report on or take necessary actions in relation to the bomb explosions that killed over 250 people in a series of suicide bombings in churches and hotels on April 21, 2019. Its interim report was handed over to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa in December last year. The five-member Commission headed by Court of Appeal Judge Janak de Silva was appointed by former President Maithripala Sirisena on September 21, 2019.



# Daily News



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Monday, September 7, 2020

## Clean Air for Blue Skies

**T**he Coronavirus pandemic was an unprecedented catastrophe, but even the darkest of clouds have a silver lining. Much of the world was shut down for nearly four months from March this year to minimise the spread of the COVID-19 virus. This meant a drastic reduction of cars on the road, planes in the sky, ships at sea and silenced factory chimneys.

Indeed, the reduction of all forms of pollution was one of the hidden benefits of that months-long lockdown. To cite just one example, the Galle Face was no longer Green prior to March 2020. Yet a few months after the lockdown, it had turned into the verdant land it once was. All the trees in Colombo and elsewhere had a shade of green that had not been seen for some time.

Pollution is a major killer, far worse than even the Coronavirus. Around the world, nine out of every ten people breathe unclean air. Tiny, invisible particles of pollution penetrate deep into our lungs, bloodstream and bodies. These pollutants are responsible for about one-third of deaths from stroke, chronic respiratory disease, and lung cancer, as well as one quarter of deaths from heart attacks. Ground-level ozone, produced from the interaction of many different pollutants in sunlight, is also a cause of asthma and chronic respiratory illnesses.

These Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCPs) are among those pollutants most linked with both health effects and near-term warming of the planet. Some air pollutants, such as black carbon, methane and ground-level ozone, are also SLCPs responsible for a significant portion of air pollution-related deaths, as well as impacts on crops and hence, food security. They persist in the atmosphere for as little as a few days or up to a few decades, so reducing them can have an almost immediate health and climate benefits for those living in places where levels fall.

Air pollution is the single greatest environmental risk to human health and one of the main avoidable causes of death and disease globally, with an estimated seven million premature deaths (2016) across the world attributed to indoor and outdoor air pollution. Particularly in developing countries, air pollution disproportionately affects women, children and the elderly, especially in low-income populations as they are often exposed to high levels of outdoor air pollution and indoor air pollution from cooking and heating with wood fuel and kerosene.

Air pollution is a global problem with far-reaching impacts owing to its spread over very long distances. In the absence of aggressive intervention, the number of premature deaths resulting from ambient air pollution is estimated to be on track to increase by more than 50 per cent by 2050.

Society bears a high cost of air pollution due to the negative impacts on the economy, work productivity, healthcare costs and tourism, among others. Thus the economic benefits of investing in air pollution control cannot be overestimated, and there is also an economic rationale to act. There are many cost-effective and existing solutions that address air pollution effectively.

It is in this context that the United Nations has declared today, September 7 as the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies. This is the first time that a Clean Air for Blue Skies Day is being celebrated around the world.

UN Member States including Sri Lanka have recognized the need to substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination by 2030, as well as to reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management by 2030.

It is acknowledged that improving air quality can enhance climate change mitigation and that climate change mitigation efforts can also improve air quality. All countries have committed to promoting sustainable development policies that support healthy air quality in the context of sustainable cities and human settlements. The reduction of air pollution is important to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As we recover from the Coronavirus pandemic, the world needs to pay far greater attention to air pollution, which can also increase the risks associated with COVID-19. The UN has already started a campaign titled BreathLife to encourage countries and cities to make clean air a priority.

But emissions are already rising again, in some places surpassing pre-COVID levels. This is a dangerous trend. Reinforced environmental standards, policies and laws that prevent emissions of air pollutants are needed more than ever. Countries also need to discourage the use of fossil fuels, by investing in renewable energy sources and also by encouraging the use of fully electric vehicles, low-energy appliances and other such alternatives. Sri Lanka too must move in this direction without any delay in order to ensure that the air that will be breathed by future generations is pure and healthy.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Clean air and a healthy climate benefit all of us.

Keith Ellison

# COVID-19: MAINTAINING THE VICTORY

## Now & Then

NADIRA GUNATILLEKE

**T**he entire world is praising Sri Lanka for very successfully controlling COVID-19 and all those countries are now studying the Sri Lankan strategy which saved the country and the people from COVID-19. But we should not forget the fact that COVID-19 is still killing thousands of people all over the world and especially in our neighbouring country. India is the world's most affected country by COVID-19 by now. So far COVID-19 has killed a total of nearly 900,000 people in the world affecting over 26 million people. COVID-19 is still out there hovering and looking for even a small chance to enter into our society and kill people.

The Opposition said the Sri Lankan Government hid COVID-19 patients before the General Election that ended on August 5th and COVID-19 will hit Sri Lanka like a tsunami after the election. Before August 5, the Opposition said the Government concealed the real COVID-19 situation from the people in order to hold the General Election. But it did not happen and no hidden COVID-19 patients came out after the election as stated by the Opposition. No COVID-19 Tsunami hit Sri Lanka as expected by the Opposition which was always waiting to see dead bodies in order to grab political power. Now they are trying their best to fabricate something else in order to mislead the people and gain political advantages.

A defeated female Opposition politician recently said now people say 'Deviyan Wadinawa' ('A deity is arriving') whenever President Gotabaya Rajapaksa visits a village. This shows how much people value his actions in saving lives from COVID-19. No wonder Sri Lankans see President Gotabaya Rajapaksa as a God because while other countries in the world dealt with thousands of dead bodies, Sri Lankans freely and securely moved around leading their normal lives. She was addressing the media with pain and anger knowing for sure that they will never be able to grab power by misleading people like they did in 2015. While nearly a million people died without medical care overseas, only 12 deaths were reported from Sri Lanka. All of those deaths were due to complications developed due to other health conditions such as cancer (Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs) etc and not due to COVID-19 itself, lack of medical care or any other issue.

The most important factor is maintaining the victory we achieved. Recently Army Commander Lieutenant General Shavendra Silva told the people through the media that people should continue to follow all health guidelines in order to protect themselves from COVID-19. It is the advice of all health authorities in Sri Lanka. Therefore all people should strictly follow all health guidelines issued by the Government and the Health Ministry in order to protect themselves from COVID-19. It is very easy



Maintain physical/social distancing.



Wash hands frequently.

for all to follow these few very simple health guidelines.

If you invite Corona for dinner, Corona will have you for breakfast or definitely for lunch. So do not invite Corona for dinner. It is up to you. It is simple as that. The most important fact is we can stay alive by doing the simplest things such as not touching our face, washing hands frequently and staying at a distance. Those things, especially staying at hand's length all the time from all is safe for all. We



Wear a mask at all times.



Use sanitizer if water is not available

## Social Distancing

don't need thousands of rupees to do so. Corona does not invade your home. You bring it home willingly.

You know what COVID-19 is by now and how to prevent it. But you still touch your face! You do not stop there. You still do everything that you should not do in order to protect your life from COVID-19. Why? It is because you do not believe that you will get infected. You think that it is others and not you. You think that your relatives and friends are 'safe' for you, which is a myth. COVID-19 can be anywhere at any time.

Health authorities have already told us millions of times what to do and what not to do in order to protect ourselves and our loved ones from COVID-19. But still some of us do not care about such advice. Why? It is because we think it is for others and not for us. Getting scared is not the solution. The only solution is stay conscious every second and practice health advice all the time.

There are three main very simple tasks we need to do in order to protect ourselves from COVID-19. The first one is wearing a mask. All of us can wear a mask. Not like in March, now masks are freely available all over the country in all pharmacies and many other shops for a very low price. Some organizations distribute masks free of charge and some institutions give you masks free of charge. The mask should be worn covering the nose and mouth. Not only the mouth. Covering the nose is essential.

But what do we do at the moment? We keep the mask in our pocket/handbag in order to take it quickly and wear it when a police officer or any other 'authority' approaches us. To be on the 'safe side' we keep the mask on our neck or chin so we can lift it up as soon as we see a police officer or any other authority. The funniest part is wearing the mask below the nose. Some purposely do it while the masks of some others fall below their nose due to loose ear loops. Who is responsible for your mask with loose ear loops? Is it the Government? Is it the police? Is it the health authorities? It is you.

There are two more simple things that we should do in order to protect ourselves and our aged parents from COVID-19. They are staying at least one meter away from another person and washing our hands frequently. Anyone can do those things at any time without much trouble. Once you buy a hand sanitizer, you can use it for a long time because you need to use it only when you cannot wash your hands.

We can very easily stay one meter or more away from another person. We cannot do this when we are being forced to travel by crowded trains and buses. We can avoid crowded trains and buses but it is impossible for some people who live in certain areas in the country and are traveling at a certain time of the day. What we can do during such occasions is wear a fitting three layer standard mask and not touching it before washing our hands with soap and water.

What is essential is cleaning surfaces people touch such as door knobs, bars located in buses, handrails of staircases, handles of shopping baskets in supermarkets, counters, office tables, office telephones, arms of chairs etc. But it seems no one is worried about cleaning such surfaces or touching them.

We have to lead our normal lives while protecting ourselves from this deadly virus until a vaccine and/or drugs are available. It is very easy to do it. Everything can be done only if we maintain mindfulness all the time. Whenever you touch a public or contaminated surface, the next thing you do should be washing your hands with soap and water or sanitizing your hands with a standard sanitizer properly until you wash your hands. Nothing should happen in between touching a contaminated surface and cleaning your hands. This is the 'Mantra' of preventing COVID-19. But it seems many have forgotten it while many others ignore this. We just cannot take chances with COVID-19. After all, all it takes is one careless act to spread a viral disease in society. We must not let that happen.



# MAURITIUS OIL SPILL: CASE FOR MARITIME SECURITY IN INDIAN OCEAN

CHRISTIAN BUEGER and TIMOTHY EDMUNDS

At the end of July 2020, the Japanese-owned bulk carrier MV Wakashio got stranded on coral reef off the Mauritian coast. By 10 August, around 1,000 tonnes of fuel had spilled from the ship, threatening the Blue Bay marine park, one of the marine treasures of Mauritius and a sensitive ecology site.

The oil spill is an environmental catastrophe for Mauritius, with Greenpeace Africa warning that thousands of animal species were "at risk of drowning in a sea of pollution, with dire consequences for Mauritius' economy, food security and health."

This catastrophe demonstrates the importance of maritime security and disaster response capacities in the Indian Ocean region – home to one of the busiest waterways in the world. It should also alert us to how weak the response mechanisms in the region are, despite millions being spent on capacity building.

## What happened?

The MV Wakashio got stranded on the Mauritian shore on 25 July 2020. Two weeks later, on 7 August, a plan to re-float the vessel and pump out its 4,000 tonnes of diesel and oil failed, leading to an oil spill.

What at first appeared to be a containable emergency quickly outstripped the Mauritian Government's capacity to cope. On August 10, Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth declared a state of environmental emergency and appealed for international assistance.

Hundreds of ordinary Mauritians scrambled to improvise barriers from straw stuffed sacks and other materials in an effort to contain the spill. The French Navy sent a reconnaissance plane and the Champlain, an overseas support and assistance vessel, from nearby La Reunion. India sent experts, as did Japan and the International Maritime Organisation (IMO). The United Nations organisations resident in Mauritius offered assistance, as did other donor entities, such as the European Union.

As a result of these efforts, only around a quarter of the toxic fuel on the vessel leaked. Although this was enough to cause an environmental catastrophe, the worst-case scenario of the vessel breaking up and releasing all of its fuel was avoided.

## Was Mauritius prepared?

The Mauritian authorities knew about the risk of such a disaster. Indeed, it was not the first time that a ship got stranded at this location, which is only a few miles from where thousands of ships pass by on their voyage between Asia and the Cape of Good Hope.

Mauritius has a National Oil Spill Contingency plan in place, drafted with the help of the IMO and the UN Environmental Pro-



gramme. The country has also been the beneficiary of several large-scale capacity building projects that aimed to develop a regional oil spill response and advance national preparedness for environmental disasters at sea.

These include a US\$ 4.9 million project called Western Indian Ocean Island Oil Spill Contingency Planning which ran between 1998 and 2006. It aimed to build appropriate national and regional oil response capacities in Comoros, Seychelles, Madagascar and Mauritius, and highlighted that the Indian Ocean Islands were at risk of a spill occurring and causing an environmental disaster.

While this project mainly addressed national level responses, its successor project was more ambitious. The US\$ 26.7 million Western Indian Ocean Marine Highway Development and Coastal and Marine Contamination Prevention project ran from 2007-2012 with the goal of developing and implementing a regional strategy. Kenya, Tanzania and South Africa were included in the project.

Capacity building work continued under the auspices of the UNEP's Regional Seas Programme and the Nairobi Convention. Only a few months ago, the programme held a workshop on oil spill prevention where Mauritius gave an update on its national preparedness status. Today we know that all of the capacity building efforts and the national planning were insufficient to enable the country to cope with a disaster of such scale.

## Capacity building

Three large scale capacity building projects are currently underway in the region. These address maritime security from different angles. Tackling Somali piracy and other forms of blue crime have been the core drivers, but also concerns over the conservation of the ocean. None of the centres and agreements set up in these projects, played any significant role in the disaster response.

The Djibouti Code of Conduct is a regional maritime security cooperation agreement initiated by the IMO in 2008. Initially focused on piracy, it was extended to cover environmental issues, amongst others, in 2017. Its programme implementation unit was established

in 2010 with a budget of US\$ 13.8 million. The IMO budget for technical cooperation and capacity building was US\$ 13 million in 2018-19 alone.

A second major initiative is the MASE project funded by the European Union. Its main goal is to enable states in the region to develop an accurate picture of the maritime domain and to develop coordinated rapid responses. Between 2013 and 2020 more than US\$ 30 million was spent here.

The third pillar is under the Nairobi Convention, a major focus of which is the prevention of pollution and oil spills. Its sea programme is called SAPPHERE and has a budget of US\$ 8.8 million for 2016-22. Unfortunately, it appears that none of these expensive endeavours were capable to respond in any substantive manner to the Mauritian disaster.

It does not require too much imagination to envisage how these mechanisms could have worked. The MV Wakashio was on a collision course that clearly deviated from the routes that transit traffic usually takes and hence, it could have been detected. Having seen that the Mauritius coast guard did not react, the Regional Maritime Information Fusion Center in Madagascar could have issued an instant alert. This implies that the grounding could have been avoided.

The procedures established under the Djibouti Code, Nairobi Convention or regional cooperation agreements could also have played major roles once the ship ran aground, including assisting with risk assessment during the early days of the crisis.

Mauritius could have used these mechanisms to call for assistance from the region, whether that is regional experts, or additional containment equipment. None of this happened. Why?

## What went wrong?

In Mauritius's case, significant efforts had been made to prepare for an oil spill emergency under the programmes above and on paper sufficient capacities and contingency plans appear to have been in place. What seems to have caught everybody by surprise was how swiftly an apparently containable incident escalated into a full scale environmental emergency.

Further investigations will provide details of where, when, and how mistakes were made, including by the Mauritian government, the MV Wakashio's owners and the industry experts who were brought in to respond. However, the disaster also points to some of the difficulties of capacity building more generally, despite the millions spent on it. Capacity building programmes can be short lived and technical in nature, with an emphasis on outside expertise and consultants.

## Key questions to ask include:

a) Why was the escalatory potential of the disaster apparently missed? Were the right people in the right roles at the right time, and were their voices heard by decision makers?



b) Did the right training go to the right people? An earlier report by World Bank on the Oil Spill Contingency Programme suggested that "[participating] countries sometimes nominated high-level officials rather than front-line staff for training."

c) Had sufficient stockpiles of oil spill containment equipment been maintained by the Mauritian National Coast Guard and Special Mobile Force? Concerns had earlier been raised about appropriate storage facilities for this equipment, but these were thought to have been resolved.

d) How effectively were oil spill capacities and training sustained over time? Programmes may be judged successful at the time, but often face sustainability problems and their longer-term impact can be less clear.

## Fragmentation

Critically, regional maritime security mechanisms appear to have been largely absent during the emergency. One reason for this may be that there are simply too many projects, organisations and platforms that deal in one way or the other with maritime security in the region.

Above we have introduced three of them, but as we show in a research project as part of the SafeSeas Network on maritime security, these are only a few samples of the various initiatives under way in the region. Fragmentation and the resulting problems of overlap and coordination can cause problems of action and commitment. The question of which organisation should act, when and how, and who if anybody should lead a regional response all remain pressing.

These kinds of problems are not easily addressed, not least since the region is far from a collective identity or a joint regional plan. Yet, countries such as India, Kenya, or France have the power to steer the region into more organised waters. Forums such as the Indian Ocean Rim Association or the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium could provide the platform for that discussion.

The fact that none of the regional mechanisms was capable to respond to the oil spill, and that Mauritius did not consider turning to them casts doubt on their effectiveness. Capacity building failures and fragmentation will not be easily addressed.

Regional powers, such as India and France responded rapidly to the incident and provided assistance. Their contribution will be needed for a long time to come, not just to cope with environmental disasters but also piracy and other forms of blue crime. There is an urgent need to tailor capacity building for the long term, in ways that recognise local country circumstances, constraints and priorities, and that can develop sustainable solutions over time. (Observer Research Foundation)



## A story of books, boots and men

**In Passing...**  
by Malinda Seneviratne

This is the story of two boys, one a self-confessed bookworm and the other indubitably a sportsman, having won colors for basketball and rugby in his school and leading the rugby team to multiple trophies that year.

The bookworm, now a lawyer, decided upon entering Colombo University, to play 'a game of men.' An ardent rugby fan, it was natural for him to try out that sport.

At the time Colombo University played in the B Division and regularly got thrashed by what was referred to as cricketing scores. Our man's schoolmates weren't surprised since even their 'pothe gura' had made it into the team.

One day, the bookman went to see the sportsman, who he remembered as being warm and unpretentious. He would later recall their first encounter in the eighth grade as follows:

"He was a Colombo man and I was a humble bugger from the outback of the country. His first words were 'Hello Machan,' and the one of cordiality usually reserved for long standing friends. It was apparent later that this was his true nature. Everyone around him was a friend. His warm hellos and friendly conversation even extended to his real opponents in the field of rugby."

The skipper handed his friend a pair of old rugby boots along with a pair of stockings in their school colors, 'as a gesture of initiation into the sport.' It was, he recalled, a solid pair of used ADIDAS boots that he used carefully for



a considerable period, thereby sparing his parents and himself additional financial burdens.

A couple of years later, the two friends would find themselves playing against each other. It was in 1987. A 'B Division' encounter. Colombo University vs CR&FC Bees. It was a cricket score at the end, but one that's at the beginning of an innings: 0-0.

"After the match, I was sitting on the steps of the CR & FC pavilion and trying to remove my muddy boots.



He came to me, shook my hand, sat beside me and said "Machan umbala ohoma gehuwanam college gahandath thibuna (if you had played like this, you could have represented the school as well)." I was stunned and almost moved to tears. Slowly I pointed to my pair of boots that once belonged to him. He patted my shoulders and went towards his teammates."

No one knew this story under the bookworm, Parashakthi Senanayake, posted in on Facebook upon hearing of the untimely death of his friend, Sampath Agalawatta. Two years ago, almost to the day.

Almost everyone in that batch, now called 'Royal College Class of 1983,' has an 'Agale Story.' Not all of them are about rugby of course, but it's the same man, consistent in his warmth, generosity, and humility. He was the sporting star of that batch of course but he was more than that. This is why the group is also known as 'Agale's Batch.' He was known to those much older and even those who hadn't entered school at the time he left knew him.



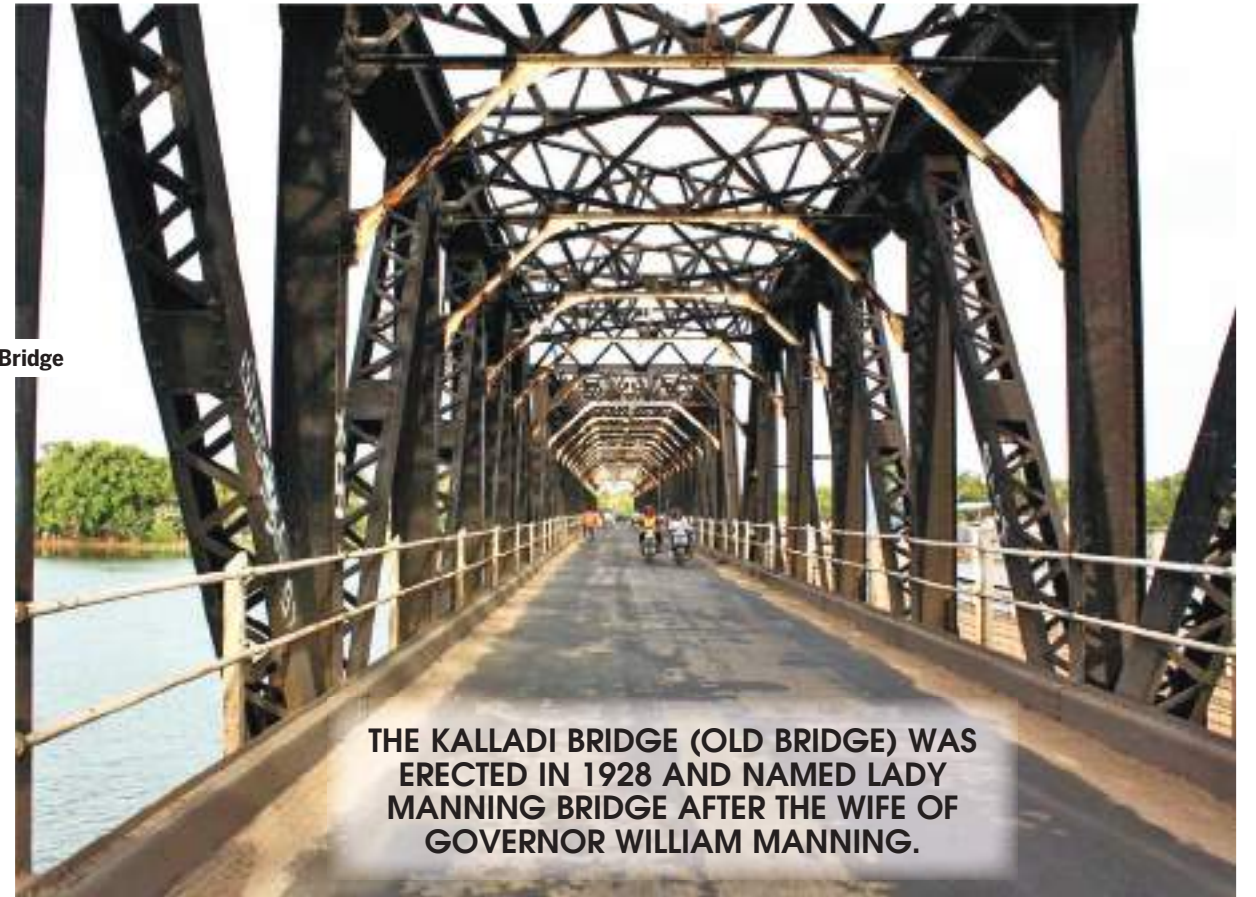
Such stories are hard to forget. Harder to remember would be what Agale with no intention whatsoever ingrained in those who associated him. He would recall that for him rugby was about fourteen players working hard and together to ensure that the fifteenth would score. That is how he saw life. That's how he lived his life. With grace. Utmost grace. In and out of a pair of boots.

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Kalladi Bridge



THE KALLADI BRIDGE (OLD BRIDGE) WAS ERECTED IN 1928 AND NAMED LADY MANNING BRIDGE AFTER THE WIFE OF GOVERNOR WILLIAM MANNING.

LOCAL HISTORY RECORDS THAT IN 1954 A PRIEST NAMED FR. LANG, WHO WAS ATTACHED TO ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE IS SAID TO HAVE MADE THE FIRST AUDIO RECORDING OF THE SINGING FISH, WHICH WAS LATER AIRED OVER RADIO CEYLON IN 1960.



DISHAN JOSEPH

**S**ri Lanka is blessed with natural beauty and cultural diversity. The following narrative is from two visits made to Batticaloa. I was able to spend some time to discover her tropical charms. The journey from Colombo was quite long, as we set out at night and arrived early in the morning. After travelling about four hours there was a stretch of road, with jungles on either side.

I observed that there were signboards warning of elephants crossing, which gave us a sense of adventure on this long drive. We did encounter a few elephants and they seemed to be used to the flow of vehicular traffic. It is not advisable to dismount the vehicle and take photographs, either during the day or at night. There are a few shops along the journey to enjoy a cup of tea, even past midnight. Batticaloa town is reasonably developed, and displays an assortment of architecture.

# BOUNTIFUL BLISS of BATTICALOA

## BATTICALOA GATE

The first iconic statue is the gold-coloured image of Mahatma Gandhi, whose 150th birth anniversary falls next month. It is elevated on a cement pedestal. This is in the vicinity of Gandhi Park. People were walking about on a sunny Saturday morning. We then spotted Batticaloa Gate. This gate was supposed to be the entry to the port where boats connected Pullianthivu Island to the mainland.

In 1814, the first Christian missionary from the Methodist Mission to Ceylon is said to have landed at this point. Rev. William Ault had set sail to Ceylon on the ship *MVLady Melville*, accompanied by his wife Sarah and Rev. Thomas Coke.

The long voyage took its toll on his wife and Sarah Ault died at sea. Shortly thereafter, Rev. Thomas Coke also died, leaving Rev. Ault alone. He landed in Batticaloa and began to learn Tamil.

The prudent missionary established eight schools, gaining the love of the people. Within a year of his arrival, he fell ill and passed away in April 1815. A statue of

Rev. William Ault could be seen today beside Batticaloa Gate.

The pioneer missionaries played a big role in education in that era. Another venerated person is the Jesuit Father Ferdinand Bonnet of France. He built the St. Michael's College in 1873. Since then it has been the premier boys' school in Batticaloa.

## AN AQUATIC MYSTERY

The sun was now shining over this exotic Eastern town. We stopped at the famous Kalladi Bridge. At the entrance to it is a cement statue of the legendary Tamil poet Auvvaiyar, carrying her bag and a staff.

The pedestal on which she is mounted has four fish, carved into the cement. It is near this location that the maritime mystery of the elusive Singing Fish was first supposed to be recorded. We waited a few minutes kneeling near the bridge hoping to hear an audible tone. I for one don't believe in mermaids. Local history records that in 1954 a priest named Fr. Lang, who was attached to St. Michael's College is said to have

made the first audio recording of the Singing Fish, which was later aired over Radio Ceylon in 1960. Since then there has been no such audio evidence of this mysterious phenomenon.

## THE BATTICALOA TRAIN

The Sri Lankan railway service has extensive track coverage across the island. Taking the train to Batticaloa is another way to explore the region. As the railway lines progressed under the British, they extended the tracks, creating the Batticaloa Line. With the onset of the Northern Line, the Maho Railway Station was opened in 1903. As the demand for rail travel increased, the Northern Line was extended to Anuradhapura in 1926, and the Maho Station upgraded to a Junction Station, which took on a significant position in railway history. From then on, progress was made to construct a line to Batticaloa by 1928, covering a distance of 212 kilometres with 31 stations.

Decades ago, those travelling from Colombo to Batticaloa had only two choices

es - to travel by steam ship or journey by bullock cart. Prior to this, these regions were really remote. By the 1870s, there was a steam ship *SS Serendib* which charged Rs. 190 for a return ticket by sea from Colombo to Batticaloa. The vessel operated only once a week.

The East had two seaports, one at the Dutch Bar (where Admiral Spilbergen landed) and the second at Kalkudah Bay. There were two routes proposed for the train to the East. The first was from Badulla, which would be a distance of 92 miles (148km). But the route was along winding rocky roads that required new bridges. The travelling time was calculated at 24 hours, an entire day. The alternate plan was to extend the rail line from the Maho Station. The new train route was nearly 160 miles (258 km). But the travel time was faster and the terrain was safer. The plus point was that the route lay on flat open plains. However, there were two rivers to cross, one at Manampitiya and the other at Oddammavadi.

In 1928, the first train arrived at the Batticaloa Station to the joy of thousands. In the early days, the train began at Colombo Fort and then proceeded to Maho Junction Station. From here, she journeyed past Yapahuwa, Konwewa, Morogollagama, Siyambalagamuwa, Nagama, Awukana, Kalawewa, Kekirawa, Palugaswewa, Habarana, Gal Oya Junction, Minneriya, Hingurakgoda, Jayanthipura, Parakum Uyana, Polonnaruwa, Gallella, Manampitiya, Welikanda, Punani, Valaichchenai, Kalkudah and Eravur, finally reaching the terminus point at Batticaloa.

Today, the Udaya Devi train is powered by an M-4 Canadian diesel electric locomotive. This train journey unfolds a variety of scenes that includes lush green patches of jungle, dry and parched terrain, contrasting with lakes and grasslands.

## LADY MANNING BRIDGE

The Kalladi Bridge (old bridge) was erected in 1928 and named Lady Manning Bridge after the wife of Governor William Manning. Taking the form of a truss

bridge, it is said to be one of the oldest iron bridges in Ceylon, primarily built to extend the rail line from the south of Batticaloa towards Kalmunai. Building this rail bridge was a daunting task at that time. The bridge was prefabricated in the factory of Patent Shaft and Axletree, and transported by steam ship from London. On reaching Ceylon, the parts were taken by rail to the desired site. Work crews secured these heavy iron parts into the moving waters of the Batticaloa Lagoon. At that time, this was the longest railway bridge in Ceylon.

For those passengers interested in maritime history, Batticaloa also has another secret from the Second World War submerged under the deep sea. During the war, the British Admiralty had stationed many ships in Trincomalee. One of these was the aircraft carrier named *HMS Hermes*. She was berthed with her escorting destroyer *HMAS Vampire* (Australian Navy). When the Japanese began their aerial dive bombing, they targeted both vessels, which had begun to sail. *HMS Hermes* was hit repeatedly and sank nine nautical miles off the coast of Batticaloa. She remains in these deep waters since then and is an active dive site.

## ANCIENT FORT

The fort bordering the lagoon was built by the Portuguese in 1628. Later the Dutch took control and enhanced the fort in 1638. The fort has four bastions. Thereafter, the British occupied this fort from 1745. Presently this fort houses some administrative offices within her ramparts. The view from the fort offers a pleasant picture of the lagoon. Another place to visit is the old lighthouse built in 1913. This solid structure has a height of 28 meters.

The view of the sunset from this vantage point is stunning. Batticaloa is a 'must-visit' destination which also offers some good regional cuisine. An active tourism promotion campaign is now underway to attract more local visitors to this remarkable Eastern city.



Batticaloa Fort



The Batticaloa Railway Station.



Batticaloa Gate



Batticaloa Lagoon



Gandhi statue in Batticaloa



The Batticaloa Lighthouse



Mulin Kurukulanatha

# A 'rose' with a 'sandalwood' soul

Sandun gase saman walak ethenne  
Nadun wanaye sihil suwaya soyanne

They say life is unpredictable. But somewhere in the timeline it was not. I begin with the above two lines which were the same lines used to address my much-loved late grandma Mulin Kurukulanatha by her beloved husband, the late Thissa Kurukulanatha.

I wonder how he could be so accurate about her from the very beginning of their lives. Maybe it was because of their everlasting bond. Mulin Kurukulanatha was born in 1939 in Moratuwa to a noble Catholic family. She was the second child of Pieris and Roselin Perera.

She lost her father in her early childhood. She had one elder sister and no brothers. She grew up studying in a convent where she enriched herself with English medium education.

Through her childhood and her teens, she became this amazingly beautiful person not just in looks, but also inside, with a humble and

I am honoured to be a granddaughter of such a versatile lady and I am so lucky that I was old enough to appreciate all her qualities.



charm character and an unusual sense of kindness to people. She started her career as a stenographer in the Social Services Department where she met her eternal love Thissa Kurukulanatha who came from a respectable Buddhist family and also lived in Moratuwa. In 1963, before her marriage, she became a Buddhist. It was not a difficult task for her to change religions as she had purity of heart. My grandparents had two daughters, Danthika and Vishaka. Later she served as a stenographer in the Forest Department for a number of years, where she won hundreds of hearts due to her sim-

ple and warmhearted personality. She was a skillful wife in housework, a supportive spouse to her husband, and an influential mother to her two daughters. She had the skill of creativity in whatever she did. Whoever tasted her food even once never forgot the experience. She used to sew elegant dresses for her daughters. Later, she used to

sew frocks for us, her grandchildren. Her husband Sri Lanka Thilaka Thissa Kurukulanatha was a family counsellor by profession and voluntarily took to social service. He was the founder of the Educational, Social and Cultural Organization (ESCO) which became 'the torch' for the disabled to enlighten their hidden skills. He made a platform for the disabled to showcase their talents nationally and internationally, cooperating with VSA Arts and the John F. Kennedy Center, USA.

In 1990, he accompanied his wife Mulin on a visit to Japan with a troop of the disabled at the special invitation of VSA Arts. His infinite need for caring for the poor and disabled would not have been a success if not for Mulin's support for him as a life partner. She was always there for him, through thick and thin. Even after my grandfather passed away, she continued his social and welfare work, holding the position of Secretary-General of ESCO for few years.

In 2019, she received an honorable mention at the Divisional Conference of the Civil Social Organization for her years of unconditional service to the society.

After my grandfather passed away, she used to live with her elder daughter who is my mother. I used to hang out with her often. Eventually, she became my confidante.

When it came to relationships, she never had the suffix 'in-law'. She was a loving elder sister to her husband's four younger siblings. She was a mother to her two daughters' husbands. She always loved and cared for them as her own. In turn, she also was not an 'in-law' for them anymore, and they treated her with utmost love and respect.

After my grandfather passed away, she used to live with her elder daughter who is my mother. I used to hang out with her often. Eventually, she became my confidante. I am honoured to be a granddaughter of such a versatile lady

and I am so lucky that I was old enough to appreciate all her qualities. She used to share her memories with me, which helped me today to express her worth as much as I possibly can.

By that time, she was a caring mother-in-law to her two doctor sons-in-law and a proud grandma of five grandchildren. Her only grandson is an aerospace engineer, while three of her granddaughters are medical students, and the youngest is still schooling.

She did not try to change anyone as she believed that every person is beautiful in their own way. She used to deeply appreciate even the smallest things in her life.

On May 31, as usual she was holding my hand, smiling like a rose. I left her in the bed as she was sleepy, not knowing that I will not be able to hold her hand ever again. It has been almost three months since she left us. The more I dwell on her, the more I realize what a beautiful person she was. She was a rose with a sandalwood soul inside. Why? She was as pretty as a beautiful rose without the thorns. And she was like sandalwood which imparts its fragrance to the axe which cuts it, without doing any harm in return.

Navodi Gunarathne

# APPRECIATION



**04.09.2020 & 05.09.2020 - TOTAL PRIZE WINNERS PRODUCED BY NATIONAL LOTTERIES BOARD 1,413,996**  
**TOTAL PRIZE MONEY DISTRIBUTED AMONG WINNERS 72,053,096.00**  
**RS. 12,382,416.00 SUPER PRIZE 01 RS. 2,000,000.00 PRIZES 04 Rs. 1,000,000.00 PRIZES 03 Rs. 100,000.00 PRIZES 46**

**MAHAJANA SAMPATHA**  
 DATE: 04-09-2020  
 WINNING LETTER: E WINNING NUMBERS: 6 1 4 2 2 5  
 Prize structure - from right to left:  
 1st Prize: 6 1 4 2 2 5 Rs. 2,000,000/- 02  
 2nd Prize: 1 4 2 2 5 Rs. 100,000/- 11  
 3rd Prize: 4 2 2 5 Rs. 10,000/- 108  
 4th Prize: 2 2 5 Rs. 1,000/- 1,087  
 5th Prize: 2 5 Rs. 100/- 10,793  
 6th Prize: 5 Rs. 20/- 106,991  
 Prize structure - from left to right:  
 7th Prize: 6 1 4 2 2 Rs. 10,000/- 12  
 8th Prize: 6 1 4 2 Rs. 1,000/- 108  
 9th Prize: 6 1 4 Rs. 100/- 1,113  
 10th Prize: 6 1 Rs. 50/- 10,529  
 11th Prize: E Rs. 20/- 42,920  
 Value of prizes won in this draw - Rs.12,215,270.00  
 The Super Prize of next draw: **Rs.31,510,416.00**

**MAHAJANA SAMPATHA**  
 DATE: 05-09-2020  
 WINNING LETTER: W WINNING NUMBERS: 5 5 0 8 8 5  
 Prize structure - from right to left:  
 1st Prize: 5 5 0 8 8 5 Rs. 2,000,000/- 02  
 2nd Prize: 5 5 0 8 8 5 Rs. 100,000/- 10  
 3rd Prize: 5 0 8 8 5 Rs. 10,000/- 103  
 4th Prize: 5 0 8 8 5 Rs. 1,000/- 1,018  
 5th Prize: 5 8 8 5 Rs. 100/- 10,210  
 6th Prize: 5 Rs. 20/- 101,389  
 Prize structure - from left to right:  
 7th Prize: 5 5 0 8 8 Rs. 10,000/- 09  
 8th Prize: 5 5 0 8 Rs. 1,000/- 108  
 9th Prize: 5 5 0 Rs. 100/- 1,023  
 10th Prize: 5 5 Rs. 50/- 16,115  
 11th Prize: W Rs. 20/- 40,442  
 Value of prizes won in this draw - Rs.11,711,670.00  
 The Super Prize of next draw: **Rs.31,510,416.00**

**DHANA NIDHANAYA**  
 Official Results  
 2020/09/04  
 Draw Number - 311  
 Winning Letter: Z WINNING NUMBERS: 26 38 48 51  
 COMBINATION PRIZE NO. OF WINNERS  
 1st Prize: 4 full numbers are correct Rs. 1,000,000.00 -  
 2nd Prize: 3 English Letters and 1 number are correct Rs. 100,000.00 -  
 3rd Prize: 2 English Letters and 2 numbers are correct Rs. 1,000.00 62  
 4th Prize: 1 English Letter and 3 numbers are correct Rs. 1,000.00 152  
 5th Prize: 2 numbers are correct Rs. 100.00 3,678  
 6th Prize: 1 English Letter and 1 number are correct Rs. 60.00 2,433  
 7th Prize: 1 number are correct Rs. 20.00 61,216  
 8th Prize: Only English Letter is correct Rs. 20.00 11,504  
 Total prize money won in this draw Rs. 2,305,180.00  
 Number of Prize Winners in this draw: 79,045  
 Next Draw Super Prize: **115,937,106.64**

**ආවේදන**  
 OFFICIAL RESULTS Draw No: 1052 Date: 2020.09.05  
 Winning Letter: L  
 Winning Numbers: 8 2 4 6 9 5  
 Right to Left Prize Structure:  
 Super Prize: L 8 2 4 6 9 5 Rs. 12,382,416.00 Prizes: 1  
 01 Prize: 8 2 4 6 9 5 Rs. 2,000,000.00 Prizes: 0  
 02 Prize: 2 4 6 9 5 Rs. 100,000.00 Prizes: 2  
 03 Prize: 4 6 9 5 Rs. 10,000.00 Prizes: 29  
 04 Prize: 6 9 5 Rs. 1,000.00 Prizes: 284  
 05 Prize: 9 5 Rs. 100.00 Prizes: 2,522  
 06 Prize: 5 Rs. 20.00 Prizes: 27,815  
 Left to Right Prize Structure:  
 07 Prize: 8 2 4 6 9 Rs. 10,000.00 Prizes: 3  
 08 Prize: 8 2 4 6 Rs. 1,000.00 Prizes: 32  
 09 Prize: 8 2 4 Rs. 100.00 Prizes: 306  
 10 Prize: 8 2 Rs. 50.00 Prizes: 2,958  
 11 Prize: L Rs. 20.00 Prizes: 12,776  
 12 Prize: Matching the 6 winning numbers of any order Rs. 200.00 Prizes: 227  
 Total Prizes Won in This Draw: **Rs. 14,400,236.00**  
 Next WEDNESDAY Super Prize: **Rs. 10,000,000.00**

**NEEROGA**  
 LAENA JAYA  
 DATE: 2020/09/04  
 Zodiac: AQUARIUS  
 Winning numbers: 02 03 24 41  
 PRIZES STRUCTURE PRIZE MONEY NUMBER OF WINNERS  
 1st prize: If 4 numbers are correct Rs. 1,000,000/- -  
 2nd prize: If 3 numbers and the zodiac are correct Rs. 10,000/- 3  
 3rd prize: If 3 numbers are correct Rs. 2,000/- 65  
 4th prize: If 2 numbers and the zodiac are correct Rs. 200/- 310  
 5th prize: If 2 numbers are correct Rs. 100/- 3,463  
 6th prize: If 1 number and the zodiac are correct Rs. 60/- 4,662  
 7th prize: If 1 number is correct Rs. 20/- 50,284  
 8th prize: If only the zodiac is correct Rs. 20/- 18,640  
 Total Prize Money won in this Draw: **Rs. 2,226,500.00**  
 The Next Super Prize: **Rs. 17,355,320.50**

**Govisetha**  
 OFFICIAL RESULTS  
 DRAW NUMBER: 2531 DRAW DATE: 05.09.2020  
 ENGLISH LETTER: Y WINNING NUMBERS: 02 06 27 66  
 COMBINATION PRICE NO. OF WINNERS  
 1 PRIZE: IF ALL 4 NUMBERS CORRECT Rs. 1,000,000.00 01  
 2 PRIZE: IF LETTER & ANY 3 NUMBERS CORRECT Rs. 100,000.00 04  
 3 PRIZE: IF ANY 3 NUMBERS CORRECT Rs. 2,000.00 168  
 4 PRIZE: IF LETTER & ANY 2 NUMBERS CORRECT Rs. 1,000.00 428  
 5 PRIZE: IF ANY 2 NUMBERS CORRECT Rs. 100.00 9758  
 6 PRIZE: IF LETTER & ANY NUMBER CORRECT Rs. 40.00 6493  
 7 PRIZE: IF ANY NUMBER CORRECT Rs. 20.00 162399  
 8 PRIZE: IF ONLY THE LETTER IS CORRECT Rs. 20.00 29570  
 TOTAL WINNERS OF THIS DRAW: **208,821**  
 TOTAL PRIZE MONEY WON IN THIS DRAW: **Rs. 7,238,900.00**  
 SUPER PRIZE FOR THE NEXT DRAW: **Rs. 62,879,397.60**

**Govisetha**  
 OFFICIAL RESULTS  
 DRAW NUMBER: 2530 DRAW DATE: 04.09.2020  
 ENGLISH LETTER: C WINNING NUMBERS: 25 33 53 67  
 COMBINATION PRICE NO. OF WINNERS  
 1 PRIZE: IF ALL 4 NUMBERS CORRECT Rs. 1,000,000.00 01  
 2 PRIZE: IF LETTER & ANY 3 NUMBERS CORRECT Rs. 100,000.00 09  
 3 PRIZE: IF ANY 3 NUMBERS CORRECT Rs. 2,000.00 188  
 4 PRIZE: IF LETTER & ANY 2 NUMBERS CORRECT Rs. 1,000.00 392  
 5 PRIZE: IF ANY 2 NUMBERS CORRECT Rs. 100.00 10363  
 6 PRIZE: IF LETTER & ANY NUMBER CORRECT Rs. 40.00 6836  
 7 PRIZE: IF ANY NUMBER CORRECT Rs. 20.00 170122  
 8 PRIZE: IF ONLY THE LETTER IS CORRECT Rs. 20.00 31081  
 TOTAL WINNERS OF THIS DRAW: **218,992**  
 TOTAL PRIZE MONEY WON IN THIS DRAW: **Rs. 8,001,800.00**  
 SUPER PRIZE FOR THE NEXT DRAW: **Rs. 62,545,294.80**

**ආවේදන**  
 OFFICIAL RESULTS  
 DRAW DATE: 05/09/2020 DRAW NUMBER: 1532  
 SUPER NUMBER: 11 WINNING NUMBERS: 12 45 50 55  
 PRIZE STRUCTURE PRIZE MONEY NO. OF WINNERS  
 1 PRIZE: ALL 04 NUMBERS CORRECT Rs. 500,000.00 -  
 2 PRIZE: SUPER NUMBER & 03 NUMBERS CORRECT Rs. 15,000.00 07  
 3 PRIZE: 03 NUMBERS CORRECT Rs. 1,000.00 128  
 4 PRIZE: SUPER NUMBER & 02 NUMBERS CORRECT Rs. 200.00 376  
 5 PRIZE: 02 NUMBERS CORRECT Rs. 100.00 4912  
 6 PRIZE: SUPER NUMBER & 01 NUMBER CORRECT Rs. 60.00 4445  
 7 PRIZE: 01 NUMBER CORRECT Rs. 20.00 61592  
 8 PRIZE: ONLY THE SUPER NUMBER IS CORRECT Rs. 20.00 15330  
 TOTAL PRIZES WON IN THIS DRAW: **Rs. 2,604,540.00**  
 SUPER PRIZE OF THE NEXT DRAW: **Rs. 20,846,287.48**

**Mega POWER**  
 OFFICIAL RESULTS  
 DRAW NUMBER: 603 DATE: 05.09.2020  
 Winning Letter: W WINNING NUMBERS: 07 42 47 59 72  
 PRIZE STRUCTURE PRIZE MONEY NO. OF WINNERS  
 1st PRIZE: If all 4 Numbers are correct 1,000,000.00 01  
 2nd PRIZE: If only 3 Numbers with English Letter is correct 100,000.00 07  
 3rd PRIZE: If all 3 Numbers are correct 1,000.00 147  
 4th PRIZE: If only 2 Numbers with English Letter is correct 500.00 308  
 5th PRIZE: Only 2 Numbers are correct 100.00 6,118  
 6th PRIZE: If only 1 Number with English Letter is correct 60.00 5,378  
 7th PRIZE: Only 1 Number are correct 20.00 134,401  
 8th PRIZE: Only English Letter are correct 20.00 24,884  
 BIGGEST PRIZE: **Rs. 232,971,411.95**  
 NEXT MEGA SUPER PRIZE: **Rs. 5,225,740.00**

**Mega POWER**  
 OFFICIAL RESULTS  
 DRAW NUMBER: 602 DATE: 04.09.2020  
 Winning Letter: E WINNING NUMBERS: 22 31 51 58 77  
 PRIZE STRUCTURE PRIZE MONEY NO. OF WINNERS  
 1st PRIZE: If all 4 Numbers are correct 1,000,000.00 01  
 2nd PRIZE: If only 3 Numbers with English Letter is correct 100,000.00 08  
 3rd PRIZE: If all 3 Numbers are correct 1,000.00 118  
 4th PRIZE: If only 2 Numbers with English Letter is correct 500.00 306  
 5th PRIZE: Only 2 Numbers are correct 100.00 6,888  
 6th PRIZE: If only 1 Number with English Letter is correct 60.00 5,097  
 7th PRIZE: Only 1 Number are correct 20.00 143,714  
 8th PRIZE: Only English Letter are correct 20.00 28,184  
 BIGGEST PRIZE: **Rs. 232,739,665.95**  
 NEXT MEGA SUPER PRIZE: **Rs. 12,966,112.00**



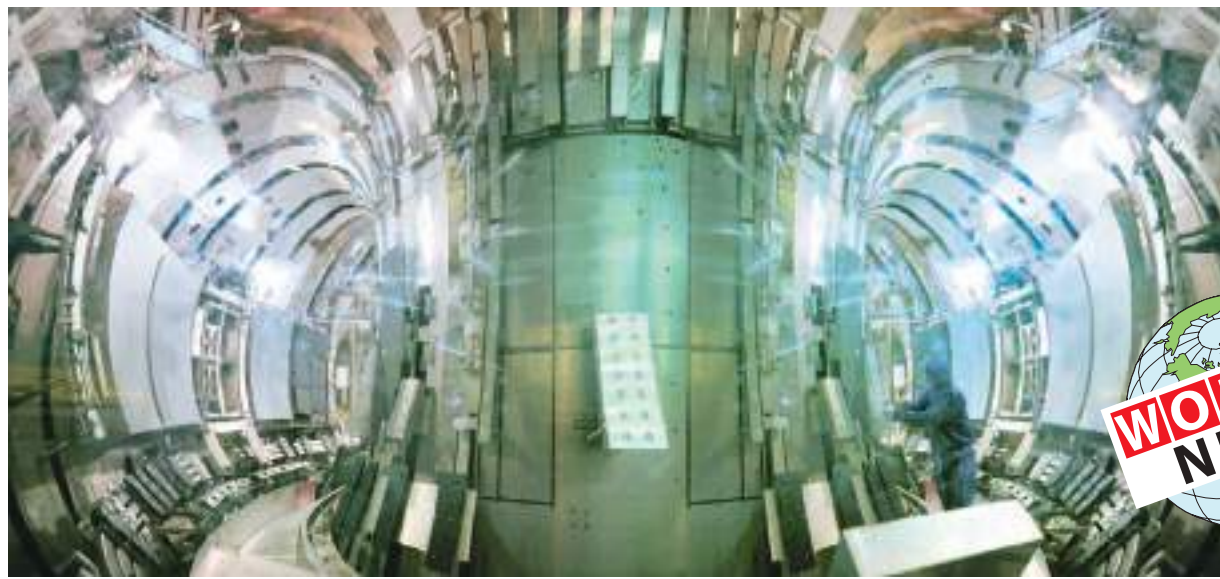
# ONE STEP CLOSER TO FUSION POWER

Electric current is everywhere, from powering homes to controlling the plasma that fuels fusion reactions to possibly giving rise to vast cosmic magnetic fields. Now, scientists at the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory (PPPL) have found that electrical currents can form in ways not known before. The novel findings could give researchers greater ability to bring the fusion energy that drives the sun and stars to Earth.

"It's very important to understand which processes produce electrical currents in plasma and which phenomena could interfere with them," said Ian Ochs, graduate student in Princeton University's Program in Plasma Physics and lead author of a paper selected as a featured article in *Physics of Plasmas*. "They are the primary tool we use to control plasma in magnetic fusion research."

Fusion is the process that smashes together light elements in the form of plasma—the hot, charged state of matter composed of free electrons and atomic nuclei—generating massive amounts of energy. Scientists are seeking to replicate fusion for a virtually inexhaustible supply of power to generate electricity.

The unexpected currents arise in the plasma within doughnut-shaped fusion facilities known as tokamaks. The currents develop when a particular type of electromagnetic wave, such as those that radios and microwave ovens emit, forms spontaneously. These waves push some of the already-moving electrons, "which



ride the wave like surfers on a surfboard," said Ochs.

But the frequencies of these waves matter. When the frequency is high, the wave causes some electrons to move forward and others backward. The two motions cancel each other out and no current occurs.

However, when the frequency is low, the waves pushes forward on the electrons and backward on the atomic nuclei, or ions, creating a net electrical current after all. Ochs found that researchers could surprisingly create these currents when the low-frequency wave was a particular type called an "ion acoustic wave" that resembles sound waves in air.

The significance of this finding extends from the relatively small

scale of the laboratory to the vast scale of the cosmos. "There are magnetic fields throughout the universe on different scales, including the size of galaxies, and we don't really know how they got there," Ochs said. "The mechanism we discovered could have helped seed cosmic magnetic fields, and any new mechanisms that can produce magnetic fields are interesting to the astrophysics community."

The results from the pencil-and-paper calculations consist of mathematical expressions that give scientists the ability to calculate how these currents, which occur without electrons directly interacting, develop and grow. "The formulation of these expressions was not straightforward," Ochs said. "We had to con-

dense the findings so they would be sufficiently clear and use simple expressions to capture the key physics."

The results deepen understanding of a basic physical phenomenon and were also unexpected. They appear to contradict the conventional notion that current drives require electron collisions, Ochs said.

"The question of whether waves can drive any current in plasma is actually very deep and goes to the fundamental interactions of waves in plasma," said Nathaniel Fisch, a coauthor of the paper, professor and associate chair of the Department of Astrophysical Sciences, and director of the Program in Plasma Physics. "What Ochs derived in masterful,

didactic fashion, with mathematical rigor, was not only how these effects are sometimes balanced, but also how these effects sometimes conspire to allow the formation of net electrical currents."

These findings lay the groundwork for future research. "What especially excites me," Fisch said, "is that the

mathematical formalism that Ochs has built, together with the physical intuitions and insights that he has acquired, now put him in a position either to challenge or to put on a firm foundation even more curious behavior in the interactions of waves with resonant particles in plasma."

(Phys.org)



## Better times ahead for the world's loneliest elephant

An elephant who has become a cause célèbre for animal rights activists around the world will be allowed to leave his Pakistani zoo and be transferred to better conditions, the animal welfare group helping with the case has said.

Dubbed the "world's loneliest elephant" by his supporters, Kaavan has languished at a zoo in the Pakistani capital of Islamabad for more than 35 years.

Martin Bauer, a spokesman for Four Paws, said on Saturday that the elephant has finally been given medical approval to travel, most likely to Cambodia, where he will find companionship and better conditions.

Kaavan, who is overweight, underwent a full medical examination at the zoo on Friday, said Bauer.

In May, Pakistan's high court ordered the Marghazar zoo closed because of its abysmal conditions, which were blamed on systemic negligence.

The cause of rescuing Kaavan from the zoo's dire conditions attracted the attention of animal activists around the world and celebrities, including American singer Cher, who lobbied for his relocation.

"Unfortunately, the rescue comes too late for two lions that died during an attempted transfer at the end of July after local animal handlers set a fire in their enclosure to force them into their transport crates," Bauer said in a statement released on Saturday. Advertisement He said Four Paws

was invited by the Islamabad wildlife management board to safely transfer the remaining animals in the zoo. Kaavan has until now been forced to live a solitary life in a small enclosure.

Friday's medical examination found that the elephant was overweight, even as he showed signs of malnutrition. His nails were cracked and overgrown apparently from years of living in an unsuitable enclosure with flooring that damaged his feet.

"Following the checks, which confirmed Kaavan is strong enough, steps will now be taken to finalise his relocation to an animal sanctuary potentially in Cambodia," Bauer said.

His recovery will be a long one, said Bauer, adding that Kaavan's wounds are more than just physical. He also exhibits behavioural issues.

Kaavan, who lost his partner in 2012, has battled loneliness as well as poor living conditions. Both have taken their toll, said Bauer in an interview.

"He also developed stereotypical behaviour, which means he shakes his head back and forth for hours. This is mainly because he is simply bored," said Bauer.

The Four Paws team that carried out Kaavan's physical included wildlife veterinarians and experts.

It wasn't immediately known when Kaavan would be able to travel. Rights activists have lobbied for his relocation since 2016. (Guardian)



## North Korea preparing to test new weapons

U.S. weapons experts say they believe North Korea may be preparing to test a new strategic weapon system that would vastly expand Kim Jong Un's arsenal and defy President Donald Trump's threshold requirements for continued engagement with the U.S.

The experts, led by Dr. Victor Cha of the Center for Strategic and International Studies "Beyond Parallel" website, have posted new and unusually clear satellite images taken Friday that show North Korea may be preparing its first submarine-launched ballistic missile test, potentially a major new development for the North.

The experts say the pictures show a submersible test stand barge at the Simpo South Shipyard. According to the "Beyond Parallel" assessment, the primary indicator suggesting preparations for a test launch is the presence of several vessels within the boat basin, one of which resembles ships used to tow the test barge out to sea. Another indicator is two Romeo-class submarines anchored within the base that experts say could be used as escorts for an SLBM test maneuver. "This looks like they are certainly preparing to do an SLBM test for the first time," said Cha, an NBC News contributor on Asian affairs. "Kim Jong

Un has been talking about unveiling a new strategic weapon and this may be it. There's been a lot of activity around this one site where the test barge is located."

Since the failed Hanoi Summit between Trump and Kim in February 2019, Trump has dismissed a series of short-range, land-based missile tests as not threatening the United States, although they do violate United Nations Security Council resolutions.

"A sea-launched missile test would definitely cross all of President Trump's red lines because it would involve a major ballistic missile," Cha said. "It would be

difficult for President Trump to ignore this."

The experts believe the earliest North Korea would be ready to launch would be Sept. 8 in the U.S., or Sept. 9 in North Korea. That is North Korea's Foundation Day, honoring the establishment of the state.

In the past, Kim has liked to test new weapons on his country's holidays, as well as holidays in the U.S., to get maximum attention. Launching the test only months before the U.S. election would raise a major political challenge to Trump's claim of progress with the North as one of his diplomatic achievements.

(NBC)

## Russian vaccine shows immune response

Russian scientists have published the first report on their coronavirus vaccine, saying early tests showed signs of an immune response.

The report published by medical journal *The Lancet* said every participant developed antibodies to fight the virus and had no serious side effects.

Russia licensed the vaccine for local use in August, the first country to do so and before data had been published.

Experts say the trials were too small to prove effectiveness and safety.

But Moscow has hailed the results as an answer to critics. Some Western experts have raised concerns about the speed of Russia's work, suggesting that researchers might be cutting corners.

Last month, President Vladimir Putin said the vaccine had passed all the required checks and that one of his own daughters had been given it.

Two trials of the vaccine, named Sputnik-V, were conducted between June and July, *The Lancet* paper said. Each involved 38 healthy volunteers who were given a dose of the vaccine and then a booster vaccine three weeks later.

The participants - aged



Russian President Vladimir Putin

between 18 and 60 - were monitored for 42 days and all of them developed antibodies within three weeks. Among the most common side effects were headaches and joint pain.

The trials were open label and not randomised, meaning there was no placebo and the volunteers were aware they were receiving the vaccine.

"Large, long-term trials including a placebo comparison, and further monitoring are needed to establish the long-term safety and effectiveness of the vaccine for preventing Covid-19 infection," the report said.

A third phase of trials will involve 40,000 volunteers from "different age and risk groups," according to the paper.

The Russian vaccine uses adapted strains of the adenovirus, a virus that usually causes the common cold, to trigger an immune response. "Encouraging" and "so far so good" are some of the reactions from scientists in the UK - but there is still, clearly, a long way to go. Although the vaccine showed an antibody response in all participants in phase 2, this does not necessarily mean it would protect them from the virus. That still has not been established yet.

From these results, we can tell that the vaccine appeared to be safe in healthy people between the age of 18 and 60 for 42 days, because that was how long the study lasted. But what about

older people and those with underlying health conditions who are most at risk of Covid-19 - how safe is it for them and over a longer period of time?

This can only be answered after much larger, long-term randomised trials where the people taking part do not know if they are receiving the vaccine or a dummy injection. These will also tell scientists how effective the vaccine really is among a much wider population.

There have also been calls for openness and transparency. Of the many vaccines currently being trialled around the world, some will work better than others in certain situations and in certain groups of people, perhaps. (BBC)



The Sputnik Vaccine

## Senegal: Africa's COVID success story

COVID-19 test results come back within 24 hours - or even faster. Hotels have been transformed into quarantine units. Scientists are racing to develop a cutting-edge, low-cost ventilator.

This isn't the pandemic response in South Korea, New Zealand or another country held up as a model of coronavirus containment success.

It's Senegal, a west African country with a fragile health care system, a scarcity of hospital beds and about seven doctors for every 100,000 people. And yet Senegal, with a population of 16 million, has tackled COVID-19 aggressively and, so far, effectively. More than six months into the pandemic, the country has about 14,000 cases and 284 deaths.

"You see Senegal moving out on all fronts: following science, acting quickly, working the

communication side of the equation, and then thinking about innovation," said Judd Devermont, director of the Africa program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a nonpartisan foreign policy think tank.

Senegal deserves "to be in the pantheon of countries that have ... responded well to this crisis, even given its low resource base," Devermont said.

Senegal snagged the No. 2 slot in a recent analysis looking at how 36 countries have handled the pandemic. The United States landed near the bottom: 31st of the 36 countries examined by *Foreign Policy* magazine, which included a mix of wealthy, middle income and developing nations.

Senegal received strong marks for "a high degree of preparedness and a reliance on facts and science," while the U.S. was dinged for

poor public health messaging, limited testing and other shortcomings.

Devermont and others say Senegal's quiet success is due to a combination of quick action, clear communication and its experience during the 2014 Ebola outbreak.

During that health crisis, Senegal confirmed its first case on Aug. 29; officials immediately identified 74 other people the patient had been in contact with and began monitoring and testing them.

"Testing was prompt and reliable; all results were negative," the World Health Organization said in declaring the outbreak over just a few months later. "With outbreaks raging just across its borders, Senegal was well-prepared, with a detailed response plan in place as early as March."

When the novel coronavirus emerged, Dr.

Abdoulaye Bouso, director of Senegal's Health Emergency Operation Center, said the government began drawing up a contingency plan as soon as the World Health Organization declared an international public health emergency on Jan. 30.

When the country had its first positive case two months later, President Macky Sall immediately imposed a curfew and restricted travel between Senegal's 14 regions. The country ramped up testing capacity quickly, creating mobile labs that can return results within 24 hours - or as quickly as two hours in some cases, Bouso said.

Sall's government also made a dramatic promise: Every person who tested positive would have a treatment bed, whether they had symptoms or not. That kept patients away from home, where they might transmit the

virus to family members. "We saw at the beginning that if you do that, we can very rapidly stop the transmission," Bouso said.

Another small but significant step: Every day, an official from the health ministry delivers a grim update, disclosing the number of new infections, how many people have been cured and how many have died.

"If we have six people who died, we say it. If we have one person, we say it," Bouso said. The aim is to be fully transparent, to keep people mobilized and to counter any suggestion that the virus is not a serious threat, he explained.

Shannon Underwood, an immigration lawyer from Seattle who moved to Senegal with her family two years ago, said the government's response has been impressive, if not perfect. (USA Today)



# Thailand mulls opening borders

Just a day after marking the significant milestone of 100 days without local coronavirus transmission, the virus has reared its head once again in Thailand.

News of a fresh infection came as the Thai government faces growing pressure from businesses to reopen borders to international tourists, as months of travel restrictions have devastated its heavily tourism-dependent economy.

The latest case was revealed to be a 37-year-old man who was arrested in Bangkok on drugs charges and tested positive after arriving at a Bangkok correctional center. Health officials say that he had no recent travel history and that his quarantine cell-mates had all tested negative.

"This case is a local transmission case after over 100 days were passed with no report of locally transmitted infection," Dr. Suwannachai Wattananayincharoen, director of Thailand's Disease Control Department, told a press conference on Thursday.

Until the announcement, the Southeast Asian country has not recorded any local infections since late May. It is still finding coronavirus cases in overseas arrivals, who are subjected to a mandatory 14-day quarantine period. Patients remain in quarantine until they've recovered.

So far, the country of 70



million people has a caseload of just 3,427, with 58 deaths. More than 28% of the reported infections are overseas cases, according to the Health Ministry.

Thailand was the first country to detect the coronavirus outside China, confirming its first case on January 13 – a Chinese tourist who had flown to Bangkok from Wuhan.

The country had first refrained from banning Chinese tourists, but in late March, when its caseload surged close to 1,000, the Thai government declared a state of emergency and banned all non-resident foreigners from entering.

The border closure has helped protect the country

while the virus rages across the world, but it has also dealt a huge blow to its tourist sector, which according to the World Bank normally contributes close to 15% of Thailand's GDP.

In June, the Tourism Council of Thailand said it expected to see an estimated 8 million foreign tourists this year, an 80% drop from last year's record number of 39.8 million.

Thailand's economy shrank 12.2% in the second quarter of this year, its worst in 22 years since the Asian financial crisis in 1998.

"We hope that we can find ways to bring back tourists in the future. Bringing tourists back is

one of the key factors to revive the Thai economy in the remaining part of this year and next year as well," said Don Nakornthab, Senior Director of Economic and Policy Department at the Bank of Thailand.

"But we have to do it carefully, because if the second wave happens, especially as a result from opening up for tourists, it will put Thailand into trouble again," he said at a press conference Monday.

Thailand's Minister of Tourism Phiphat



Ratchakitprakarn said late last month the country is aiming to allow foreign tourists to enter the country through a program dubbed "Safe and Sealed."

"I have asked the prime minister for approval to set October 1 as the date to allow (inbound) tourists to enter," he said. "I also have requested to use Phuket as a pilot model ... and have received approval from the Center for Economic Situation Administration."

If successful, the project will be expanded to include other destinations. In the beginning, tourists will be permitted to fly into Phuket – Thailand's largest island – and will need to quarantine in a designated resort for 14 days.

But the minister says tourists who wish to travel beyond Phuket will have to stay in quarantine for an additional seven days and will have a third Covid-19 test at the end of that 21-day quarantine period.

Hotel staff who work in these designated zones will not be permitted to leave without first going into quarantine and will be tested regularly for Covid-19 as well to prevent the spread of the virus.

Yuthasak Supasorn, governor of the Tourism Authority of Thailand, told CNN Travel last month the plan had been approved by the government and the next step involves holding a public

hearing to get approval from local residents – which is expected to take place in early September.

As October draws closer, however, Yuthasak said on Thursday that Phuket might not be able to receive tourists on October 1 as planned.

"There is still a lot to be done. The prime minister has just said that we have to make preparations," he said.

Vichit Prakobgosol, president of the Association of Thai Travel Agents, said most members of the association strongly support the program and hope to see tourists returning to Thailand in the last quarter of the year.

"This must be done urgently, (otherwise) Thailand will really be in deep trouble. There will be even more people losing their jobs," he said.

While the tourism and hospitality sectors are keen to reopen borders, many Thai residents remain concerned about the potential health risk.

According to a poll conducted by the National Institute of Development Administration in July, over 55% of the 1,251 people surveyed across Thailand were against a proposed "medical and wellness" program, which would open the country to foreigners who test negative for Covid-19 for medical treatment. (CNN)



## Debate continues on COVID-19 vaccine

US Democratic vice presidential nominee Kamala Harris said that President Donald Trump's word alone on any potential coronavirus vaccine is not enough.

Asked by CNN's Dana Bash in a clip released Saturday whether she would get a vaccine that was approved and distributed before the election, Harris replied, "Well, I think that's going to be an issue for all of us."

"I will say that I would not trust Donald Trump and it would have to be a credible source of information that talks about the efficacy and the reliability of whatever he's talking about," she continued in the clip from an exclusive interview airing Sunday on CNN's "State of the Union" at 9 a.m. ET. "I will not take his word for it."

CNN reported Thursday that Trump has pressured administration health officials to accelerate the vaccine's development in an effort to convince voters of an impending end to the pandemic threatening his reelection. A number of sources familiar with the



Donald Trump

internal workings told CNN the responsibility feels immense and the environment is akin to that of a pressure cooker.

When asked by Bash whether she thought that public health experts and scientists would get the last word on the efficacy of a vaccine, Harris predicted that they will not.

"If past is prologue that they will not, they'll be muzzled, they'll be sup-

pressed, they will be sidelined," Harris said. "Because he's looking at an election coming up in less than 60 days and he's grasping to get whatever he can to pretend he has been a leader on this issue when he is not."

The administration has sought to counter concerns that politics will influence elements of the vaccine's development or distribution.

Moncef Slaoui, the chief adviser to Operation Warp Speed, said in an interview with Science published Thursday that he would resign from his role if there was undue interference in the Covid-19 vaccine effort.

"I have to say there has been absolutely no interference," he continued, adding that he would be "out" if he saw a push for a US Food and Drug Administration emergency use authorization that he didn't believe in.

And administration health officials have continued to insist that no vaccine or treatment will be approved for use – either through full authorization or an emergency use designation – unless it is safe and effective.

"No one is pressuring the FDA to do anything," Trump's press secretary Kayleigh McEnany said on Thursday. Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, has said he would get a Covid-19 vaccination once a vaccine proves to be safe and effective and becomes



Kamala Harris

available. "I will look at the data and I would assume – and I'm pretty sure it's going to be the case – that a vaccine would not be approved for the American public unless it was indeed both safe and effective," Fauci told CNN's Jim Scutto on Thursday.

"If that's the case Jim, I would not hesitate for a moment to take the vaccine myself and recommend it for my family." (CNN)

## COVID- India passes 4 million cases

India passed four million COVID-19 cases on Saturday. Since July, India has had the third-highest number of confirmed cases of any country.

With 4,023,179 confirmed cases as of Saturday afternoon, India has almost as many as the second-highest country, Brazil. The U.S. still leads the world with 6.2 million total cases of the virus reported, according to the Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center.

India also has the third-highest number of deaths from the virus, which has killed almost 70,000 Indians, though the country is far behind the U.S. and Brazil in that count.

India crossed the 4 million number after seeing the highest daily increase since the pandemic began, with more than 86,000 cases reported Saturday. Almost a quarter of those came from the western state of Maharashtra, the Times of India reported. India has been adding



more new coronavirus infections than any other country for nearly a month. While infections have plateaued in an initial hot-spot, the densely populated megacity of Mumbai, the

virus is now spreading in rural areas where health care is already scant. Under-funded hospitals face shortages of beds, and patients have long waits for ambulances. (NPR)

## Herd immunity could be disastrous

Since the coronavirus pandemic began, herd immunity has been floated by some experts as a possible solution to the deadly virus that has so far killed over 865,000 people worldwide.

Herd immunity is possible when enough people have contracted and become immune to a virus, providing community-wide protection by limiting the number of people who can spread it. And while the strategy is considered controversial and even downright dangerous by many public health experts, it is also reportedly gaining momentum in the White House.

According to a report by the Washington Post, herd immunity is a strategy being pushed by Dr. Scott Atlas — a neuroradiologist with no background in infectious diseases or epidemiology who recently joined the White House as a pandemic adviser.

Atlas denied that he had encouraged the White House to adopt a herd immunity strategy, and on Wednesday White House coronavirus task force coordinator Dr. Deborah Birx and top infectious disease expert Dr. Anthony Fauci dis-



missed the idea that herd immunity was under consideration. An administration official, however, told CNN that the policies being promoted by Atlas are indeed akin to a herd immunity approach.

Ordinarily, herd immunity would be acquired through a majority of the population

being vaccinated — not through immunity acquired by natural infection.

"Normally, when we talk about herd immunity, we talk about how much of the population needs to be vaccinated," World Health Organization (WHO) COVID-19 technical lead Dr. Maria Van Kerkhove

said on Aug. 27. "If we think about herd immunity in a natural sense of just letting a virus run, it's very dangerous because you would need a lot of people to be infected."

It's still uncertain what percentage of a population would need to be immune to the virus in order to attain herd immuni-

ty. According to Johns Hopkins University, in general, the answer is 70 to 90 percent of a population, depending on how contagious the infection is. But a model published last month in the magazine Science found that the threshold needed for coronavirus herd immunity could be as low as 43 percent.

Proponents of herd immunity have looked to emulate Sweden's more hands-off approach; unlike most countries in Europe, the Nordic country opted out of a nationwide lockdown and kept most businesses open.

But Sweden's strategy didn't entail a total return to normalcy. The Swedish government implemented a ban on gatherings of 50 people or more, and many Swedes voluntarily followed social distancing guidelines.

Former FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb noted in an op-ed published on Aug. 30 that in addition to being much larger than Sweden (a country with a population the same size as North Carolina's), the U.S. has a high rate of citizens with preexisting conditions, which can lead to a higher rate of COVID-19 complications; about



10 percent of Americans have diabetes, and 40 percent are considered obese.

Moreover, Sweden's pursuit of natural herd immunity doesn't appear to be working. A study released in June by the country's Health Agency showed that only 6 percent of Swedes had developed antibodies to the coronavirus — though a recent study from Sweden's Karolinska Institute and Karolinska University Hospital suggests that immunity in Sweden may be higher than antibody tests indicate.

The role of antibodies and

how much of an impact they have on long-term immunity is still questionable. A U.K. study, which had not yet been peer-reviewed, found that antibodies may start to decline 20 to 30 days after the onset of COVID-19 symptoms. And a Chinese study found that antibody levels in patients who had recovered from COVID-19 fell sharply within two to three months after infection.

Falling antibody counts may not necessarily mean waning immunity; other immune responses such as T-cells could also affect how long immunity lasts. (Yahoo)



# Coronavirus keeps spreading across the U.S. 'because there's no mask mandate'

It's been over six months since the coronavirus pandemic hit the U.S., and transmission continues across the country as communities open up and schools start class.

Making things worse, according to one doctor, is because of the lack of a federal policy on masks.

"It is going through the country because there's no mask mandate," Dr. Andre Campbell, a trauma surgeon at the Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital, said on Yahoo Finance's The Ticker (video above). "And there should be, in my opinion, a universal mask mandate, because data shows that we can save 70,000 lives if we mask everybody up right now. Because we're going to be, by the election and the end of the year, we're going to be north of 300,000 deaths, because about 1,000 people are dying a day from this terrible pandemic."

There are more 6 million confirmed coronavirus cases in the U.S. and over 184,000 deaths. Those numbers are expected to keep growing, at least until there

is a COVID-19 vaccine widely available.

A model from the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) found that if 95% of people in the U.S. began wearing masks every time they were outside their homes, the number of projected deaths from coronavirus by December would drop 49%. That would save nearly 70,000 lives. The lack of a federal mask mandate is one of the criticisms that the Trump administration has received regarding their response to the pandemic as the president largely left it up to the states to decide how to approach the virus. (President Trump has also opted out of wearing a face mask in most public settings.)

"I'm a surgeon," Campbell said. "I wear a mask all the time. And I don't like wearing a mask outside, but we have to do it now. And people are getting tired of it, and when they do, they let their guard down, and that's when people become infected."

Campbell reiterated that the pri-



Mass screening for COVID-19 related fever.

mary issue "is you don't know if you can get a mild case or you're going to get a severe case or you're going to die, and you don't know that. It could be young people. It could be old people. They said first, older people over 65, but now, people are teenagers, younger kids, 20's, 30's, who get the infection and they actually die."

Last month, the World Health Organization (WHO) issued a warning about younger people becoming spreaders of the virus.

"People in their 20s, 30s and 40s are increasingly driving the spread," Takeshi Kasai, the WHO's Western Pacific regional director, said.

"The epidemic is changing."

Part of it has to do with college students returning to campus and not adhering to social distancing or face mask guidelines. There are reportedly more than 20,000 cases of coronavirus among college students and staff across the country. The University of Iowa alone has over 1,000 confirmed cases.

"Now, what has happened is those outbreaks in Arizona and Texas and Iowa over the weekend were 79% of the tests that were done in Iowa, right, were positive," Campbell said. "Now, when you have, when the virus is going crazy like it is in Iowa right now, right? That's what you got, and that's where we're not even testing enough people. It should be more people we should be testing."

According to Campbell, it comes down to three things that have become clear throughout this pandemic.

"It's the masking, the social distancing, we're watching as that actually works," he said. "And what has happened in the country is that at first there was an outbreak in New York and New Jersey and the Northeast and then on the West Coast and then everything got shut down, the numbers went down. But what happened was as the country started opening up, the things started happening and the virus started doing what it does. It spreads." (Yahoo)

## Hezbollah, Hamas chiefs meet to discuss Israel-Arab ties

Leaders of Lebanon's Hezbollah and the Palestinian Hamas movement, both enemies of Israel, have met to discuss diplomatic normalisation between the Jewish state and Arab countries, a report said Sunday.

They stressed the "stability" of the "axis of resistance" against Israel, the Hezbollah-run Al-Manar TV channel reported, without saying where or when the meeting took place.

Hassan Nasrallah, head of the Iran-backed Shiite Hezbollah movement, was pictured meeting Ismail Haniyeh, who heads the political bureau of Hamas, the Islamist movement that control the Gaza Strip.

They discussed "political and military developments in Palestine, Lebanon and the region" and "the dangers to the Palestinian cause" including "Arab plans for normalisation" with Israel, Al-Manar said.

The meeting comes after an August 13 announcement that the Jewish state and the United Arab Emirates have agreed to normalise ties.

While the US-backed diplomatic drive aims to boost a regional alliance against Iran, Palestinians have condemned it as a

"stab in the back" as they remain under occupation and don't have their own state.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said his country is in talks with other Arab and Muslim leaders now about normalising relations, following the deals with UAE and, decades ago, Egypt and Jordan.

Haniyeh has been in Lebanon since Wednesday, on his first visit to the country in nearly 30 years, for direct and video-conference talks with other Palestinian groups that oppose Israel's diplomatic initiative.

Israel's military has in recent weeks targeted Hamas in the Gaza Strip and what it says have been Hezbollah gunmen along its northern border with Lebanon.

It also regularly launches air strikes in war-torn Syria against what it says are Hezbollah and other pro-Iranian militants fighting on the side of President Bashar al-Assad's regime.

Nasrallah has been living in a secret location for years and makes very few public appearances.

He said in 2014 that he often changes his place of residence. (AFP)

## France puts more departments on COVID high alert

French authorities have placed seven more departments covering major cities such as Lille, Strasbourg and Dijon on high alert as increases in Covid-19 infections accelerate, the government said Sunday.

Of France's 101 mainland and overseas departments, 28 are now considered "red zones" where authorities will be able to impose exceptional measures to slow the number of new coronavirus cases.

The move comes as France reported a record of nearly 9,000 daily cases on Friday, and a further 8,550 cases in the past 24 hours on Saturday, when the nationwide test positivity rate increased to 4.7 percent.

Paris and the Bouches-du-Rhone department encompassing the southeastern city of Lyon were the first to be placed on high alert by the government on August 14 after infection rates began to climb. That prompted local officials to require face masks in all public spaces to slow the virus's spread, in hope of avoiding a spike in cases that could again overwhelm hospitals as autumn approaches.

The Sante Publique France health agency, which has warned of "exponential" caseload increases, said Saturday that 53 new outbreak clusters had been discovered in the previous 24 hours, bringing the total number under investigation to 484. (AFP)



Protests against masks

**Classifieds**

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## Vaccine makers to reassure public

A group of drugmakers competing to bring a coronavirus vaccine to market plan to issue a public statement as soon as next week that says they will not seek government approval until enough data has been collected to ensure the drugs are safe and effective, CNBC confirmed Saturday.

An early draft of the joint statement promises to prioritize the safety of vaccinated people, according to The Wall Street Journal, which first reported the plans to issue a statement. Pfizer, Johnson & Johnson and Moderna are expected to participate in the pledge, the Journal reported. CNBC has confirmed that Sanofi also plans to participate.

The pledge comes as scientists and public health specialists express concern that the Trump administration is exerting pressure on regulators, especially

the Food and Drug Administration, to authorize a vaccine before the Nov. 3 presidential election.

"We believe this pledge will help ensure public confidence in the Covid-19 vaccines that may ultimately be approved and adherence to the rigorous scientific and regulatory process by which they are evaluated," a draft of the statement says, according to the Journal.

The Journal added that the statement says the companies would only seek an emergency use authorization or government licensure based on "substantial evidence of safety and efficacy" from phase three clinical trials. However, top U.S. health officials, including FDA Commissioner Dr. Stephen Hahn and Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Dr.

Anthony Fauci, have recently said a phase three trial could be ended early if a vaccine yields strong evidence quickly.

An emergency authorization by the FDA would come as public health specialists express concern that the agency has previously yielded to political pressure. The agency issued an emergency authorization in March for the use of Trump-backed anti-malarial drugs chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine in treating Covid-19 patients. But the agency revoked the authorization in June based on emerging evidence that the drugs could cause cardiac complications and increase the risk of death in some Covid-19 patients.

And last month, Hahn walked back comments he made on the benefits of convalescent plasma at a White House press conference in which the emergency authorization of the Covid-19 treatment was announced. Scientists criticized Hahn for overselling the benefits of the treatment, which data suggests are more modest, in remarks that were repeated by administration officials, including President Donald Trump.

"Political considerations should be put aside by Republicans and Democrats," the vaccine manufacturers' draft statement says, according to the Journal.

Regulators and drug companies have been moving at a record pace to bring a vaccine to market that effectively and safely combats the coronavirus, which has infected more than 26.6 million people and killed at least 875,400 people around the world. The stakes are high, as forecasters and epidemiologists warn that the winter could prove to be even more deadly.

The U.S. has invested more than \$10 billion in six different vaccine efforts through Operation Warp Speed, the Trump



administration's effort to rapidly bring Covid-19 vaccines and treatments to market. Three companies, Moderna, Pfizer and AstraZeneca, are already testing their vaccine candidates in phase three trials.

It's unclear if AstraZeneca plans to participate in the joint pledge, but the company previously released a statement committing to "follow the science" and "put patients first."

Democratic vice presidential candidate Kamala Harris suggested in an excerpt of an interview with CNN broadcast on Saturday that President Donald Trump might use a vaccine to bolster his appeal heading into the election.

"He's looking at an election coming up in less than 60 days and he's grasping for whatever he can get to pretend he can be a leader on this issue when he's not," she told CNN.

She added that she "would not trust Donald Trump" and that she would only be convinced by an outside evaluation of

public data on a vaccine's safety and efficacy.

Judd Deere, spokesman for the White House, said in a statement to CNBC that every decision the FDA has made has maintained the agency's "gold standard for safety and been data-driven." He added that it's a "false narrative... that politics is influencing approvals."

"President Trump believes all Americans should have access to proven, safe, and affordable treatment options and the rapid research, development, trials, and scientific approvals are emblematic of President Trump's highest priority: the health and safety of the American people," he said.

Concerns that the political calendar could affect regulatory scrutiny of potential vaccines in the U.S. were heightened after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention sent a letter to state health officials directing them to expedite the approval process for medical supply company McKesson so it can set up coronavirus vaccination sites by Nov. 1. Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar quickly defended the move, saying it had nothing to do with the Nov. 3 presidential election.

Dr. Moncef Slaoui, who is leading Operation Warp Speed, said last week that the CDC directive was for planning purposes and a vaccine is "extremely unlikely" to be ready for public distribution by November.

"There is a very, very low chance that the trials that are running as we speak" could be ready before the end of October, Slaoui told NPR. "And therefore, there could be — if all other conditions required for an Emergency Use Authorization are met — an approval. I think it's extremely unlikely but not impossible."

He said he "firmly" believes a vaccine will be available before the end of the year and "in quantities that can immunize patients at the highest risk, which means very old people, 70 years and older, and maybe people that are highly exposed on the first line." (CNBC)



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# Abdeen- one of Sri Lanka's greatest ruggerites

ALTHAF NAWAZ

Rugby in Sri Lanka reached great heights especially in 1980's by producing some highly talented players, who raised the standard of the sport to next level both locally and Internationally. One of the prolific players in this era was Hisham Abdeen, who is a triple international representing the country in Rugby, Football and Sepak Takraw, which earned him an honorary life member status at Sri Lanka Rugby recently.

Hisham who is in his late-50's, started his school career at Zahira College, Colombo. When he was a young schoolboy, one of his uncles, T.R. Samath, who was a Policeman, played rugby for them which influenced and motivated him to take up Rugby. He then represented the college in Rugby, Athletics, Soccer and Cricket and excelled in all these sports. Even though he is renowned for his skills in rugby he also was the captain of the college athletic team in 1977. At the age of 14 years, he was chosen to play in the first fifteen rugby sides at college and went on to lead them in 1978. Along with rugby he was involved in playing cricket until 1979. He still holds an unblemished record of scoring 25 tries in a season, which is a unique achievement at the school's



Rugby Legend Hisham Abdeen receives a memento from Rizly Ilyas, President, Sri Lanka Rugby, after being honoured as a life Member at a ceremony held recently.

rugby arena. He then crossed over to Isipathana College to represent them in all those sports, in which he became a top performer. He continued his good form from Zahira and went on to establish several records in all sports at Isipathana. His five-year school rugby career from 1976 to 1980 in both schools has some unforgettable memories, which he is still proud of.

He has played with top class yesterday players at Isipathana such as M.P.F. Sallay, K.D. Nanayakkara, Anuruddha Bowala, M.D.Ithikar Isipathana had the best third row in school rugby in 1979 which involved Sallay, Hisham and Ithikar who were fearless in tackling the opponents. He would like to mention that he was moulded as a great player by O.W.R.Perera, his

coach at Isipathana. Due to this he was called "Bionic Abdeen." In 1979/80 he played in the Asian Schools Rugby Tournament where he was adjudged best player.

When he was a schoolboy he opted to play club rugby in 1979 for Havelock Sports Club. He played as a third row player along with Angelo Wickremaratne, Jeffrey De Jong, Michael Jayasekera some of the greats in the game until 1988. He was called for national duty as a school boy in 1980 to play in the Hong Kong sevens side led by Lanil Tennakoon. He then continued to represent the country frequently in both forms of the game, the sevens and the fifteen a-side. He led the Park Club side in 1983 where the tournament was interrupted due to communal riots. He scored eight tries in a match against Army Sports Club in 1981 at Longden place which the park club won 50-0 and went on to score 18 tries in a season, which was a tough task at that period, where most of the players were top performers.

After a one year break in 1989, Kishin Butani invited him to play for CH and FC in 1990 and he played for five years for them. He played with some rugby greats like Chandrishan Perera, Simon Hunter, Apst Nagata, Rohan Abeykoon, Sudesh Aysinghe,

Manasa Qoro, Illatia Ravaovu. Then in 1993 under his captaincy they won their third triple crown for the Gymkhana club by winning the A Division League Premadasa Trophy by beating Kandy SC 16-0 in the final and Rugby Sevens by edging out Havelocks 24-22. In 1995/6 season he joined Kishin to develop rugby in the outstations and to play in the 'B' division with Kurunegala RFC, which got promoted to 'A' division in 1996. In 1997 he played for Peterson Rugby Football Club. According to him the unforgettable moment in life was in 1984 winning the bowl championship at the Hong Kong Sevens as captain, involving the top nations like Japan, Fiji and Australia.

He has a whole list of achievements where he was a member in all those teams played overseas.

He after representing schools in soccer dribbled the ball for Java Lane Sports Club. He was a member of the National team which toured Korea in 1986. After he retired from all forms of the game, he started coaching St.Peter's College, Colombo, Isipathana, and Ananda Colleges. He was later invited to the hill capital by Dhammaraja College, Kandy in 2011. He coached the under-18 to become champions and continued with the

same team to win the under-20 championships in 2013. Isipathana who were relegated to 'B' division 2005/6, extended an invitation to take over coaching. He was instrumental in guiding them to be promoted to 'A' division in 2007. He was called to take over the mens and women's sevens national teams during this period along with Chandrishan Perera, where they produced some champions sides. He also served as a National selector on many occasions.

He then formed his rugby academy in 2010 by the name HARFA represented by players from the age of 8 years.

There are about 80 players from different schools from Colombo. The founder patron was Jan C.Vlas Kamp, a Frenchman who inaugurated this academy.

Booso's Dental Chamber, established in 1957 has been giving a helping hand from the inception to continue the good work while producing many talented players.

Hisham is a role model for Rugby as a player and was an indefatigable person on the field.

Until the recent past the rugby fraternity failed to utilize his services for the betterment of the game in the country.

## Navodya Nethmini Fernando fine cricketer athlete, elle and volleyball player



Wadduwa Central College Under 19 Girls Cricket Pool 2019/20 with the Officials posed for a photograph after emerging runners up at the all island inter schools championship (Picture by Dilwin Mendis - Moratuwa Sports Special Correspondent)

DILWIN MENDIS  
Moratuwa Sports Special Correspondent

The fifth year player, all rounder, right hand batswoman, right arm medium pace bowler, safe fielder in any position, provincial athlete and divisional volleyball player Manawaduge Navodya Nethmini Fernando has brought honour to her Alma Mater Wadduwa Central College.

Navodya commenced her schooling at Wadduwa Central and from her younger days she was keen on sports especially cricket and athletics. She initially played soft ball cricket and when her school commenced hard ball cricket in 2016 she attended crick-

et practices under Danushka Ranmuthu Perera

Her school entered the under 19 division one cricket tournament in 2016 and under Heshani Silva they came up to the second round and in the following year under the same skipper they reached the quarter finals. In 2018 they came up to semi finals under Shamini Withana and Navodya scored 36 runs and lost to Anula Vidyalaya, Nugegoda. In the following year too they came up to Semi Finals and she scored 68 runs and they lost to Rathnawali Balika Vidyalaya and 20 teams participated in the tournament. Last year under Chamini Virasha, they were the all island runners up



to Devapathiraja College out of 42 teams

They played their first ever big match against Mahanama College, Panadura in 2017 and Navodya was unbeaten on 97 runs and in the following year she scored 79 runs and last year she was the vice captain to Chamini Virasha and scored 68 runs and

totalled 244 runs in three big matches at a Bradmansque average of 122.0 for the series. This year she is the captain of the team and due to Coronavirus the big match was postponed indefinitely and she missed the opportunity of leading her school in a big match. In the first big match she received the Most Valuable Player Award and in all three games she carried away the best performance trophy.

She toured Bangalore, India with the D. R. Cricket Coaching School under Nisa Mendis and participated in four matches and their team was the runners up and she received the Player of the Finals Award and it was a fine exposure for her With these per-

formances she was selected for the 25 Member Squad from Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association for the under 19 World Cup 2020.

In addition to cricket Navodya represented her Alma Mater in Athletics, Elle and Volleyball her pet events in Athletics were discus throw, javelin throw and putt shot and she emerged champion in all these events in her school, Divisional and Zonal level and won third place in the Provincial meet and she was awarded School Athletics Colours. In Elle they were the all island runners up and in Volleyball they were the under 15 division one champions. In the under 15 age group she was the School Champion Athlete.

## Nimal Lewke rugby coach par excellence

HAFIZ MARIKAR

Kandy's rugby lovers still talk about Kandy born Nimal Lewke's contribution for Kandy Sports Club, which should be weighed in gold. He never played rugby for the school, at that time there was no rugby at his school.

He started his rugby at Kandy Sports club and later took to coaching. It was he who guided the club to win the first triple crown 25 years ago. It all started in 1995 mid-season where at the end of the first leg Kandy S.C. was placed 4th in the League table and at this point Kandy SC rugby livewire, Trustee and the man with a vision Malik Samarawickrema along with Former Policeman Hemantha Yatawara got through to Nimal Lewke and made the request to him to coach his former club (KSC). It was a huge challenge for Lewke as he was based in Vavuniya as SSP in charge of the Police Division, where the earlier SSP was assassinated inside his own office by a terror group using an IED. Lewke occupied the same office; The situation in the area too was very hostile

Nimal Lewke at this point had to look into many aspects apart from his personal security his biggest task was to travel to Kandy through a terror infested terrain being a professional who has undergone many coun-



ter terror training programmes had a plan as he was fully aware that most VIP assassinations (90%) all over the world was when in movement. To meet the challenge he had an excellent deception plan which he even at this point was not prepared to speak about but he was really grateful to Kishin Butani for solidly backing him and also to Sarath Perera and Malath Fernando of Kandy SC committee for the resources provided to him to travel to Kandy two days a week which was the turning point. The rest is history. Also Dr.Sarath Kapuwattige, Hassan Sinhawansa, Siva Subramaniam and this writer gave him the backing.

Kandy won the Triple Crown that season followed up to 1997, they had a resounding season where third in the League Havelock SC was beaten 95-0 which was also a record in the club history. He had outstanding players in the calibre of Priyantha and L.V.Ekanayake, Indrajith Banadarayake, Lasantha Wijesooriya, Sudath Sampath, Imthi Marikar, Nalin Dissanayake, Tuan Bohoran, Asoka Jayasena and School boy products such as Harris Omar, Pradeep Basnayake, Suranga Amarasinghe Veteran Saman Kotelawala and three Fijians Kiti, Qoro and Millie.

He went on to be the Sri Lanka Coach where he had an outstanding career. Thomi-

ans under Gavin Jayasekara coached by Lewke was the unbeaten Schools league champions in the year 2000. This record is still intact, after 20 years. Commenting on same Lewke said, there were no 'imports' all were out and out Thomians and almost 12 of them from S. Thomas prep school, which had very limited exposure at junior level rugby. They had Goonathileka brothers Jeewan and Jayan, Indrajit Perera, Gavin Jayasekara, Deva Corea, Ashen Karthelis, Mubarak, Madushka Perera, Dilsiri Welikala, Wimalasooriya, Amila Mudushanka, Suraj Rajapakse, Jason Jayasekara, Suresh Kandiah and the late Wasim Thajudeen.

Warden. Neville De Alwis, Master in charge - Upali. Nanayakkara, Junior Coach, A.L.F Fernando were a tower of strength to him. As Head coach, he supervised the junior development squad, which included the present young Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa and his two brothers. The three sons were involved regularly. He one day told me that Mahinda Rajapaksa the present Prime Minister used to watch rugby practices where his three sons were involved and commended his good work.

For Nimal Lewke, if there is a will, there was a way and it is significant to note both Kandy S.C and S. Thomas' which hired foreign professional coaches later couldn't achieve what Lewke achieved as a part time coach

## Janaka Mendis led Rajans to victory in the 1980 Big Match

(TEXT & PIC. BY UPANANDA JAYASUNDERA  
Kandy Sports Special Correspondent)

Janaka Mendis, former Cricket Captain of Dharmaraja College, Kandy and former player of Moors Sports Club in the premier league cricket tournament in the eighties missed his chance to represent the Country in Cricket as he had to concentrate on his official work at Singer Sri Lanka Limited.

In school he represented the under 12,14,16 and 1st XI Cricket teams under the coaching of Dhammika Vithanage, Harold Ranasinghe and the late T.M.A.Coaroy. He was a fine all round Cricketer but rather unfur-

tunate not to score a century in his school and club cricket career. His highest score in school cricket was 96 against Kingswood in the Limited over match in 1981 and in club cricket it was 70 runs against Sebastianites in 1984. He played for 5 years for the first XI cricket team at Dharmaraja College as an all-round Cricketer and his best bowling figure was match bag of 12 for 57 against St. Anthony's, Katugastota in the year 1979. In that particular match he cap-



Janaka Mendis

tured 7 for 17 runs in the 1st innings and 5 wickets for 40 runs in the 2nd Innings. He led the School to victory against Kingswood in their 'Big Match' In 1980 and won College Colours and the highest award of 'Dagaba' for Cricket. He was also a School Prefect and in his final year in

School in the year 1981 he scored eight half centuries and some of them were against Trinity, Ananda, Nalanda, Sri Sumangala, and

Zahira. He was selected to the Sri Lanka under 19 Pool for the Australian School tour in the year 1980.

He represented Moors Sports Club as an all-round cricketer under the leadership of D.S.de Silva, a former Test Cricket Captain.

He occupied the No.3 position in the Batting order and his other team mates were Anusha Samarayake, Ishaak Sahabdeen, Marlon Von Haght and all of them represented Sri Lanka in Cricket. Janaka Mendis had to concentrate on his official duties and climbed up the ladder of success as a Director of Singer Sri Lanka.

## Addalaichenai New Star SC limited over cricket champs



The skipper of the Champion New Star SC receiving the trophy and Rs.40,000. cash prize

(TEXT AND PICTURES BY: ADDALAICHENAI CENTRAL CORRESPONDENT)

Addalaichenai New Star Sports Club beat Al-Rasi Sports Club, Irakkamam by 55 runs in the final to emerge champions and bagged the SALAMAH Night Trophy -2020' of the seven-a-side limited 5 over's floodlit cricket tournament conducted by Varipathanchenai Salamah Youth Club at the Ashraff play grounds, Irakkamam recently.

Addalaichenai New Star Sports Club, won the toss and elected to bat first and scored 101 runs in their allocated five

over for three wickets. In reply, Irakkamam Al-Rasi Sports Club, scored only 46 runs, losing three wickets.

Man of the match award was won by M. Sifan and the best bowler award was secured by Sakeer of Addalaichenai New Star Sports Club. Man of the series award won by Mohamed Sahir of Irakkamam Al-Rasi Sports Club.

Champions New Star SC were awarded trophy and Rs.40,000.00 cash prize by the Guests and the runner-up Irakkamam Al-Rasi SC was awarded a cash prize of Rs.20,000.00 and trophy at the award ceremony.

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In all matters connected with the contest, the decision of the Sports Editor, SUNDAY OBSERVER is final.

DATE **12-09-2020**

NO. **27**



# Saajida bags Girls' U-16 Tennis crown

**CHANDRIKA FERNANDO**  
Fifth seed Saajida Razick put up a pleasing performance to clinch the Girls' Under-16 Singles title at the Clay Court Tennis Nationals, which continued at the SLTA Courts in Green Path, Colombo yesterday.

Even then, Saajida was under tremendous pressure in the beginning as Ruwi, who had earlier topped the top seed Tania Doloswala in the semi-finals, threatened to take the final in to a three setter. However, Saajida successfully negotiated the early storm from her giant killing opponent and settled down beautifully before cruising to a convincing win in the end. Meanwhile, the unseeded pair of Hasali Gajaba and Minuki Wanniarachchi creat-

ed a major upset as they went on to bag the Girls' Under-16 doubles title. Hasali and Minuki rallied around magnificently to overcome the more experienced top seed combination of Preethika Chandramohan and Tuvini de Alwis in straight sets 7-5, 6-4. In the Boys' Under-14 Singles final, fifth seed Matheesha Nettasinghe put up a giant killing performance to beat the top seed Thilina Disanayake 6-3, 10-5 after an exciting encounter.



Saajida Razick

# Calvin Kingsley king of inaugural Speedrun Championship

**TEXT AND PICTURES by PRIYAN DE SILVA**  
Calvin Kingsley was crowned champion leading from start to finish at the Super final of the inaugural Speedrun Championship concluded at the One Galle Face mall on Saturday. Kingsley was unperturbed by the immense pressure brought on by Viren Boteju and Riyaz Hafraath, who were placed 2nd and 3rd respectively. Thiyago Pereira faught tooth and nail with Riyaz and Viren but his valiant effort came to an end when he went off the track. Competitors had the privilege of driving the much coveted Mercedes Benz Ang Gt3, which was the official race car for the championship. E Racing has come a long way in Sri Lanka and the Ceylon Motor Sports Club has come out with many



From left to Right Viren Boteju, Calvin Kingsley, Riyaz Hafraath and Niroshan Pereira President of Ceylon Motor Sports Club

different disciplines, such as Speedruns and "race from home" as e racing has not only taken Sri Lanka but the region by storm. Racing superstars Dilantha Malagamuwa Ashan Silva who are no strangers to the local and the international Racing scene and newly elected President of SLAS Ashhar Hameem. The Speedruns Championship was a joint effort by Mandarin Ried and the Ceylon Motor Sports Club.

# Dharmasena rejects IPL offer; set to stand in home Test series



Kumar Dharmasena

**CHANDRIKA FERNANDO**

Sri Lanka's Kumar Dharmasena is one of the Elite Umpires of the International Cricket Council (ICC) who have declined to officiate in the lucrative Indian Premier League (IPL) Twenty20 Cricket Tournament, which begins on September 19 in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Instead, the veteran Sri Lankan umpire who has officiated in 65 Test matches is set to stand in as one of the on field umpires during Sri Lanka's home series against Bangladesh, scheduled to commence on October 14. Dharmasena is a regular umpire over the years in

this high profile Franchise based T20 tournament, owned by the Board of Control for Cricket in India who have shifted the 13th edition to the UAE due to the Coronavirus pandemic. "The ICC has already named Kumar Dharmasena as the Elite Umpire and Ranjan Madugalla as the Match Referee for all Sri Lankan home assignments until July 31, next year," a top official of Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) told the Daily News yesterday. "The three Test matches would probably be shared by Dharmasena along with Ruchira Palliyaguruge, Raveendra Wimalasiri and Lyndon Hannibal with Prageeth

Rambukwella as the reserve umpire," the source added further. In fact, Palliyaguruge is the most experienced umpire after Dharmasena having so far officiated in three Test matches, 79 One Day Internationals (ODIs) and 33 Twenty20 Internationals (T20Is). Meanwhile, Wimalasiri has officiated in 14 ODIs and 28 T20Is while Hannibal has stood in seven ODIs and 13 T20Is. In addition, Rambukwella has officiated in three T20Is. The Bangladesh team is scheduled to arrive on September 27 with the Test matches to be played in Colombo and at the Pallekele Stadium in Kandy.

# Work as a team to develop the game, urges Elle President Rodrigo

**DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA**

The newly appointed Elle Federation President Jayatissa Rodrigo said his first duty is to hold the National Elle Championship after making all arrangements to register the teams for the new National championship. He also said this time all the officials have to work as a team with the support of all affiliated clubs to develop the sport. The President also pointed out constitution changes will be made according to the sports act while new umpires have to be recruited to the Federation in a bid to develop the game. All new proposals are very vital to improve the standard. Actually the Federation has a big responsibility to conduct the tournaments among the district Associations and provide financial support to do all activities and is hoping to get sponsors for the sport. We have to do all this for the benefit of the players and develop the game added the new Elle President. Especially the Federation is looking to get a permanent place for their office and they are expected to discuss with new Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa their future plans to develop the game. The AGM of the Elle Federation was successfully held with a majority of the members participating. Meanwhile the new Secretary of the Elle Federation Priyantha Maddumage pointed out that the Federation members should get together to build up this sport.

Their support is very important at this stage. According to the constitution Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa and State Minister Thenuka Vidhanagama are in the consultant panel of the Federation while this time Lalith Piyum Perera the Chairman of the Lotteries Board is also included in the panel of the Executive Board said Maddumage. In addition Veteran Elle player and referee Siripala Ranasinghe from Wakkaduwa Sri Weeragaimi SC who was also the Secretary of the Federation several times was appointed Games Consultant while Samson Nonis from Kimbalapiriya Nirmala SC was appointed Auditor for the Federation. Following officials were appointed uncontested for the Elle Federation at the AGM lead at the Sumitra Hall Kadamawatha.



Elle Federation President Jayatissa Rodrigo

- President** - Jayatissa Rodrigo
- Secretary** - Priyantha Maddumage
- Treasurer** - K.M.S Priyankara
- Organiser** - Chamara Serasinghe
- Senior Vice President** - Dharmadasa Meegoda
- Vice Presidents** - Vipulasiri de Silva, Lional Jothirathna, Susantha Silva
- Assistant Secretary** - Chaminda Jagath Kumara, Nandakumara Gunawardena, Piyal Perera
- Assistant Treasurer** - Jagath Wijayaweera

# Serena through to last 16 as fresh controversy hits US Open

**NEW YORK:** Serena Williams battled into the US Open last 16 Saturday as the tournament endured fresh controversy after New York health officials ordered the women's top doubles pairing be withdrawn over coronavirus restrictions. Williams, chasing a record-equalling 24th Grand Slam title, came from a set down to oust 2017 champion Sloane Stephens 2-6, 6-2, 6-2, in what she called an "intense" encounter on Arthur Ashe Stadium. "In that first set I don't

think she made any errors, honestly. She was just playing so clean and I just said, 'I don't want to lose in straight sets,'" said Williams. With spectators barred from this year's Flushing Meadows event due to the pandemic, second and fourth seeds Sofia Kenin and Naomi Osaka took advantage of suites they have been assigned to check out the competition. "It's cool us players can watch each other. It's interesting, I like it," said Williams, who will play 15th seed Maria Sakkari for a



place in the quarter-finals. The Greek player, who stunned Williams at the Western & Southern Open last month, progressed with a 6-3, 6-1 dismantling of America's 22nd seed Amanda Anisimova.

Off the court, number one seeds Kristina Mladenovic and Tímea Babos were yanked from the women's doubles competition after Mladenovic was instructed to quarantine for coming in contact with French compatriot Benoit Paire, who tested positive for COVID-19 last weekend. "All persons who were identified as having prolonged close contact with the infected player will quarantine in their rooms for the remainder of their quarantine period," the United States Tennis Association said in a statement. **AFP**

# Sisira Kumara heads Karate Do Federation

**DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA**

H.M Sisira Kumara was re-elected President of the Sri Lanka Karate-Do Federation at their Annual General Meeting held at the Sports Ministry recently. There were ten nominations for the top post but Sisira Kumara was elected by a majority of 265 votes. The elections were conducted by the election committee headed by retired high court judge Wimal Nambuwasam and two members retired deputy sports directors Padma Beddewela and R.P.N Chandrasekara. There were so many objections for this election and all objections were overruled by the special committee appointed by the Sports Minister. The special committee comprised retired deputy Education Director



A.R.Kularatne and retired Major General R.M.P Bandara. The objection pointed out that this election was against the Sports Act but special committee investigated all and finally made the decision to hold this election. Keerthi Kumara Basnayaka was elected Secretary while Rohan Greasman was elected to the Treasurer post. Three top posts President, Secretary and Treasurer were elected with a big majority. keen interest was shown

by the affiliated clubs to conduct this election. There were 48 nominations received for the nine Executive Board members. There are 382 affiliated clubs registered with the Federation while 347 affiliated clubs were registered for this election. Following officials were elected for the Sri Lanka Karate-Do Federation 2020-2022

- President** - H.M Sisira Kumara
- Secretary** - Keerthi Kumara Basnayaka
- Treasurer** - Rohana Greasman
- Vice Presidents** - W.N.D Soyya, D.M.D Nimal, Mahinda Suwaris
- Assistant Secretary** - Z.A Rauf, Jagath Priyadharshana
- Assistant Treasurer** - Vergin Fernando

# England target Sotutu among seven new faces in All Blacks squad

**WELLINGTON:** Powerful backrower Hoskins Sotutu has opted for New Zealand over England and was one of seven new faces included in an All Blacks squad named Sunday as new coach Ian Foster began rebuilding ahead of the next World Cup.

The Auckland-born 22-year-old, of English and Fijian heritage, had attracted the interest of England coach Eddie Jones as well as Fiji mentor Vern Cotter. Instead, he joins prop Alex Hodgman, locks Tupou Vaa'i and Quinten Strange, loose forward Cullen Grace and outside backs Caleb Clarke and Will Jordan in the All Blacks squad.

But when they will get to play remains unknown. With the Covid-19 pandemic hampering international travel, the All Blacks have pencilled in fixtures against a composite Pacific side and Australia plus the delayed Rugby Championship. But they are awaiting confirmation, expected in the next few days, of which, if any, can go ahead. The Rugby Championship is already in



doubt with Argentina confirming six players have tested positive for coronavirus in recent days. "Like everyone else, we're impatient to know what is happening, but we fully understand all the variables at play and we remain confident that there'll be something for fans to look forward to in the not-too-distant future," Foster said. New Zealand have key gaps to fill following last year's World Cup with former captain and 127-Test number eight Kieran

Read, backs Sonny Bill Williams, Ben Smith and Ryan Crotty no longer available and lock Brodie Retallick contracted to play in Japan until next year. But Foster added he was "hugely excited" at the calibre of players at his disposal from a successful five-team domestic Super Rugby season after Covid-19 brought the 15-team, five-nation competition to a sudden halt. "The result is that we can now announce a team that is rich in experience and a little battle-hardened after the Rugby World Cup, but forward looking with the inclusion of a number of new players," he said. As well as the new caps, the squad also features the return of 2017 All Blacks Asafo Aumua and Akira Ioane as well as 2018 prop Karl Tu'inukuafe. Prop Atu Moli, lock Scott Barrett and midfielder Ngani Laumape were not considered because of injury. The All Blacks are swamped with talent among the outside backs where Clarke, a son of former All Blacks Eroni Clarke, and Jordan were the two standout performers in Super Rugby. **AFP**





# Finance

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## Maliban to manufacture pharma

### Sri Lanka targets 50% self-sufficiency



Minister of Pharmaceutical Production, Supply, and Regulation Prof. Channa Jayasumana

The Board of Investment Director General said that they are planning to have a 200-acre pharmaceutical zone in Hambantota and will get both local and global pharmaceutical manufacturers to set up factories.

SHIRAJIV SIRIMANE

Maliban Biscuits one of the largest manufacturers, distributors, and marketers of bakery products in Sri Lanka will be diversifying into the manufacture of pharmaceuticals.

An official from the company said that the management has decided to move into the manufacture of pharmaceuticals and detailed information would be spelled out soon.

He said that Maliban officials and

35 local investors also met the Minister of Pharmaceutical Production, Supply, and Regulation Prof. Channa Jayasumana last week.

The local investors pledged to set up pharmaceutical production plants within 30 months investing around Rs. 40 billion with the aim of export as well.

"Fifty percent of the country's total drug requirement will be manufactured within Sri Lanka and the supply

of high quality low price drugs will be ensured," Prof. Channa Jayasumana said while assuming duties.

"Within the first three years, 50 percent of Sri Lanka's total drug requirements will be manufactured within the country.

Some expensive imported drugs too will be produced in Sri Lanka in the next 18 months," he said

Initial arrangements have been made to produce the drugs and discus-

sions are underway to set up another factory to produce cancer drugs.

The Sri Lanka Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association (SLPMA) welcomed the newly elected government's decision to create a new State Ministry for Pharmaceuticals Manufacture as a crucial positive step towards the strengthening of the local pharmaceuticals industry.

The Association iterated the importance of its contribution to the nation

as local manufacturers ensuring the availability of essential pharmaceuticals and expressed its confidence in the government's vision for the nation.

SLPMA President Sanjaya Jayaratne, Chairman of Navesta Pharmaceuticals, highlighted the importance the state places on a self-sufficient local pharmaceutical manufacturing industry in the country and is an encouragement to the industry.

## Eco-friendly food packs to market soon

LAKMI NANAYAKKARA

Eco-friendly food packing modules will be unveiled to the consumer market which will benefit banana farmers very much.

The food packaging including eco-friendly yoghurt cups that have been produced using the stem of the banana tree was invented under an experimental basis by the Eco-ma Packaging Pvt Ltd.

During the discussions which took place with Minister of Industries, Wimal Weerawansa recently it was decided to provide the necessary support for the Chairman and Inventor, Eco-ma Packaging Pvt Ltd, Menaka Ariyaratne to bring the products to the consumer market within a short term. Thus it would be possible to provide eco-friendly and health-friendly food packaging including yoghurt cups to the local consumers and further development would enable them to export the product to the international market as well.

"We have been producing a lot of food packaging using banana stems which are discarded by the farmers



Minister of Industries Wimal Weerawansa examining the packaging.

after harvesting. This would allow the farmers to value the stem of the banana tree," Chairman and Inventor, Eco-ma Packaging Pvt Ltd, Menaka Ariyaratne said. Thus this would provide the farmers with an income not solely based on the fruit while promoting the banana farming.

Producing Food packaging using the banana stem will reduce the production and usage of plastic food packaging thus reducing the amount of plastic wastage

getting collected to the environment. He said that monthly more than 100 lakhs of plastic cups get produced which can be figured out how much non-degradable plastic waste gets collected to the environment. The banana stem-based eco-friendly yoghurt cups, which is the main product, was designed to reduce that pollution to the environment.

"Apart from that, we have come up with eco-friendly alternatives to another food packaging which are also

based on the banana stem," he added.

With the discussions held with the Minister of Industries Wimal Weerawansa to describe the challenges faced to get this product to the market, it was agreed to provide the necessary support to introduce this product to the market. "Recently we signed an agreement with the Pelwatta Dairy Product Company to promote our eco-friendly yoghurt cup by using it in their production processes," he said.

## GSP+ till 2025

### 'Lanka's labour standards best in South Asia'

DINESH PERERA

GSP Plus is expected to continue till at least 2025 based on the country qualifying for GSP concessions through lower GDP per capita figures.

The trade concession Head of the European Delegation to Sri Lanka Denis Chaibi said, "So if there is a positive situation in human rights or at least there is no degradation in human rights there will be GSP Plus till at least 2025."

"With Europe, you have the competitive advantage of GSP Plus. The GSP Plus concession was to end in 3 years but it is not because of the crisis. The GDP per capita is below the required levels and as such from next year onwards there are at least 3 years of GSP Plus."

"GDP per capita in Europe is 3 times on average than that of China. You have much more profit in Europe."

Chaibi was speaking to the Delegation of the German Chamber of Commerce on September 2 at the



Head of German Chamber Andreas Hergenrother and Head of European Delegation Denis Chaibi.

Colombo Hilton Residences. The event was to kick off a sustainable supply chain initiative that helps Sri Lankan firms with documentation on supply chain compliance headed by the delegation of German Industry and Commerce in Sri Lanka.

The panel discussion focused on improving the utilization of the trade concession. The net trade balance with the European Union is US\$ 2.4 billion in

favor of Sri Lanka and Chaibi was happy with such a relationship given the high labor standards of the country which he cited as the 'best in South Asia'.

Non-tariff trade restrictions are expected to be the new trend with the OECD setting out guidelines on supply chains.

Compliance through means of documentation and standard certification is expected to become a hurdle for exporting coun-

tries. Sri Lanka is expected to benefit as production practices have a lack of slave or child labor meaning that the country is compliant with the bare minimum standards set out.

Chaibi noted that import restrictions were required by the country due to the Foreign Reserve situation but suggested that in the long-term trade relations should have a certain degree of reciprocity.

## ADB meets State Minister Cabraal



Asian Development Bank Country Director Dr Chen Chen led a delegation on a courtesy call to the state minister Ajith Nivard Cabraal. Senior Country Economist: Utsav Kumar, Transport Specialist: Aruna Nanayakkara, Urban Sector Specialist: Kamal Dahanayake and other officials also participated.

## "Legacy infrastructure impeding banks' digital transformation"

It's been slightly more than 10 years since the financial crisis of 2008. In this time, the global banking industry has been working in coordination with financial regulators to move the financial system from its precarious position to a safer one, resting on less tenuous ground, Moody's Investor Services said.

In numerical terms, the global banking ROE had fallen from 15.2% in the pre-economic crisis period to 9% in 2017. It has hovered in a narrow range between 8% and 9% since 2012, which is a clear indication of the industry's resiliency.

The global Tier 1 capital ratio, a primary indicator of banking-system safety – increased from 9.8% in 2007 to 13.2% in 2017.

Over the years, legacy systems or Core Banking Solutions (CBS) have undergone cycles of change, to meet a wide range of requirements. This has presented financial institutions with multiple challenges concerning updating their existing systems.

FinTech companies around the world have now reached the potential of substituting almost any service from the banking value chain. The financial services landscape is evolving at a rapid pace. The fierce fight for customer experience has left the incumbents reeling and has pushed them to reevaluate their strategies. On the other hand, customer trust is also at stake.

While in some markets, banks are still able to hold on to the trust of their customer base – especially non-millennials; other major regions like China have seen tech invaders making a huge dent in the market.

With wounds of the economic crisis being still fresh, some of the recent data breaches have left customers wanting for a more robust Fin-



Serv ecosystem. The flaws in the existing systems – non-transparent and complex payment systems, costly wire transfers and agent-driven remittances, the credit gap after the economic crisis, legacy banking systems – are all building a strong case for the FinTech to take centre stage and lead the innovation to eliminate these flaws.

The cost of compliance and misconduct has made a serious dent in banks' profitability as they need to expand their compliance headcounts to tackle the regulatory expectations.

The cost of compliance and misconduct has made a serious dent in banks' profitability as they need to expand their compliance headcounts to tackle the regulatory expectations.

Compliance puts an additional and necessary onus on banks to transform their existing systems. Globally, banks are now shelling out more than \$270 billion per year on compliance and regulatory obligations. Large US and European banks are spending as much as \$20 billion a year on technology to help them comply with the newly evolving regulations. An estimate indicates that fines levied on banks by US and UK regulators will top \$400 billion by 2020.

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## CEAT ramps up '2-wheeler' tyre production by 85% in 3 months

CEAT Kelani Holdings has announced the achievement of an 85% increase in the production of tyres for the 'two-wheeler' segment over just three months, as a full-bodied response to the needs of the local market consequent to the temporary import restrictions introduced by the government.

Maximising capacity utilisation at its manufacturing plants at Kelaniya and Kalutara, the Company pushed production of tyres for motorcycles and scooters from 27,000 units a month in June 2020 to 41,000 per month in July and August and is on target to produce 50,000 tyres in September, increasing volumes by 52% in the first step and by an incremental 22% thereafter.

The sharp increase in the production of tyres for the two-wheeler segment follows similar ramping up of production of truck and bus tyres as well as passenger car radials by CEAT Kelani. To achieve the increases in two-wheeler capacity,

the Company said it had utilised available capacity at its three-wheeler tyre plant in Kalutara. CEAT Kelani currently manufactures 32 different types of scooter and motorcycle tyres in 43 varying specifications, and now caters to 37% of local market requirements for two-wheeler tyres.

"The import restrictions challenge domestic industries to show what they are truly capable of, and we are pulling out all the stops to fully utilise the capacity we have to support the government's initiative of import substitution through increased domestic manufacturing," CEAT Kelani Managing Director Ravi Dadlani said. "We are continuing to look at ways of meeting demand for the most popular categories and sizes of tyres, and are keeping the government informed of the products that we are not equipped to manufacture so that they can be imported."

"CEAT's increased production of

truck and bus tyres has resulted in the Company producing 100% of the segment's requirements and enabled the government to make a saving of Rs 11 billion a year in foreign exchange. The Company's latest initiative in the two-wheeler tyre segment is estimated to enable a further saving of Rs 350 million a year through import substitution."

The expansion of production capacity for this segment of tyres has resulted in a 100 per cent increase in the production of sizes 90/90-12 TL and 90/100-10 TL that fit popular scooter models. Meanwhile, CEAT's production of tyre size 90/90-17 TL that fits motorcycle models has increased by 400% and the Company has achieved a 100% increase in the production of the 100/80-17 TL tyre that is required for the popular Yamaha FZ. Production of tyres for Bajaj Pulsar 150, Bajaj CT 100, Bajaj Platina, and TVS Heavy Duty Super XL has also increased significantly.



# Jebz Ceylon Tea launched



Founding Chairman Jebz Advertising, Jepsingh Joseph, presenting a tea pack to Tea Board Deputy Commissioner, Kasun Maddhusanka looked on by two brand ambassadors, Madetha Serasinghe and Shehani Allang

One of the leading advertising agencies in Sri Lanka, Jebz Advertising, with over 25 years' experience, diversified to the tea sector by launching Jebz Ceylon Tea on Saturday.

Founding Chairman Jebz Advertising, Jepsingh Joseph, said that they are launching Jebz Ceylon Tea mainly to create a void for quality authentic black tea in Sri Lanka and the world as well.

A former planter for over 15 years he said that they will commence their global campaign through their Global Representatives in China and Switzerland who will supply it to leading supermarkets and sales Outlets.

He said that the product is already available in 300, 450 Gram, and 1 KG packs and are ecofriendly, hand-packed, and is sold in an eye-catching Jute bag to give a novel brand identity. "Our speciality tea is carefully selected from the best



of Nuwara Eliya region tea estates, to bring the finest quality tea."

"Whilst tea is safeguarded in the best of foil to retain, aroma, flavor, and strength, the foil, in turn, is packed in a handcrafted sack which too is wax-sealed to perfection."

He said that globally there



is also a renewed interest for Black tea since Tea is considered as a good antidote to fight against the COVID pandemic and hence this launch is timely.

Joseph also said that with digital marketing being the new trend and with their experience in marketing and dealing with internet channels, Jebz Ceylon Tea could be marketed easily helping Sri Lanka also to gain additional export revenue in time to come.

"Generations, just as hab-

its, have either changed or evolved. New practices come up to capture the interest of mankind. Traditional tea has enthralled tea drinkers over generations.

"Yet, one habit that keeps going from generation to generation is their perennial love for traditional tea. It is for this market, we are launching Jebz Ceylon Tea."

In a bid to create more awareness for Jebz Ceylon Tea, www.jebztea.com was also launched on Saturday.

(SS)

# H S Fabric Collection launches H S Select



Religious leaders and Army Commander Shavendra Silva opening the showroom

## JAYANTHI COORAY

H.S Fabric Collection Company Ltd, launched their "new showroom and a new brand, H. S. Select at Narahenpita Road, Nawala last week.

Chairman H.S Fabric Collection, Lahiru Gamage said that they invested around RS. 60 million to refurbish the new showroom and create, H. S. Select, which would be introducing a new range of imported curtain material to Sri Lanka.

"We would be importing material from both India and Indonesia and marketing them through the head office in Nawala and our branches and their sister company, Nawala Cushions Works."

He said that there are one of the leading suppliers of cushion material to leading hotels, apartments and they expect the same positive response from their clients for, H. S. Select curtain material. "We are also the leading suppliers of fabrics for sofa makers in the Moratuwa area."

He said that there are several grades of curtains including fire-protected material. "However though most of the leading hotel chains in Sri Lanka prefer to purchase fire-protected curtain material this attitude is sadly not followed by most of the Apartment developers."

"We will also look at opening more branches and creating our fabrics in the future," he said. Lieutenant General Shavendra Silva, the Head of the National Operation Centre for Prevention of the COVID-19 Outbreak was the Chief Guest.



Chairman H.S Fabric Collection, Lahiru Gamage with Marketing Manager, Jinali Hettiarachchi.



# ASPI gains 4% M-o-M in Aug. 20 - Acuity Stockbrokers

The Bourse ended the week on a negative note as the ASPI decreased by 9.45 points (or -0.18%) to close at 5,311.42 points, while the S&P SL20 Index also decreased by 38.81 points (or -1.64%) to close at 2,321.57 points.

JKH was the highest contributor to the week's turnover value, contributing LKR 0.82Bn or 15.38% of the total turnover value.

DFCC Bank followed suit, accounting for 11.68% of turnover (value of LKR 0.62Bn) while HNB contributed LKR 0.46Bn to account for 8.61% of the week's turnover.

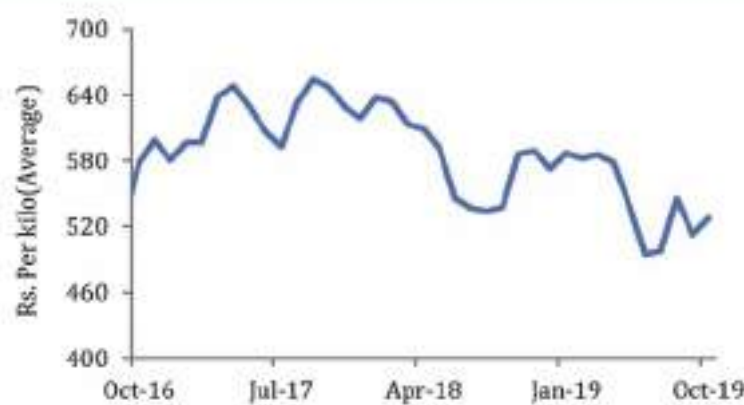
The total turnover value amounted to LKR 5.30Bn (cf. last week's value of LKR 8.72Bn), while the daily average turnover value amounted to LKR 1.32Bn (-24.02% W-o-W) compared to last week's average of LKR 1.74Bn. Market capitalization meanwhile, decreased by 0.18% W-o-W (or LKR 4.11Mn) to LKR 2,308.41Bn cf. LKR 2,312.51Bn last week.

## Liquidity (in Value Terms)

The Banks Industry Group was the highest contributor to the week's total turnover value, accounting for 29.96% (or LKR 1.59Bn) of market turnover. Industry Group's turnover was driven primarily by DFCC Bank, HNB & Commercial Bank which accounted for 82.99% of the sector's total turnover.

The Capital Goods Industry Group meanwhile accounted for 29.38% (or LKR 1.56Bn) of the total turnover value, with turnover driven primarily by JKH, Royal Ceramic, Central Industries & ACL which accounted for 82.91% of the sector turnover.

## Tea Prices



Source: Sri Lanka Tea Board

The Food, Beverage & Tobacco Industry Group was also amongst the top sectorial contributors, contributing 10.97% (or LKR 0.58Bn) to the total turnover, with turnover driven primarily by Browns Investments accounting for 43.36% of the total turnover.

## Liquidity (in Volume Terms)

The Food Beverage & Tobacco Industry Group dominated the market in terms of share volume, accounting for 35.18% (or 119.47Mn shares) of total volume, with a value contribution of LKR 0.58Bn.

The Utilities Industry Group followed suit, adding 16.79% to total turnover volume as 57.04Mn shares were exchanged.

The Industry Group's volume accounted for LKR 0.29Bn of total market turnover value.

The Transportation Industry Group meanwhile, contributed 39.13Mn shares (or 11.52%), amounting to LKR 0.23Bn.

## Top Gainers & Losers

Tess Agro was the week's highest price gainer; increasing 25.0% W-o-W from LKR0.40 to LKR0.50 while Softlogic Life (+16.4% W-o-W), Expolanka (+15.1% W-o-W), and Dolphin Hotels (+14.4% W-o-W) were also amongst the top gainers.

Bimputh Finance was the week's highest price loser; declining 15.8% W-o-W to close at LKR10.10. Nation Lanka (-12.5% W-o-W), Horana Plantations (-11.8% W-o-W), and Asia Capital (-11.1% W-o-W) were also amongst the top losers over the week.

Foreign investors closed the week in a net selling position with total net outflow amounting to LKR 1.32Bn relative to last week's total net outflow of LKR 2.37Bn (+44.39% W-o-W). Total foreign purchases increased by 234.55% W-o-W to LKR 0.32Bn from last week's value of LKR 0.10Bn, while total foreign sales amounted to LKR 1.64Bn relative to LKR 2.47Bn recorded last week (-33.53% W-o-W). In terms of volume, Teejay Lanka & RIL property led foreign purchases while Dialog Axiata & DFCC Bank led foreign sales.

In terms of value, Teejay Lanka & LMF led foreign purchases while JKH & DFCC Bank led foreign sales.

## Dividend Announcements

Company DPS (Rs.) Type XD Date MAHAWELI COCONUT 1.50 Final

29-09-2020 SIERRA CABLES 0.20 Interim 11-09-2020 ABANS ELECTRICALS 1.50 Final 24-09-2020 LANKA MILK FOODS 2.50 First & Final 02-10-2020 LEE HEDGES 1.00 Final 09-10-2020

Key Economic Indicators July: Prime Lending Rate of 7.79%, Ave. Wtd. Deposit Rates 7.16%, Ave. Wtd. Fixed Dep. Rates 8.69%, CCPI Inflation Y-o-Y (Base 2013) 4.2%.

## Point of View

Domestic equities were relatively subdued this week amid Parliamentary approval for the proposed 20th Amendment as the broad share index slipped a paltry ~9 points or -0.2% W-o-W to close at 5,311.42 on Friday. Markets opened the week on a positive note to gain ~39 points between Monday and Wednesday, supported by buying interest in JKH and CARS.

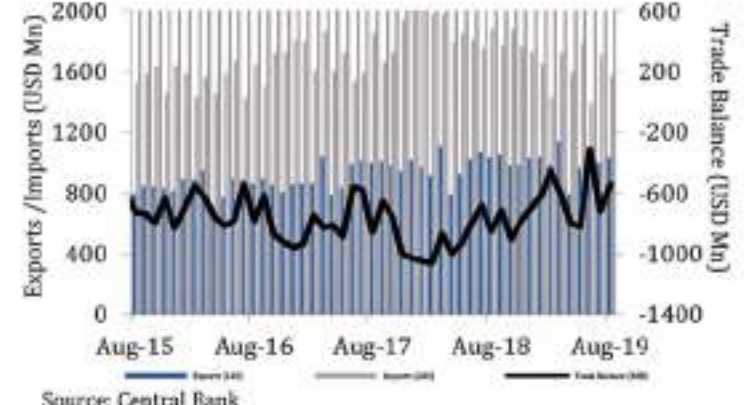
At its close on Monday, the ASPI recorded a gain of ~205 points (4.0% M-o-M) over August amid strong retail-driven momentum over-optimism of a stable Government following the conclusion of the General elections.

However, the positive momentum in domestic equities was short-lived as selling pressure returned to the market amid Parliamentary approval of the 20th amendment and data released on private sector credit growth. Private sector credit growth slowed from 4.3% Y-o-Y in Jun'20 to 4.2% Y-o-Y in Jul'20 even after the CBSL slashed benchmark lending rates by 250bps since the beginning of the year.

Consequently, the index shed ~49 points between Thursday and Friday while losses in select Food, Beverage & Tobacco sector stocks (CARS, CTC, & LION) also weighed on the index.

Activity levels on the Colombo Bourse meanwhile continued to decline over the holiday-shortened as

## Export & Trade Balance



Source: Central Bank

## Trends in Tourist Arrivals



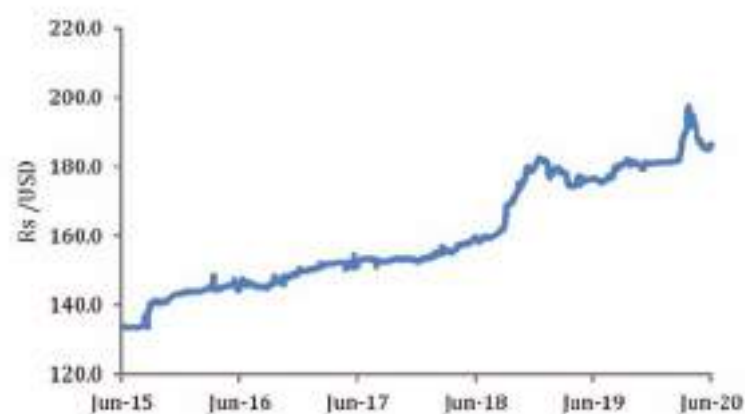
Source: Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority

average daily turnover for the week fell from Rs. 1.7Bn last week to Rs. 1.3Bn this week as heavy local retail and institutional buying eased-off amid some profit-taking towards the end of the week. Crossings for the week accounted for 23% of total market turnover (cf. 24% last week) with buying interest in index heavyweight JKH, HNB, and Vidullanka collectively accounted for 86% of total crossings for the week while local HNI and

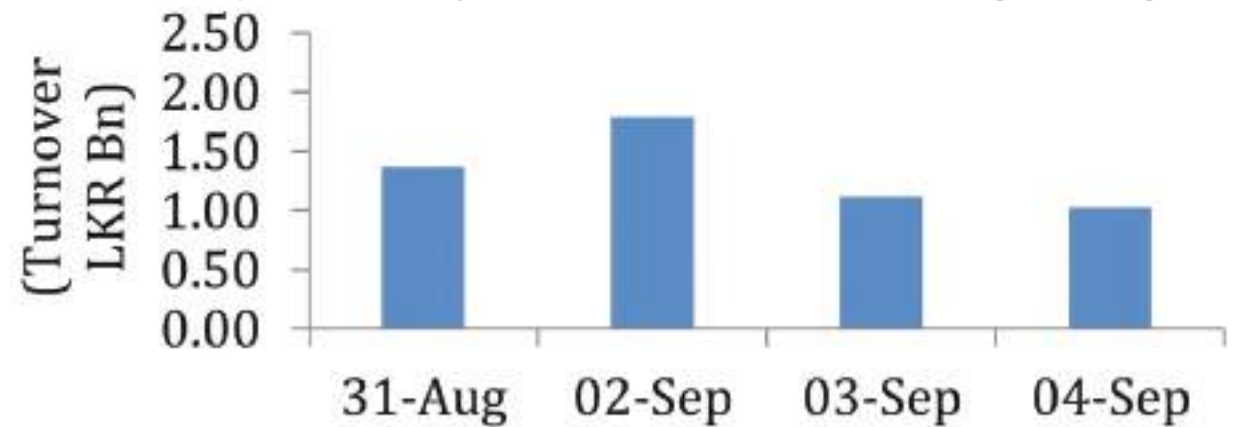
institutional interest was also visible in Dialog, Central Industries, Melstacorp, and Commercial Bank.

Meanwhile, foreigners were net sellers this week albeit at a slower pace with a net foreign outflow of Rs. 1.3Bn (cf. net outflow of Rs. 2.4Bn last week). Consequently, foreign investors have sold off Rs. ~33Bn so far this year. Markets in the week ahead are likely to look for cues from economic and political developments.

## Exchange Rate, Rs. vs. US\$



Source: Central Bank





# John Keells Holdings ranked 'Sri Lanka's Most Respected Entity' again



JKH Chairman Krishan Balendra

For a record 15th year, John Keells Holdings PLC (JKH), was ranked as the Most Respected entity in Sri Lanka, in the recently released edition of LMD's Most Respected Entities issue.

In terms of the 10 attribute rankings, JKH has taken the lead in five categories, namely Quality Consciousness, Management Profile, Dynamism, Corporate Culture, and Vision. JKH retained its position as the Most Respected entity by garnering the highest number of votes (1,125) in a survey commissioned and conceptualized by LMD and conducted by Nielsen.

The survey was designed to rank the 'Most Respected' entities in Sri Lanka based on the perceptions of respondents – and to evaluate why they're perceived as such. The survey covered

a sample of 800 respondents (managers and above) from listed companies.

John Keells Group which celebrates its 150th anniversary in 2020, has occupied the number one position in LMD's Most Respected rankings for 15 years since the rankings were launched in 2005.

JKH Chairman Krishan Balendra in his interview in the August 2020 issue of LMD said, "Our strongest attribute is our commitment to live our core values – integrity, caring, trust, innovation, and excellence. Our robust corporate governance structure, professional management, and sustainable development processes stem from these values and over our rich history of 150 years, has enabled us to do the right thing,

always, foster a great place to work for our people, build strong relationships with our partners and empower our communities. We are humbled at being recognized as Sri Lanka's Most Respected Entity once again in appreciation of the way we conduct our business and contribute to the nation." John Keells Holdings PLC is Sri Lanka's largest listed conglomerate on the Colombo Stock Exchange operating over 70 companies in 7 diverse industry sectors.

In 2020 John Keells Group celebrates 150 years of being in business and contributing to the development of the country. JKH provides employment to over 14,000 persons and has been ranked as Sri Lanka's 'Most Respected Entity' for the last 15 years by the LMD Maga-



zine. Whilst being a full member of the World Economic Forum and a Participant of the UN Global Compact, JKH drives its CSR vision of 'Empowering the nation for tomorrow,' through the John Keells Foundation and through the social entrepreneurship initiative, 'Plasticcycle', which is a catalyst in significantly reducing plastic pollution in Sri Lanka.

## MarCom collective continues to engage stakeholders



Rohan Rajaratnam, Convener, MarCom Collective; Santhush Weeraman, President, Video and Film Production Association (VAFFA); Thayalan Bartlett, Convener, MarCom Collective; S. R. Attygalle, Secretary - Ministry of Finance; Arjuna Herath, Senior Partner and Head of Consulting, Ernst & Young, Sri Lanka and Maldives; Sulaiman Nishtar, Partner - Tax Services, Ernst & Young, Sri Lanka; and Thanuja Perera, Tax Policy Advisor, Department of Fiscal Policy, Ministry of Finance.

The MarCom collective, the industry body comprising of eight associations linked to the advertising and marketing communications sectors as well as businesses and professionals associated with them, continued to engage with its members and other stakeholders to bring to light the diverse issues faced by the sectors and how they could work together to address them in a post-COVID-19 business environment.

As part of these efforts, a team of senior representatives from the MarCom collective met the Secretary to the Ministry of Finance, S. R. Attygalle, recently. They apprised him on the significant contribution the sector has made to the national economy which

has largely gone unrecognised. A study undertaken by Ernst & Young notes that the MarCom sector generates Rs.151 billion in annual net revenue and employs over 100,000 people directly and indirectly, with about another 200,000 people depending on it. The sector also contributes 1% to the country's GDP and it, therefore, requires immediate and serious attention before the crippling effects of COVID-19 take its toll on the industry and the economy. The revenue yield from the sector as estimated by Ernst & Young is Rs.1.510 million per employee. The significance and relevance of this are accentuated when juxtaposed with the per employee yield from other

key sectors such as Tea - Rs.232,000, Textile and Garments - Rs.444,444, Rubber - Rs.452,308 and Tourism - Rs.1.068 million.

The MarCom collective also facilitated a discussion with members from within the industry. Ernst & Young Sri Lanka presented their findings and recommended proposals to help complement the government's effort to accelerate the recovery of the sector and the economy. Taking note of the policy framework shared at the forum, representatives from the eight constituent industry associations confirmed that they would be incorporated into the final proposal to be presented to the government in the coming weeks.

## Allianz, partners BIMA to take health insurance to more Sri Lankans

Allianz Lanka joined hands with BIMA Lanka Insurance Brokers (Pvt) Limited (BIMA) to introduce BIMA Health, a simple and affordable health insurance solution with convenient monthly premiums and a host of valuable benefits.

BIMA, headquartered in London & Singapore, is a leading global insurance and health organisation, operating in emerging markets and serving over 35 million customers across 9 countries in Asia & Africa. BIMA uses digital technology to bring simple, affordable insurance and health services to people who have never had them before.

Building on Allianz's longstanding global relationship with BIMA, where the insurer is one of the early, strategic investors, this partnership seeks to make health insurance accessible to more Sri Lankans around the island.

BIMA Health policies will be underwritten by Allianz Lanka. Offered under two tiers, it provides policyholders fixed daily cash benefits in the event of hospitalization due to an accident, illness, or surgery.



Malinda Mendis, Senior Cluster Manager, Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited; Rakshana Buhardeen, Assistant Manager Operations, BIMA; Apoorv Kansal, General Manager, BIMA; Ajith Alexander, Country Manager, BIMA; Gany Subramaniam, Director and Chief Executive Officer, Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited; Ranga Dias, Chief Sales Officer- Corporate, Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited; Thimira Manamendra, Head of Affinity, Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited; Mangala Bandara, Chief Marketing Officer, Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited; Anura Perera, Head of Commercial, Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited; and Nirosha Perera, Assistant General Manager Legal, Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited

It also provides extended protection to cover loss of income during the post-hospitalization recovery period.

"In Sri Lanka and around the world, we at Allianz have remained committed to helping secure people's lives and to give courage to our customers for what's ahead. Taking our world-class insurance solutions to underserved segments of the market is one of the key elements of this mission. Hence, we are delighted to extend our global partnership with BIMA to the Sri

Lankan market and roll out a simple, cost-effective health insurance solution through BIMA Health," said Anura Perera, Head of Commercial, Allianz Insurance Lanka Ltd. "The low premiums and suite of benefits on offer are sure to encourage more Sri Lankans to utilize the protection of health insurance. We look forward to working with BIMA on rolling out similar economical insurance solutions."

"We are incredibly excited to partner with Allianz in Sri Lanka to launch

BIMA Health. Allianz is a valuable partner to BIMA, having invested \$96 million in our company in 2017, to support our global business expansion, and serving as an underwriter in several key markets. We're looking forward to strengthening our relationship here in Sri Lanka and also plan to launch some new products shortly. The partnership allows us to reach millions of people in Sri Lanka with trustworthy, simple and affordable insurance services," said Apoorv Kansal, General Manager of BIMA.

## The COVID-19 experience opens new awareness, opportunities for PRISL



President of the Plastics and Rubber Institute of Sri Lanka, Kaushal Rajapaksa with the new office bearers of the PRISL.

"The COVID-19 experience has opened up new awareness and opportunities which will be explored by the institute in its efforts to serve the members and the rubber and plastics industry in Sri Lanka" stated Kaushal Rajapaksa who was re-elected President of the Plastics and Rubber Institute of Sri Lanka (PRISL), at its 55th Annual General Meeting, held recently.

The meeting which was a hybrid event had both physical and online participants. Speaking further Rajapaksa said, "The rubber and plastics industries with their high-value addition will have a leading role to play in the recovery process, and PRISL as the apex body in the polymer education in the country should be in a strong position to support the industry."

The following were elected at the AGM. Office Bearers, Indhra Kaushal Rajapaksa (Kalhari Enterprises), President; R.A.L. Sampath Ramanayake (Ex Camso Loadstar), Vice President; Kalyana Dhi-

raskera (Aqua Packaging), Vice President; P.P. Perera (Sri Lanka Representative PIN365), Secretary; Lalith Jayawardena (DSI), Treasurer and Prabhath Jayasinghe (Gislaved Gummii), Assistant Secretary.

Executive Council: Ananda Caldera (Global Rubber Industries), Dr. Susantha Siriwardena (Rubber Research Institute of Sri Lanka), B.M.H.I.B. Wattegedara (Camso Loadstar), Janadara Jayawarna (Laugfs), Pio Perera (Vaughan Chemicals), K.A.C. Vidyarthne (Vanadium Lanka), Mr. AnuraHerath (Penguin Lanka), Mr. SumuduBowatta (Camso Loadstar), H.N. Hari (Midas Group - Industrial Clothing's), Parakrama Jayatissa (Champion Recycle), Dr. Upul Rathnayake (Dipped Products Lanka), Dinesh Gunasekara (Trelleborg Lanka), Kapila Sooriyabandara (Ansell Lanka), Kersten Rausch (Eu-Retec Continental) and Sharad Kakati (CeatKelani). "The Com-

plast and Rubber Expo scheduled for August 2020 had to be postponed due to the current health situation. A virtual exhibition will be organized instead, in October 2020," he added.

He also appreciated the collaborative partnership which PRISL has established with SMARTEXPOS India, which is a leading exhibitions organizer, currently holding events in Vietnam, Myanmar, Cambodia, South Africa, Kenya and Nigeria. A valuable opportunity will be provided to the local industrialists to display their rubber and plastics products globally, through the platform of virtual exhibitions.

"This being the 60th Anniversary of the PRISL, a series of events are being planned to commemorate the occasion. We also plan to expand the international networking with countries such as Thailand, Laos, Bangladesh and Pakistan. The PRISL has also launched a dynamic drive to increase the Corporate Membership base."

## Leapfrog approach towards an MSME revolution

SUMIT BOTHRA

Micro Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) have been an integral part of our state and its industrial and economic growth, although the relevance of these industries has varied from time to time across various stages of growth. A majority of the MSMEs are ancillary clusters grew around large industrial houses. This growth happened as a demand from the mother industry, and the government provided base infrastructure was also benefiting these ancillary units.

Most states have taken serious efforts to attract large industrial investments in the state from both domestic and international manufacturing industries. As a result of this MSMEs could not get the attention required for growth in the last decade or so, wherein large investments caught the eye and focus of the government. Further to this when the global economy was in a recessive state MSME growth suffered even more.

The state government also identified areas for investments in the industrially backwards areas to provide an impetus to growth and to attract investors by offering tax sops and a host of other incentives. This found few takers amongst the large houses that prefer the urbanised zones, despite higher costs.

MSME can be broadly classified into three categories: manufacturing sector, services sector and agro-based sector. During the first quarter-century, post-independence agriculture dominated the country and almost all states. The post-independence second quarter and the last of the millennium witnessed a steady industrial growth in the manufacturing sector and came to a point of global competitiveness hampering further growth. The first quarter of the 21st century saw the



Sumit Bothra

emergence and spurt in the services sector across the country and there seems to be no looking back for the services sector. This is evident from the fact that the government also derives revenue by the tax on services.

Entrepreneurship is vital to the growth of the MSME sector and the key players are skilled machinists or technicians who turn into successful employers. They may be less educated and short of capital but they are the dream models of thousands of blue-collared workers who create a source of livelihood and share fortunes by working hands-on in untidy work sheds and factories in need of basic comfort. The second type of entrepreneurs comes from a background of a family business and specialised education. This is the young breed of suave and ambitious executives, who plan and work to make a mark, and they become the visible face of the MSME growth.

Starting in the mid-70s the state government took great initiative to establish industrial estates in and around the adequately populated cities which had the connectivity, manpower and other required resources for the proposed industrial ecosystem. Many business houses and entrepreneurs in those times

took advantage of these initiatives and today have grown to large industries or group of companies.

However, as the decades passed by some of the industries have been successful for many years started dwindling and reduced to just surviving if not sick units. These units failed to upgrade their technology and product range. As a result of this, they could not stand up to the international competition when the Indian economy opened up to globalisation. Moreover, the second generation of the entrepreneurs moved away from these industries for better opportunities overseas or in the IT sector which was dominating career prospects in the late 90s. This led to a growing trend in the MSME sector in the existing industrial estates.

We are at the foothills and the turning point of a potential MSME revolution. The right approach and partnership could spur the MSME sector to contribute significantly towards economic growth and empower the state with an internationally competitive edge.

There are various successful technologies available overseas and companies are looking to improve their investments in the region. MSME sector has seen aggressive growth over the years in many countries across South East Asia and Europe. They have been employing at the regional level and have been significant generators of foreign exchange. The few sectors of technology available that have a ready market in the region are:

1. Waste to energy
2. Energy retrofitting, green and smart buildings
3. Electric vehicles and batteries
4. Industrial automation
5. Renewable energy
6. Food processing

The above-mentioned technolo-

gies are important as these are the pain points in our industrial environment and there is a great need for indigenous products in these areas. The similarities in the MSME structure in Sri Lanka and India provides a fertile opportunity for partnerships, technical collaborations and joint ventures between companies.

The existing companies in the industrial zones could be revived with modernisation and by adopting new products and technologies. Automated manufacturing practices will also ensure better product finish at competitive prices. The financial support from the government will be a great enabler for these partnerships. The existing demand for the specifically mentioned technologies would provide a boost for ROI to the new ventures.

New clusters can be developed in areas around educational institutes which would provide not only trained manpower to the factories but also employment to the graduate students. Skill development could be provided in the local ITI. Internships within the colleges in partnership with the industries could also improve the employability of the graduates.

The MSME sector coupled with skill development has been a major reason that has transformed many developing countries to developed countries. An all-inclusive progressive approach and an MSME revival policy could play a vital role by improving industrial growth in the country.

S. Bothra is an international business consultant and a scholar pursuing International Relations at the University of Madras, Department of Politics & Public Administration. He can be contacted on [sumitbothra@gmail.com](mailto:sumitbothra@gmail.com)



# Abans launches environmentally sustainable e-waste recovery initiative

**Ties up with environmental service providing sister company, Cleantech**

Abans Group of Companies launched a total E-Waste recovery initiative for all trade-in items.

Abans PLC, the lead retailer for electronics and home appliances in Sri Lanka joined with Cleantech (Pvt) Ltd., the environmental solutions sister company of the Group, for the initiative. Through the initiative, Abans Group ensures that the items handed over by customers under the trade-in scheme, get disposed of in an environmentally sustainable manner. The end-to-end solution is provided, ensuring the environment is kept safe.

Electronic waste or E-Waste is now one of the most critical environmental issues, especially in Sri Lanka. With this increase of discarded E-Waste that includes; mobile phones, computers and home appliances like toasters, mixer blenders, etc., there is a rising threat of

many health and environmental risks. The risks include the pollution of water and soil, the release of toxic fumes into the air, and health issues to the population. Correct discarding of the E-Waste can prevent this environmental menace.

Abans Group became a household brand due to the strength that is the electronics and home appliance retail business. Through the islandwide showroom network of over 400, Abans has been providing the latest and best in class electronics and home appliances to the Sri Lankan market. Via the trade-in scheme, many customers hand over their used electronics and purchase new ones.

Cleantech (Pvt) Ltd. is Sri Lanka's pioneering environmental solutions company, under Abans Group of Companies. The Abans Group, since inception, has been driven by their commit-

ment to empowering people with a better way to live and in this journey, the safeguarding of the environment is of special interest. Cleantech is tackling the E-Waste concern by offering solutions that have sparked an E-Waste revolution. The E-Waste is sent to Cleantech's pre-processing facility for treatment, where the electronics are deconstructed to segregate plastics and metals. The relevant components are then exported to Japan and Belgium for further recycling, and precious and rare earth metal extraction.

Sustainability initiatives such as these, are not new to the Group. In 2018, "The Green Isle Project" came to be, led by the Group, in partnership with LG, the Wildlife and Nature Protection Society (WNPS) and Department of Wildlife Conservation. Abans, with a simple vision, "To keep enhanc-



Abans e-waste centre

ing the tomorrow, by empowering people with a better way to life", has continued to do so for the past 50 years. Be

it through the vast product ranges and the services offered, to the employment opportunities and the CSR initiatives,

Abans Group is committed to empowering people to be more than they were before.

## Ceylinco Life commissions solar power installations in Anuradhapura and Jaffna

Ceylinco Life has commissioned two large solar panel installations in Anuradhapura and Jaffna which are believed to be the largest in those cities, with a cumulative capacity to generate 120 MWh per year and further reduce the Company's carbon footprint by 42.6 tons.

The Company said the installation in Anuradhapura has a system capacity of 50Kw and is expected to generate 66 MWh annually. The project which is the second-largest solar installation by Ceylinco Life will result in a saving of 66,000 units of grid power per year and an annual reduction of 23.4 tons of CO2 emitted to the environment by offsetting consumption of power from the national grid.

With a system capacity of 40Kw, the installation in Jaffna will generate 54 MWh per year, save 54,000 units of power and reduce 19.2 tons of CO2 emissions annually. This is the fifth largest solar power installation by Ceylinco Life.

These solar panel installation entailed a cumulative investment of Rs 15.9 million. Ceylinco Life's new Head Office building



The solar panel installations at Ceylinco Life's branches in Jaffna and Anuradhapura

opened in 2016 with a system capacity of 63.18Kw is the largest solar panel installation by the company. It saves 7,200 units of electricity per month and reduced the Company's carbon footprint by 108 tons.

Committed to enterprise-wide sustainability, Ceylinco Life is in the process of building a network of Green branches on company-owned land. These new buildings are solar-powered; have rainwater harvesting facilities and wastewater recycling systems that minimise the use of pipe-borne water, are designed for optimal use of natural light and are equipped with the latest energy-efficient lighting and air conditioning systems.

The Company has also

embarked on an initiative to restore and maintain fifty hectares (123.5 acres) of land owned by the Department of Forest Conservation in the Puttalam range in collaboration with the University of Kelaniya, as part of its commitment to the environment and its effort to achieve zero carbon emissions status. An e-Waste Collection Day organised by the Green Club of Ceylinco Life earlier this year resulted in 11,123 lbs of Carbon emissions being prevented from entering the atmosphere, which is equivalent to saving 369 trees or recycling 12,990 plastic bottles.

Sri Lanka's leading life insurer for more than half of the 32 years it has been in existence.

## ComBank launches trilingual multi-channel integrated contact center

The Commercial Bank of Ceylon has launched a one-stop trilingual Integrated Contact Centre to serve its customers and stakeholders 24/7 and enabling customers to reach the Bank via multiple channels for inquiries and assistance.

The dedicated team behind the Centre consists of customer service representatives to handle calls, written communications, customer requests, and customer feedbacks routed through social media, team leaders, and trainers for better supervision and monitoring to ensure customers receive a positive experience in every interaction with the Bank.

The Integrated Contact Center is a much-needed platform to seamlessly serve customers who contact the Bank through many channels and to simultaneously provide them with speedy and professional responses, the Bank said.

Commenting on the launch, Commercial Bank's

Deputy General Manager – Marketing, Hasrath Munasinghe said: "The Integrated Contact Centre was launched to offer a new dimension in customer-centricity and engagement while handling all inquiries efficiently and pleasingly to make it a benchmark for service excellence." He said the Centre is especially useful in times like the present when social distancing and contactless service are essential safety measures.

The launch of this facility ensures quality service for Commercial Bank customers round the clock and calendar, in the language of their preference. The Centre will also be instrumental in utilizing customer feedback to improve the quality of services offered by the Bank, Mr. Munasinghe said.

The first Sri Lankan Bank to be listed among the Top 1000 Banks of the World and the only Sri Lankan bank to be so listed for 10 years consecutively, Commercial Bank is celebrating



Commercial Bank's Chief Operating Officer, Sanath Manatunge declares open the Integrated Contact Centre in the presence of the Bank's Senior Manager Contact Centre Beatrice Starling, Head of Card Centre Thusitha Suraweera, Deputy General Manager Marketing Hasrath Munasinghe, Deputy General Manager Human Resource Management Isuru Tillakawardana and Deputy General Manager Personal Banking Sandra Waligama.

its 100th anniversary this year. The Bank, which won more than 50 international and local awards in 2019, operates a network of 268 branches and 873 ATMs in

Sri Lanka. Commercial Bank's overseas operations encompass Bangladesh, where the Bank operates 19 outlets; Myanmar, where it has a Representative Office

in Yangon and a Microfinance company in Nay Pyi Taw; and the Maldives, where the Bank has a fully-fledged Tier I Bank with a majority stake.

## DPL distributes fertiliser under Firstlight initiative

Continuing to empower and uplift the livelihood of farmer co-operative societies in its loyalty network, Dipped Products PLC (DPL) invested Rs. 2.1 million towards the distribution of fertiliser for 1,500 smallholder rubber producers in the Monaragala District under its flagship sustainability initiative, DPL Firstlight.

A total of 90,000 Kg of fertiliser was distributed among four DPL Loyalty Farmer societies across the Monaragala District at the event organised for the ninth consecutive year.

"For over 12 years, DPL Firstlight has worked to empower smallholder rubber farmers in the Monaragala District. From the outset, we have sought to support their essential contributions and value additions to national rubber production while ensuring that they are guaranteed a fair price for field latex. Additionally, we have optimised their ability to derive maximum yields through the supply of essential agricultural inputs and equipment, and have complemented these efforts with education and awareness building.

"In this manner, we have been successfully able to enhance liveli-



DPL Top management and officials from Rubber Research Institute with rubber farmers who received fertilizer under the DPL Firstlight initiative

hoods at the grassroots of the Sri Lankan economy. Simultaneously, these initiatives have generated value at a national scale through the development of one of the country's most essential export crops.

Particularly at a time when our nation faces significant economic challenges owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, we believe that such social enterprise business models hold the key to sustainable prosperity for all Sri Lankans.

Moving forward, we will also expand the DPL Firstlight initiative to farmers in the Kegalle District as

well," DPL Deputy Managing Director, Pushpika Janadheera said. Presently, smallholder farmers produce approximately 65% of Sri Lanka's annual rubber crop, with the sector as a whole accounting for 0.2% of the nation's total GDP; making the sustainable livelihood of rubber smallholder farmers a mission of national significance.

Today, the rubber products manufacturing sector of the country needs around 135,000 metric tons of natural rubber per annum. However, the country is not able to produce this quantity of natural rubber, compelling the nation to import

around 60,000 metric tons of natural rubber annually.

Therefore, from an economic perspective, value addition - through manufacturing operations like DPL - for domestic and export markets holds the potential to enhance foreign exchange earnings while creating greater opportunities for grassroots level employment and livelihood development.

Similarly, the sustainability of rubber lands plays a pivotal role in maintaining the balance of sensitive ecosystems, given that rubber trees serve as a natural extension of Sri Lanka's forest cover.

## Pan Asia Bank values creativity



Pan Asia Bank recently held an exciting art competition for its staff and their children to keep the spirits up and to boost the employee morale and value their inborn talents.

The competition for the children was open under five age group categories, with different topics for each category, while staff was given the opportunity to paint under the theme of 'Truly Sri Lankan heritage/culture'. The competition was organized by the bank's Team HR.

One of the winners with the Pan Asia Bank Director/CEO of Nimal Tillekeratne

## SAGT celebrates 21 years of maritime excellence

South Asia Gateway Terminals (Pvt) Ltd (SAGT), Sri Lanka's first Private Public Partnership (PPP), a flagship venture of the Board of Investment (BOI), celebrates 21 years of Maritime Excellence on September 5 at the Port of Colombo.

SAGT commenced operations in 1999 as a Public-Private Partnership project to develop a container terminal in Sri Lanka under a 30-year BOT concession, taking over operations at the Queen Elizabeth Quay of Port of Colombo. With its 21-year journey, SAGT has consistently raised the bar to achieve new benchmarks, securing several global and regional awards in recognition of its operational high-performance, productivity and efficiency. In 2018, SAGT achieved

an impressive 2 million TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent container units) in a calendar year for the first time in its history which is particularly significant considering the terminal's original design capacity was assessed at just 1.1 million TEU.

With the COVID 19 pandemic taking the world by storm, 2020 was a challenging year for the international maritime industry especially with consumption of goods and services around the world plummeting significantly.

Amidst the countrywide lockdown and directives for social distancing imposed in Sri Lanka, SAGT along with the Port of Colombo rose to the occasion to serve nations and communities far beyond our motherland. SAGT's COVID 19

response involved initiatives to introduce enhanced health and safety procedures with stringent monitoring of the well-being of our staff members and other key stakeholders.

The implementation of a state-of-the-art visitor management system and the introduction of an e-clearance delivery advise (E-DA) process via email. Whilst adapting to the new normal, SAGT has embraced digitalization collaborating with TradeLens, a Blockchain-powered data platform aimed at improving operational efficiency through the tracking of containers across multiple modes. The launch of the payment gateway for e-clearance of import containers to offer convenient and hassle-free services to SAGT customers was a further initiative to enhance the "ease of doing business" experi-

ence. Addressing Team SAGT, Romesh David, and Chief Executive Officer said "2020 has been a challenging year for industries across the globe. However, innovation, teamwork and determination have allowed us to overcome the challenges, reinvent processes and embrace the new normal."

South Asia Gateway Terminals (SAGT) is the first Public-Private Partnership container terminal in Sri Lanka (with approximately 60% Sri Lankan shareholding) and commenced operations in 1999, launching the Port of Colombo as global trade's preeminent gateway hub to South Asia.

SAGT is a Board of Investment flagship company whose shareholders include - John Keells Holdings, Maersk/APM Terminals, SLPA and Evergreen Marine Corporation.

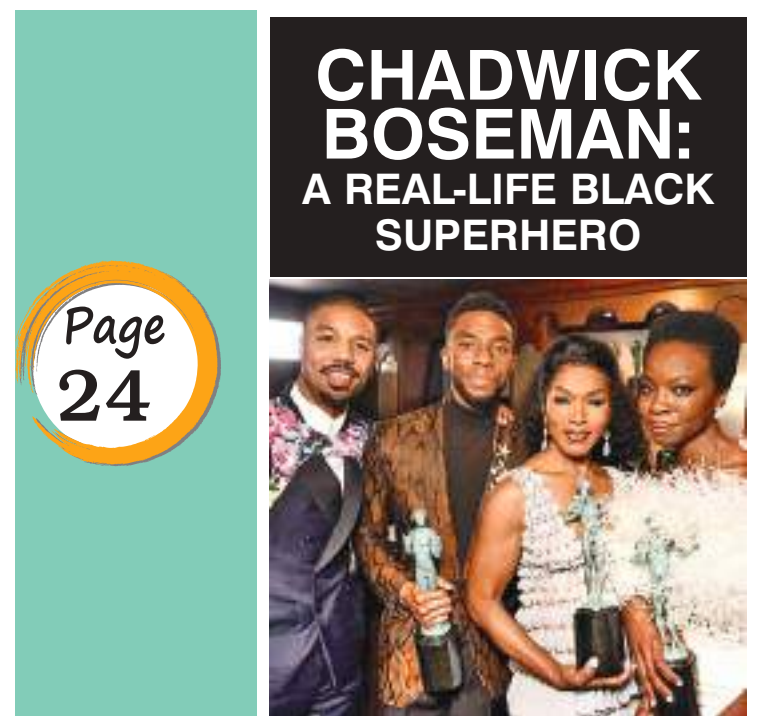


# Trinity

To re-ignite the passions of town & country folk



THE SUPER FRUIT



CHADWICK BOSEMAN: A REAL-LIFE BLACK SUPERHERO

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# Kindred Spirits

ADITHA DISSANAYAKE

'Happy families read together.' Bravo. You have just read the first line of my next novel – a first line that I hope will one day join all the other famous first lines in the world of books. Or, this might be the last time you will ever see the above sentence under my byline. Come to think of it, most families I know, regardless of whether they are happy or not, hardly ever read together. The easiest example, and the safest, for I know what I am talking about, is my family. The divide between the books my mother and I read and the books my father and brother read, is (hopefully) wider than the road to Lankapura. Not under any circumstance would one camp read a book that belongs to the other. Not openly, anyway.

And, yes. I'm grinning like Garfield after twenty-five servings of Lasagna. Although I criticize my brother's taste for World War II battles won and lost, violence, suspense and plots that are so complicated, solving maths problems seems easier in comparison, there is one author whose books (that once belonged to my father) I borrow from my brother's bookshelves and devour in haste, like an undercover secret service agent chased by enemy forces. And today, I realize I am going to blow up my cover with this confession, but Leon Uris is way too good, and precious, especially considering how he helped me to connect with other, esteemed, kindred spirits, to not be dragged into the spotlight.

Now to beg for mercy, from the die-hard Uris fans out there. I know, Leon Uris wrote books far worthier than the one I consider as my favourite. 'Exodus', 'Trinity', 'The Haj' are heavier, not only because they have pages over six-hundred in number, but in their content too, yet, for me, 'The Angry Hills' remains the best, for all the reasons the other books are not. It has a fewer number of pages, and the plot aptly satisfies the sensibilities of those who can claim kinship with the protagonist, the 'bread and butter' writer, Mike Morrison, for reasons they will discover for themselves when they read the book.

Leon Uris was never the blue eyed boy of literary critics. Most critics found fault with him for the lack of depth in his stories, but gave him credit for the strong grip he had on the reader's attention even when he weaved political and historical strands into the story. Pete Hamill, reviewing "Exodus," wrote in the New York Times Book Review, "It is a simple thing to point out that Uris often writes crudely, that his dialogue can be wooden, that his structure occasionally groans under the excess baggage of exposition and information....None of that matters as you are swept along in the narrative. Uris is certainly not as good a writer as Pynchon or Barthelme or Nabokov; but he is a better storyteller."

The most acclaimed book he wrote is 'Exodus' (1957) – the story of the birth of the modern nation of Israel. In 1958, Israeli Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion said Uris' sweeping novel was "the greatest thing ever written about Israel." They say tourism to Israel soared over the next few years. Decades later, "Exodus" became popular in the Soviet Union, where Jewish dissidents risked prison terms by circulating hundreds of underground copies. Natan Sharansky, whose high profile as a Jewish landed him in Soviet prisons for a decade in the 1970s and 1980s, wrote in his book "Fear No Evil" that "Exodus" played a critical role in his awareness of his Jewishness.

On a visit to Moscow, Uris was given one of the bootlegged copies of "Exodus" that had been circulated by Soviet Jews. It was inscribed with the message, "Thank you for reaching us."

Just as Exodus brought Israel close to us, 'Trinity,' his 1976 novel gave life to events in Ireland between 1840 to 1916, proving that Uris was not obsessed entirely with Jewish themed work. Records reveal Uris was most fond of "Trinity" because of the story of Bobby Sands, the Irish activist who died in 1981 after a 66-day hunger strike to



protest British treatment of prisoners in Northern Ireland from the outlawed Irish Republican Army. Before his death, Sands said he had memorized whole chapters of "Trinity" and recited them each night to his fellow IRA inmates.

It is Uris' talent to tell a story in the best way possible that comes to the fore, in his second novel, 'The Angry Hills.' According to Uris, the background and historical events of 'The Angry Hills' are based on a diary that he got from an uncle who served as a volunteer in the Palestinian Brigade of the British Expeditionary Force in Greece during World War II. In spite of being the average spy novel 'Angry Hills' is spiced with an unusual historical setting and laced with surprising dashes of romance.

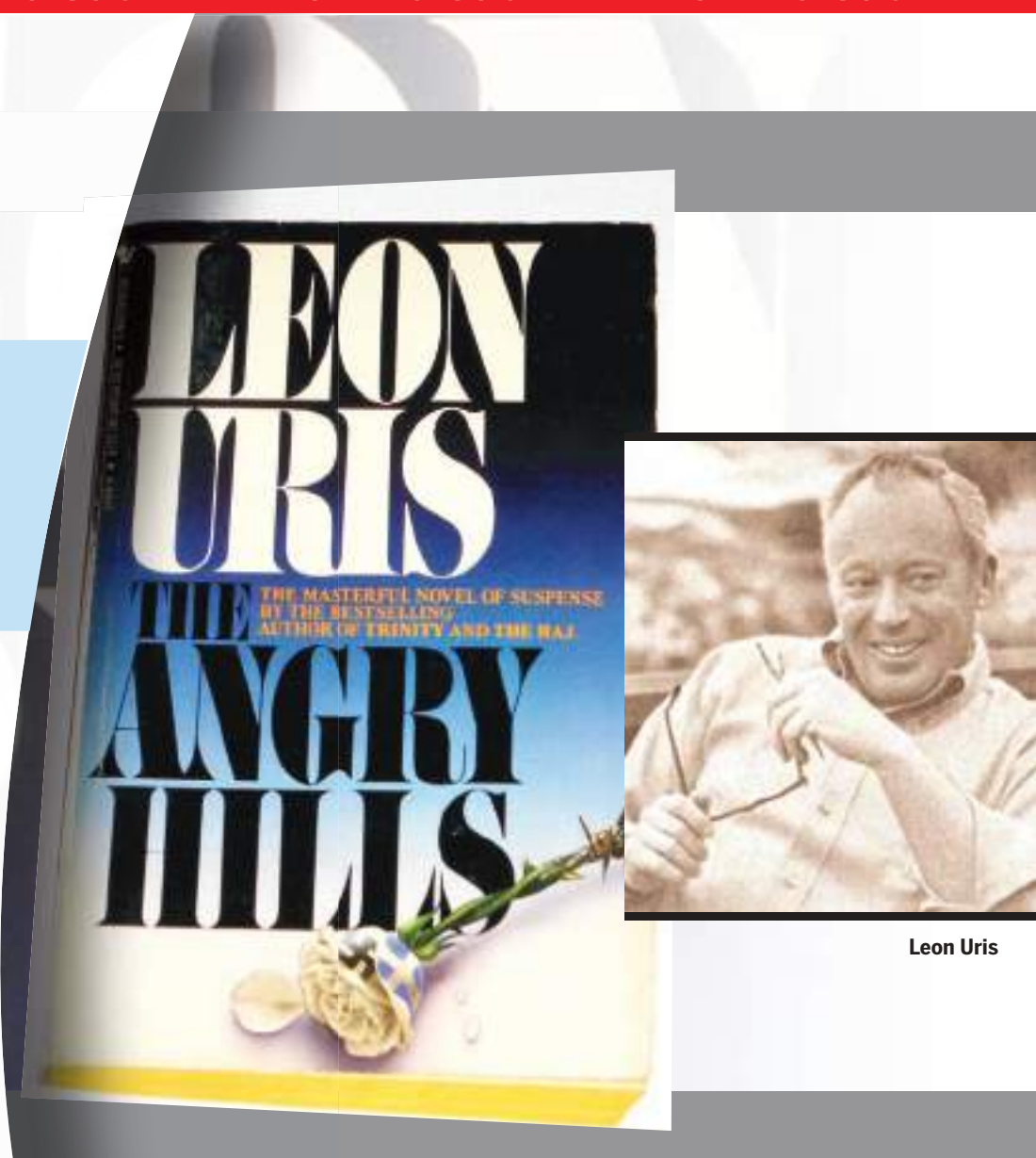
What I find the most attractive apart from the triumph of "Good over Evil", i.e. British Secret Service over Nazi Intelligence, is the fast space in which events take place that somehow fits the breakneck speed of our own lives. As well, the style seems a great deal like my own, which is perhaps almost always, unnecessarily rushed hardly ever leaving an event or a character, or as in these articles, a book, to settle in the mind of the reader before moving on. Yet, my aim is simple, and I detect the same motives in 'The Angry Hills.' There is no doubt that Uris' wish is to grab the attention of the reader from the first word on the page to the last, as this is the best way to get the message across to the whole wild world, even reaching the hearts of the hardest critic. At the end of the day he might be condemned as a writer who does not deserve a place in the canon, but he would at least have the satisfaction of knowing that his books are being read and understood, in order to receive such a judgment.

When it comes to describing the plot, I dare not say a lot lest I dampen the appetite of the uninitiated. Suffice it to say, as stated before, 'Angry Hills' revolves around the American writer, Mike Morrison, a young widower with two children doing business in Athens on the eve of the German invasion. The innocent Morrison agrees to carry a paper to England for a Greek attorney. It turns out the paper contains the names of Greek double-agents ostensibly working for the Nazis. When Morrison finds the attorney is dead he becomes the target of the Gestapo. What ensues is a constant struggle to outwit the enemy and a constant struggle to determine whom to trust.

The book might not be the best spy novel ever written, but it is still worth your time. And I can guarantee that you will stay with the story until the end.

For, Uris succeeds where highbrow, sophisticated writers fail. To paraphrase Mark Twain, Uris' books continue to be read as opposed to some classics that everyone praises but no one reads.

aditha.dissanayake@gmail.com



Leon Uris

## Leon Uris

Internationally acclaimed novelist Leon Uris ran away from home at age seventeen, a month after the attack on Pearl Harbor, to join the Marine Corps, and served at Guadalcanal and Tarawa. His first novel, Battle Cry, was based on his own experiences in the Marines.

Uris was a high school dropout who failed English three times, but his books - most notably Exodus and Trinity - sold millions, settling in for outrageously long stints on bestseller lists and making the American author a celebrity novelist at a time when such a thing barely existed. As his biographer Ira B. Nadel, who confesses he read Uris before maturing into more high-minded literature, says, "You did not study the books of Leon Uris...But you learned a great deal from them."



A still from Angry Hills



"The Angry Hills" (1959) movie starred Robert Mitchum



Hilton Colombo offers 50% off

# Celebrating 33 years in Sri Lanka

Defining the bar of hospitality in the country, Hilton Colombo is one of the best destinations that offers a premier personalized service and has remained an icon in the industry for 33 years. Hilton Colombo celebrates the 33rd Anniversary on September 11 and will be offering a 50% discount. Patrons can enjoy this special offer from September 7 to 13 that Graze Kitchen and Curry Leaf during lunch and dinner. In addition to the celebratory offer the hotel is creating some exciting culinary experiences this month. A roulette of flavours await diners at the restaurants to make everyday a feast! You can take your palate for a spin with the spectacular gastronomic combination of flavours from around the world.



whole mutton kabsa (baby ouzi), Italian pastas and pizzas, roasted pork belly carvery, prime rib with merlot jus, the Maltese Lampukie Pie, Moroccan Loubia Stew, Kushari, Egypt's national dish that originated during the mid-19th century and is a widely popular street food, the classic Moroccan stuffed fried sardines and a range of delectable desserts to round off your hearty meal. The lunch buffet will be from 12nn to 2.30pm.

The dinner buffet at Curry Leaf gets bigger and better! From September 7, diners can enjoy exotic local fare and fresh seafood from the seafood market "You can select your fish and have it prepared anyway you like. We do devilled, poached, fried, grilled, curry and so on" says Executive Chef Robert Mujagic. The restaurant is open nightly from 7pm to midnight.

Digity Dawgs are coming back to Café Kai from September 14 to 27.

Homemade artisanal sausages in freshly baked breads and sweet dessert dogs for those with a sweet tooth. The menu consists eight unique and interesting combinations, namely, Naan Dog - Tandoor chicken sausage, raita, greens, tomato, lime pickled mango on open naan, Baroque Reuben - Sour pork sausage, Swiss cheese, caramelized, onions, sauerkraut, sweet relish, Russian sauce in a dog bun, Club Cup - Cajun chicken, greens, brie cheese, walnut, date jam, pesto mayo, egg, white toast, Chili Dog Cup - Beef sausage, ground beef, cheese, baked beans, sweet corn, onion, cumin chili, sweet bread cup, Foot Long Pizza Dog - Foot long baguette, tomato chunks, cheese, pork chorizo sausage, pollo picante, cherry tomato, red curry, green long pepper, jalapenos basil. The dessert range consist Banana Dog - Banana fritters, golden syrup, chocolate sauce, vanilla ice cream, sweet

bun, Donut Board - Pistachio cream, milk chocolate chips, rusty dust, cinnamon sugar, long donut and the Rose Strawberry Dog- Strawberry, rose water, saffron, Nutella, Lemon sugar in a long donut. This menu will be available from 11am to 10pm.

Go on Sunday 13th and 27th to enjoy the "Washoku" lunch buffet where you get to savor Chef Hikaru San's special menu. It is an unlimited indulgence of Japanese cuisine for just Rs 4888nett. Prior reservations are highly recommended. And block out your calendar for a combination of Singaporean and Malaysian cuisine on Sunday (20), happening at Graze Kitchen.

There is something for children too! Kids between the ages of 5 and 12 can make a date with the Chef on Saturday (19) to make and taste Ravioli. Tickets are priced at Rs 2000 nett and requires bookings in advance. -GDeS

# From Sri Lanka to the world

Owing to the superior quality of Misumi and Champion soaps, their manufacturer, Nature's Beauty Creations Ltd, has successfully secured export orders within 3 years since the launch of their soap brands. Last week, a large shipment of Misumi and Champion soaps set sail to Vietnam, a strongly competitive market of over 95 million people. The company is strongly determined to increase its soap exports to enter and capture the large USD 24 billion global toilet soap market.

For over 20 years, Sri Lankans were sold bathing bars instead of real soap. A bathing bar requires only a minimum TFM of 40%, whereas to qualify as a real toilet soap, a minimum TFM of 76.5% is required; the higher the TFM, the greater the quality of soap with safer cleansing properties and higher skin mildness.

In 2017, award-winning cosmetics



the highest quality without resorting to cheap, harsh ingredients. Unwavering commitment to quality has seen our Nature's Secrets and Panda Baby products exported to many countries worldwide, bringing in valuable foreign exchange to the country. The addition of our soaps to our export

manufacturer Nature's Beauty Creations Ltd launched the country's first real toilet soap in over two decades. The beauty soap launched under the 'Misumi' brand had a TFM of 78%, the highest TFM in the toilet soap market, providing consumers a premium quality that was not available till then. Spurred by the high demand and acceptance of its Misumi beauty soap, the company decided to launch 'Champion' in 2019, filling a market gap for a superior quality, germ-fighting real soap with 76.5% TFM.

"Our company strongly believes in providing consumers with products of

portfolio will further help contribute to this," remarked Nature's Beauty Creations Ltd. Chairman Samantha Kumarasinghe. "Initiatives taken under the new economic policies of His Excellency the President have ensured the removal of unfair advantages enjoyed by multinational companies for decades, finally allowing local soap manufacturers to compete with multinationals on an equal playing field. This strength has enabled our company to successfully enter export markets, and it will also encourage and enable other Sri Lankan soap manufacturers to do the same," Kumarasinghe further commented.

# The Mansion at No. 5 opens its doors for events

The Mansion at No. 5 unveiled its venue this week and opened its doors to offer a venue for hire like no other. Located in the heart of Colombo at No. 05, Geethanjali Place Colombo 3, the venue offers guests a private venue perfect for a special occasion, pop up or corporate event.

The Mansion at No. 5, was previously owned by Sir Alfred Soysa, the Governor in the 1900's and was then converted into a family home. The venue with its long-standing history was recently refurbished by Kahawatte Farook along with Natheera Farook, a key driver to upscale the home to a stunning property that is perfect



for a variety of events. The new and upgraded venue, opened its facilities for bookings for weddings, baby showers, birthdays, religious ceremonies, private buffets and corporate events to name

a few. Commenting on the opening of the venue, Owner, M.H.M Farook stated: "It is humbling to see the response from guests wanting to book the venue for events. We

welcome everyone to visit the property and offer our services for all occasions. The Mansion at No. 5 will offer custom made packages to suit all our guests needs and requirements."

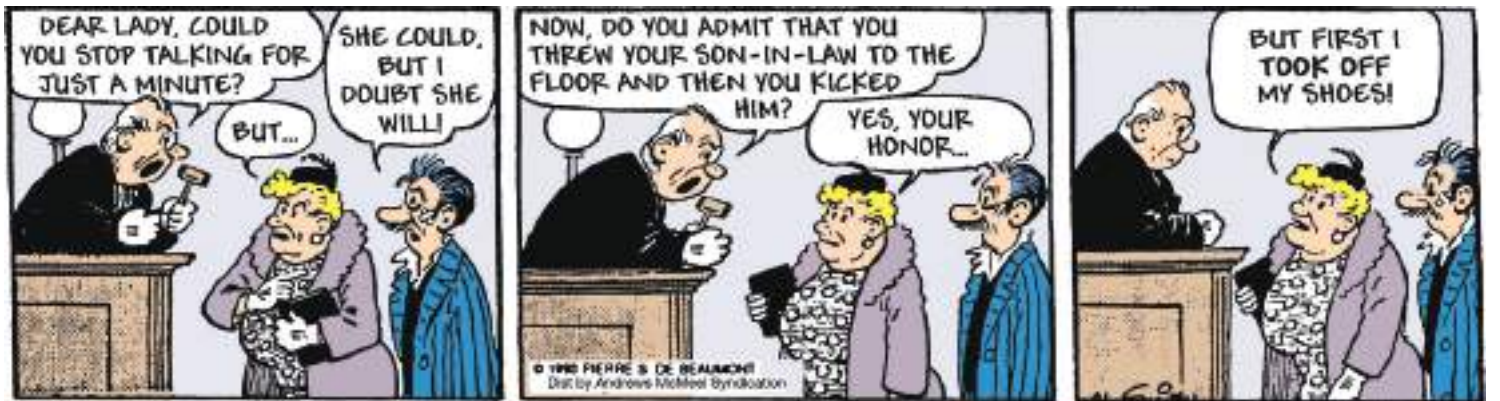
Exuding a sense of timelessness with its design and style, The Mansion at No. 5 offers three different categories for hire which include booking its banquet facilities for 150 guests or the use of the entire venue with its first and second floor to accommodate upto 300 guests. Guests can also book the Lawn, an outdoor area ideal for BBQ parties upto 25 guests or use the venue for a pop-up location. -TS

## MARMADUKE



"That's enough! Stop licking each other's food!"

## MUTT AND JEFF



## ARCHIE



## FISH TALES

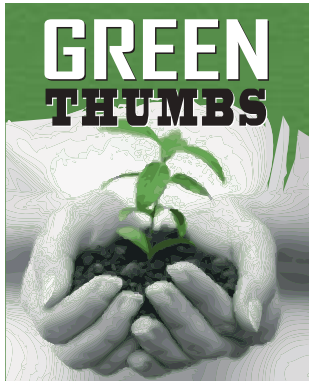


## UP & RUNNING





# Pomegranate THE SUPER FRUIT



Swarna Hapuarachchi



ISHARA JAYAWARDANE

**F**ew fruits on this earth have captured the taste buds of humans like the Pomegranate has done. The seeds have a deep reddish color as red as blood, yet unbelievably sweet. Green Thumbs spoke to Director of the Institute of Indigenous Medicine Swarna Hapuarachchi on this fruit, as old as civilization itself. Pomegranate (*Punica granatum L.*) is an important fruit crop grown in Sri Lanka which is rich in therapeutic and pharmaceutical properties. Though the history of pomegranate usage goes back to many thousand years, pomegranate has gained momentum of commercial significance in recent past. Hapuarachchi points out that the Pomegranate is enriched with in organic acids, phenolic compounds, sugars, water-soluble vitamins minerals and having enormous health benefits for preventing coronary heart diseases, cancers, cardiovascular disease, diarrhoea, gastric ulcer, aging and brain disorders. Pomegranate is now being cultivated commercially in Mediterranean region, India, China and Japan. In Sri Lanka, pomegranate is cultivated as a medicinal plant and as well as a fruit. The extent under cultivation is about 1,678 ha and anticipated total production is about 66,404 mt. Nimali, Daya and Nayana are the three recommended varieties by the Department of Agriculture in Sri Lanka; Nimali has become the most popularly grown variety with preferable economical attributes like high yielding ability, soft seeded and sweet fruit taste except yellow in peel colour

and pale pink arils. Average yield is about 5.71 mt/ha per year or 5.7 kg/plant and average fruit weight of variety Nimali is about 200 g. Variety Daya is also similar to Nimali having soft seeds, sweet taste and yellow colour peel. Compared to the other varieties, variety Nayana has bigger fruits with high juice content with hard seeds. Pomegranate *Punica granatum* was first introduced to Sri Lanka, possibly through ancient trade routes, thousands of years ago. Now you have the good opportunity to cultivate your agricultural land / bare land with pomegranate. Pomegranate cultivation can be maintained as a very successful cultivation in dry zone regions of Sri Lanka, and can also be sold to the market at a higher rate. If you want to use your land for agro-industry, you can start a pomegranate with a rich harvest and earn a fortune.

Almost all Pomegranate varieties are found to be susceptible to the Pomegranate butterfly (Virachola isocrates) which is the most common pest in Sri Lanka. The caterpillar of the butterfly enters the fruits and feeds on it.

In Sri Lanka, there are several fungus diseases which affect the Pomegranate cultivation.

- i. Anthracnose fruit rot - Caused by *Sphaceloma punicae*
- ii. Aspergillous fruit rot - Caused by *Aspergillus* spp.
- iii. Penicillium fruit rot - Caused by *Penicillium* spp.

Fresh fruits of Pomegranate could be used for enjoying at the table. In some countries such as Iran, the juice is a very popular beverage. In future, fruit juice extraction can be introduced as a cottage industry in Sri Lanka. Also, extracted juice may be concentrated and frozen for future use. It may be made in to a thick syrup for use as a sauce. It is also often converted into wine.

Pomegranate is adapted to a wide range of climate conditions. It does well under desert conditions and produce high quality fruits when grown in loamy soil especially in locations with cool winter and a dry summer. In Sri Lanka most suitable districts for cultivation are Hambantota, Puttalam, Manar, Anuradapura, Jaffna, Monaragala.

"Pomegranates is a tropical plant and grows easily in tropical countries. In Sri Lanka it is grown everywhere. According to the geographical factors the taste of the fruit is different," said Hapuarachchi.

There are three types of Pomegranates - Sweet, Sweet and Sour and Sour. It all depends on the ecological and geographical factors.

"So you get fruits of different tastes in different areas. The Indian varieties are very tasty and very

sweet and these are imported to Sri Lanka. The Sri Lankan varieties are very sour. However it is in the market and grown in home gardens," stated Hapuarachchi

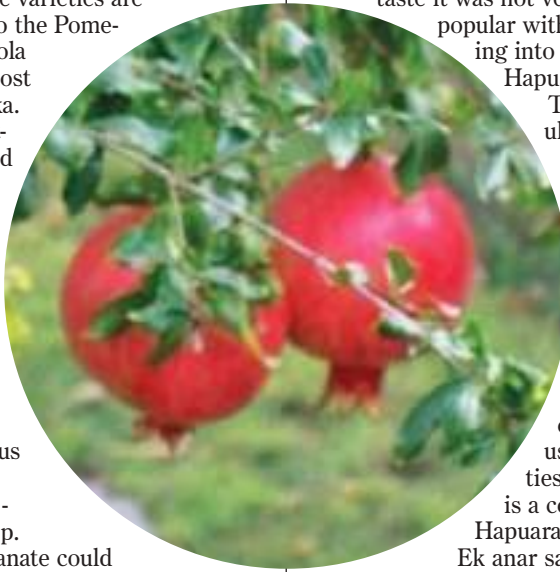
The Pomegranate is red and round and its skin is thick and inedible, but contains hundreds of edible seeds called Arils within. They are rich in fiber, Vitamins, Minerals, but they also contain some sugar.

"The Indian varieties have very fleshy arils. But some other fruits have very thin arils. The seeds of the Indian Pomegranates are deep red, but in Sri Lanka it is pinkish. Earlier because of the sour taste it was not very popular, but now it is popular with the sweet varieties coming into Sri Lanka," pointed out Hapuarachchi

The Pomegranate is a popular value added product. "We can use Pomegranate juice or as a cordial. We can use it as a flavor for Yogurt and Ice Cream. Many value added products can be created by using Pomegranates. Pomegranate powder (made by the outer covering) can be used as medicinal properties. In Sri Lanka of course it is a costly fruit," added Hapuarachchi.

Ek anar saw bimar in Indian means - '1 Pomegranate can be used for a 100 diseases!' It is among the healthiest fruits in the world. That is what the Indians say!

"Pomegranates have great value. The young leaves are used for the cleaning and washing of the eyes, when boiled in water for eye infections. It is a Kapruka, in the sense that leaves, flowers and fruits are all used. According to Ayurveda it helps to maintain our body homogeneously," explained Hapuarachchi.



**POMEGRANATE NURTIENT PROFILE**  
One cup of arils (174 grams) contains -  
Fiber ..... 7 grams  
Protein ..... 3 grams  
Vitamin C ..... 30% of the RDA  
Vitamin K..... 36% of the RDA  
Folate ..... 16% of the RDA  
Potassium ..... 12% of the RDA  
(recommended dietary allowance)

- Pomegranates contain two plant compounds with powerful medicinal properties.
- Pomegranates have impressive anti-inflammatory effects
- Pomegranates may help fight prostate cancer
- Pomegranates may also be useful against breast cancer
- Pomegranate may lower blood pressure
- Pomegranates may help fight arthritis and joint pain
- Pomegranate juice may lower your risk of heart disease
- Pomegranate juice may help treat erectile dysfunction
- Pomegranate can help fight bacterial and fungal infections
- Pomegranate may help improve memory
- Pomegranate may improve exercise performance
- Pomegranate juice is ideal to be taken during fever
- It relieves excessive thirst and burning sensation
- It cleanses oral cavity, throat, esophagus stomach and chest
- It improves immunity and body strength
- Helps to relieve diarrhoea



## Must-have immunity-boosting plants for your garden

**M**onsoon is the best season for planting, and also for preparing the existing plants for taking in the full pleasure of nourishment. With the focus shifting towards medicinal plants, here's your guide to grow some immunity-boosting plants this monsoon...



### TULSI

Tulsi is scientifically proven that this wonder herb can fight against chemical stress due to pollution along with other benefits. This is a perfect herb to be used during monsoon with chai, food and even on your skin...



### GINGER

This amazing herb has been used in ancient medicinal systems for the treatment of numerous ailments, such as colds, nausea, arthritis, migraines, and hypertension.



### MINT

Mint is known for its carminative, antiseptic, antibacterial, antiviral, antispasmodic, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, myorelaxant, expectorant, analgesic, tonic, and vasodilator activities.



### MULETHI

Mulethi possesses anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial, antiulcer, antidiabetic, antidepressant along with these it also improves immunity, heart function, control cholesterol level etc.



### CORIANDER

This easy to grow herb is a must have for any home garden not only for its culinary benefits but also for medicinal values it possesses. It provides antimicrobial, antioxidant, hypoglycemic, hypolipidemic, anxiolytic, analgesic, anti-inflammatory, anti-convulsant and anti-cancer activities, among others.

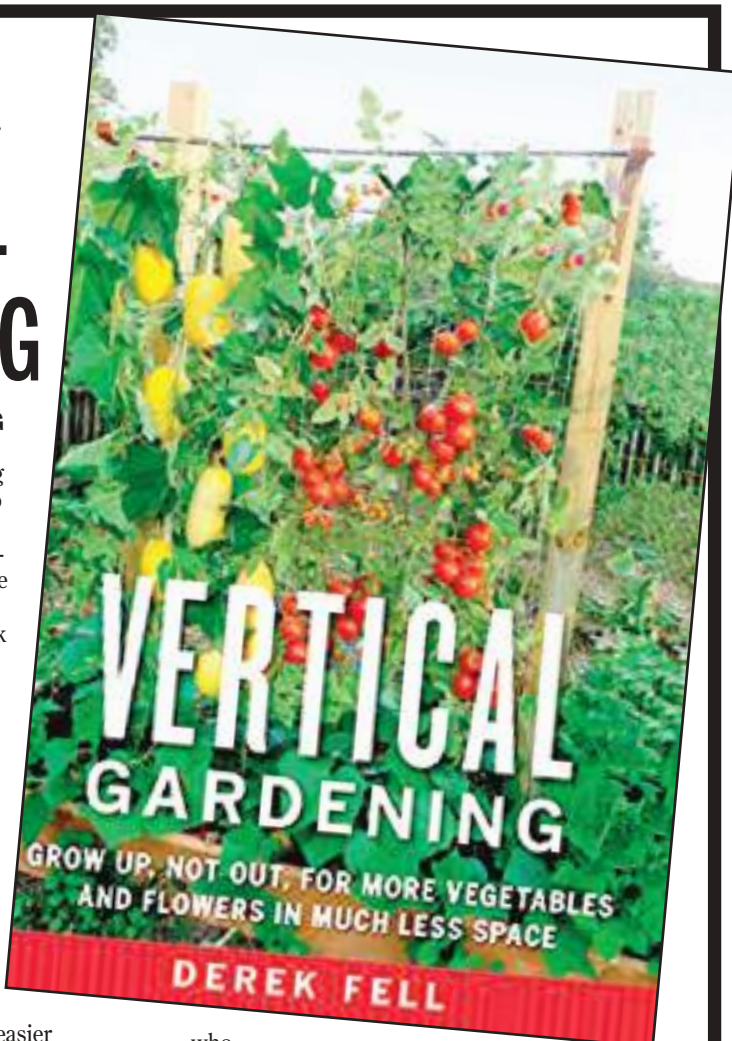
## BEST FOR VERTICAL GARDENING

TITLE: VERTICAL GARDENING  
AUTHOR: DEREK FELL

If you're pressed for gardening space or simply don't want to care for a huge plot of land, you should read Vertical Gardening: Grow Up, Not Out, for More Vegetables and Flowers in Much Less Space. This gardening book delves into vertical growing strategies using string supports, trellises, pergolas, raised beds, skyscraper gardens and more, helping you save space while still cultivating happy plants.

Vertical gardening might sound complicated, but this guide makes it easy for even novice gardeners to understand. Vertical Gardening focuses on varieties of climbing plants, which are actually less prone to insects, diseases and animal pests, making them easier to care for. The various growing strategies use a mixture of DIY and commercial supports, and there are plenty of tips on how you can reduce work, increase yields and make harvesting easier. Overall, this book is a hit among reviewers,

who say it has great ideas that are very doable. They say Vertical Gardening provides excellent alternatives to traditional planting methods, and most are incredibly happy with the results they've seen.





RED SPARROW

STYLISH THRILLER BUT LACKS SUBSTANCE

RUWINI JAYAWARDANA

Those who might be tired of waiting for Marvel's latest blockbuster 'Black Widow' to hit cinema screens can have a taste of something similar in the form of Hollywood starlet Jennifer Lawrence as Dominika Egorov. 'The Hunger Games' trilogy and 'Silver Linings Playbook' star takes on another physically and emotionally challenging role in Francis Lawrence's 'Red Sparrow'.

She gives life to the fiery Dominika who has to bid adieu to her career as a prima ballerina when her leg snaps loudly during a performance. Though the event was recognized as an accident her devious uncle, Ivan reveals that it was a deliberate act. He soon lures her into Sparrow School, a secret intelligence service that trains exceptional young people like her to use their bodies and minds as weapons.

True to her uncle's beliefs Dominika learns the art and excels in her new found profession. She is sent off on a mission to find out the mole in the Russian service who is feeding their information to the US during an era when another cold war has gripped the two nations.

The film is based on Jason Mathews' book of the same name. Since it revolves



around about spies and espionage, viewers expect a lot more action and chases to be part and parcel of the project. Instead the plot is complex and hard to digest. Though Lawrence does a marvelous job by getting into the shoes of a character that is truly alien to her, the role is not on par with spy characters such as the one Angelina Jolie played in 'Salt'.

Joel Edgerton as the CIA man who had to flee Russia after he was nearly caught meeting a high-level Russian intelligence officer feeding the Americans secrets, slips into his role effortlessly. His onscreen chemistry with Lawrence is palpable.

Apart from the duo, the incredible cast that supports them includes Mary-Louise Parker as Stephanie Boucher, the American traitor, Jeremy Irons as General Korchnoi and Ciaran Hinds as Colonel Zyuganor, Charlotte Rampling as the Matron of the secret school and Matthias Schoenaerts as Dominika's shrewd and manipulative Uncle Ivan Egorov. They are all secondary characters, yet they all excel.

The actions too seem overly brutal with a lot of blood shed. You also get a lot of scenes which are suitable for an adult audience.



TEAR-JERKING TRIBUTE

"King T'Challa, the way he carried himself, he was the embodiment of a King."

The character played by Chadwick Boseman in Marvel's 2018 film Black Panther has left a lasting impact on young black people.

Chadwick died on August 28 aged 43 after battling colon cancer for four years - prompting floods of tributes for Chadwick the man, as well as the character he became synonymous with.

There are numerous reasons both are so loved.

"The fact that he was actually African - and had an African accent - was another reason for me to be proud of where I'm from: to be black, to be African," Andrew O'Day tells Radio 1 Newsbeat about King T'Challa.

"We are so much more than starving people"

The 28-year-old says T'Challa was "like a mirror" for young black people in the UK.

"You could see yourself in him. A lot of our parents were born in Africa, so there's a deeper connection to King T'Challa."

As the film's director Ryan Coogler put it, "the ancestors spoke through him".

Aharoun-Jordan Adeniyi agrees and says T'Challa had "a sense of regality".

"It's amazing to see an African portrayal of royalty. Not a scammer or something negative that you so often see.

"Seeing that reminded me and showcased to the world that we are so much more than starving people."

Black Panther broke from the "stereotypes people like to show" about black people, Aharoun says.

"We are so much more than people see generally. The movie goes to show just how much representation matters and the power of positive representation."

The film inspired Aharoun to "want to tell black stories". Both he and Andrew say Black Panther's relatability made it stand out.

"Captain America and Iron Man have always been my favourite Avengers, but there's a certain connection that you get with Black Panther as a black Brit that you won't get with the others," Andrew says. "We didn't grow up with black superheroes."

He enjoyed the film so much he paid to see it three times when it came out, while Aharoun says it

CHADWICK BOSEMAN: A REAL-LIFE BLACK SUPERHERO



With some of his co-stars from 'Black Panther'

was the best "cinema experience" he's ever had. He felt "in sync".

"All the jokes landed, the references landed.

"I re-watched it yesterday to take him in again. And it holds up, it's so wonderful. It was made with love and you can feel that."

The fictional nation of Wakanda, where the film is set, played a key part.

"They encompassed the whole of Africa so it didn't really matter where you were from as a black person," Andrew says. "Whether you're Nigerian, South Africa, Kenya, Ghanaian, you can see a piece of your culture in the film."

Aharoun is an aspiring screenplay writer - but Chadwick will influence more than just his art.

"I remember him visiting children who were terminal with cancer. It's haunting to think how much he was going through and still thinking about other people.

"That nature of serving others is something I will take on even more."

He hopes Chadwick's example of being authentic - which he showed in Black Panther - inspires people to do the same.

"Especially in a world which wants them to minimise themselves.

"Learning about how he passed, and his fight with cancer, has made me realise that he really was a real-life black superhero."

- BBC

DEPP TO RESUME 'FANTASTIC BEASTS 3' SHOOT



REEL REVIEWS

sume in October is expected to go on till February next year. Therefore, Depp has requested that the trial be postponed as it is scheduled to run from 11th to 28th January 2021.

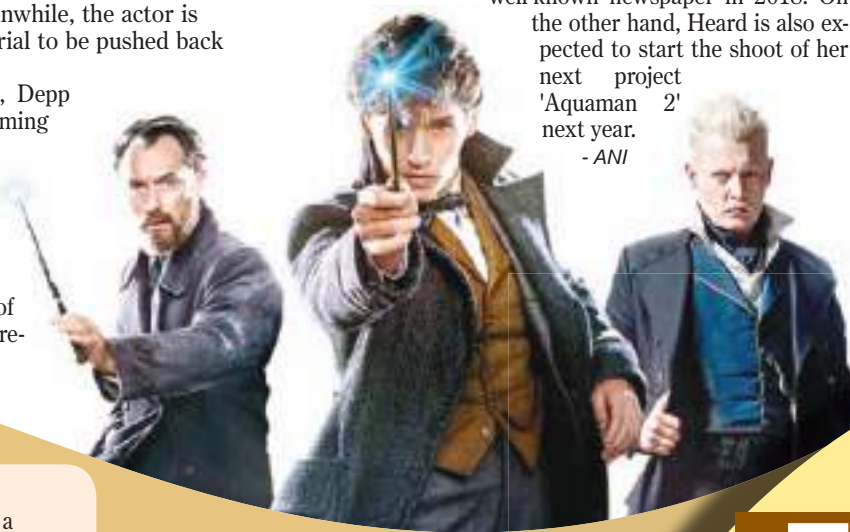
Meanwhile, Depp is suing his ex-wife Heard with a defamation case of \$50 million for what she wrote about him in a well-known newspaper in 2018. On the other hand, Heard is also expected to start the shoot of her next project 'Aquaman 2' next year.

- ANI

Hollywood star Johnny Depp has been in the news for his ongoing defamation lawsuit against ex-wife Amber Heard. Meanwhile, the actor is reported to have requested for the trial to be pushed back as he will soon be resuming work.

According to a Hollywood report, Depp will soon resume the shoot of his upcoming project 'Fantastic Beasts 3' in October. With many projects resuming the shoot as conditions improve in many cities, the David Yates directorial is reported to go on the floor once again next month.

The shoot of the third instalment of the popular fantasy film which will re-



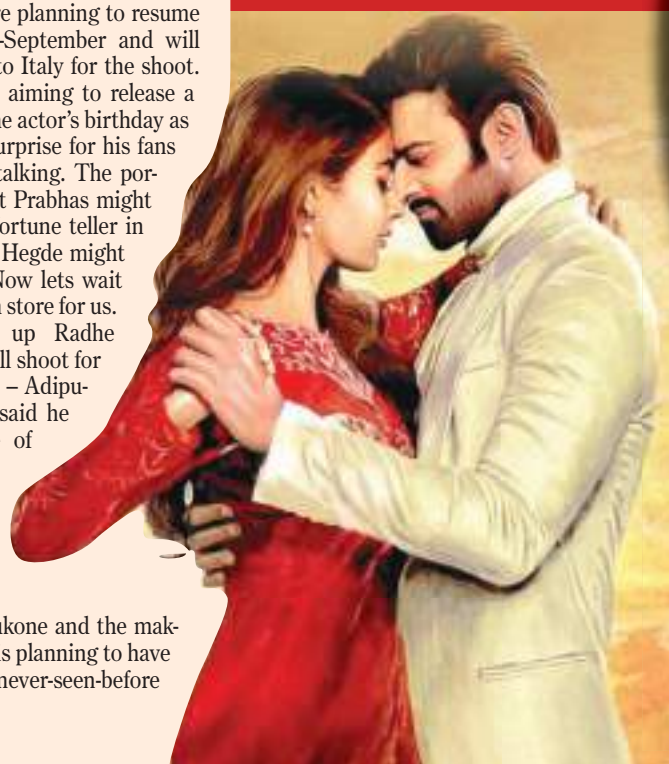
PRABHAS' BIRTHDAY SPECIAL

Prabhas is more than just a superstar. He's a phenomenon which gets everyone excited, his movies get the cash registers ringing and his fans worldwide wait for his movies with bated breath. Today we learn some interesting news for his upcoming film Radhe Shyam starring Pooja Hegde opposite him.

Now according to reports in an online portal, Radhe Shyam's teaser will be released on Prabhas' birthday - October 23. The makers were shooting for the magnum opus before the lockdown and the film was stalled due to the pandemic. Now the makers are planning to resume the shoot by mid-September and will most probably fly to Italy for the shoot. The team is really aiming to release a special teaser on the actor's birthday as it will serve as a surprise for his fans and get everyone talking. The portal also reveals that Prabhas might play the role of a fortune teller in the film and Pooja Hegde might have a dual role. Now lets wait and watch what's in store for us.

Post wrapping up Radhe Shyam, Prabhas will shoot for Om Raut's big film - Adipurush. Where it is said he will play the role of Lord Ram in this big screen adaptation of Ramayana. He also another big project where he will star with Deepika Padukone and the makers of this film too is planning to have bigger visuals and never-seen-before scenes.

Filmfare



ADOPTING TWO VILLAGES IN INDIA

During the pandemic, many Bollywood celebrities have stepped forward to lend support to those in need - whether it's the hundreds of migrant workers trying to reach their homes or others who were not able to afford even basic necessities. Recently, on her birthday (August 11), Jacqueline Fernandez adopted two villages in Maharashtra - Pathardi and Sakur. As part of a three-year project, she will be providing food supplies to those inhabitants of these villages, who are malnourished. Jacqueline says, "This has been on my mind for a while now. It has also been a difficult year for everyone due to the ongoing pandemic. Some of us have been lucky, but a section of the society has been struggling even for basic necessities."

Shedding some light on the initiative that spreads

across the two villages, the actress explains, "Around 1,550 people will be looked after as a part of this project. People from the villages, including caregivers and children, will be screened for malnutrition. Awareness sessions will also be held for them. We plan to provide information and support to 150 women to enable them to take care of newborn babies, and seven frontline workers will be given training and on-the-job assistance. We plan to track the health of 20 families, who will be provided with the means to overcome malnutrition, and 20 women will receive support from conception till childbirth to ensure that they are healthy. Also, 20 children will be treated for malnutrition, and 20 kitchen gardens will be set up in the villages. Giving back to society is something that my parents have taught me, and they were extremely supportive of this decision of mine."

- Mid Day





# Powerful typhoon slams Japan with violent winds, heavy rain

A powerful typhoon began to lash southern Japan on Sunday, with officials warning it could bring record rainfall and winds strong enough to snap power line poles and flip cars.

Typhoon Haishen, categorised as "large" and "extremely strong", has prompted evacuation advisories for more than three million residents, particularly in Kyushu – one of Japan's main islands – which the storm is expected to affect overnight.

The storm has weakened somewhat, shifting west from earlier forecasts, away from the mainland, and Japan's weather agency said it was no longer likely to issue its top-level typhoon warning.

But it urged residents to exercise "most serious caution" for possible record rain, violent winds, high waves and surging tides.

"Record-level rainfall is expected (where the typhoon approaches). It may cause landslides or it could cause even large rivers to flood," Yoshihisa Nakamoto, director of the forecast division at the Japan Meteorological Agency, said during a televised briefing.

He added that surging tides could cause widespread flooding in low-lying areas, particularly around river mouths.

The storm passed over a string of small islands near Kyushu on Sunday afternoon, and footage showed strong gusts bending trees as walls of rain came down. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe called an emergency cabinet meeting to coordinate the government's response to the storm, and warned of flooding and landslides. "Maximum caution is needed as record rain, violent winds, high waves and high tides are possible," he said.

"I ask the Japanese people, including those who live in high-risk areas for flooding rivers or high tides to stay informed and take



People undergo a temperature check before boarding a bus as an evacuation advice is issued due to the approach of typhoon Haishen in Hitoyoshi, Kumamoto Prefecture on September 6, 2020. - Typhoon Haishen headed toward southern Japan on September 6, with officials warning of record rainfall and winds strong enough to snap power poles and flip vehicles. AFP

action immediately to ensure their safety." At 3 pm (0600 GMT), Haishen was located about 110 kilometres (68 miles) south-southwest of Yakushima island, packing gusts up to 216 km (13 miles) per hour – strong enough to overturn vehicles and snap wooden power line poles.

The storm was forecast to move north-northwest and travel off the western coast of Kyushu from the evening through early Monday before reaching South Korea, according to the weather agency.

Authorities across Japan's southern Kyushu island have issued evac-

uation advisories for nearly 2.5 million residents, particularly in Kagoshima and neighbouring Miyazaki, according to the Fire and Disaster Management Agency.

Across the country, non-compulsory evacuation orders and advisories covered some 3.5 million residents, according to national broadcaster NHK. Evacuation orders in Japan are not compulsory, though authorities strongly urge people to follow them.

Local officials have asked people, however, to avoid crowded shelters if possible to reduce the risk of coronavirus infections, so in

many places residents have checked into hotels.

"I live near a river, and I wanted to go to a safe place and thought about the coronavirus too," a woman in Miyazaki told NHK after bringing her family to a local hotel.

The storm has forced the cancellation of nearly 550 flights and disrupted train services, NHK said. And power outages were reported in parts of Okinawa, as well as Kagoshima, where some 30,000 homes were without electricity even before the storm arrived.

AFP

# Several stabbed in Birmingham 'major incident': UK police

British police on Sunday declared a "major incident" after several people were stabbed in the centre of the country's second city, Birmingham.

Violence broke out at about 12:30 am (2330 GMT Saturday) in and around the Arcadian Centre, a popular venue filled with restaurants, nightclubs and bars.

West Midlands Police confirmed "a number" of stabbings but said it had no information on reports that shots had been fired. No further details on casualties were immediately available.

The incident comes after several previous mass casualty stabbings, including one in the Scottish city of Glasgow on June 26, in which six people were injured, including a police officer.

A man was charged with murder after three people were killed in a park in Reading, west of London, the previous week in an attack investigated by counter-terrorism police.

Britain has been on high alert after two mass stabbings in London in the last year, which saw both perpetrators – convicted extremists released early from prison – shot dead by armed officers.

Knife crime in England and Wales increased six percent in the year to the end of March, according to the Office for National Statistics.

Birmingham, one of Britain's most ethnically diverse cities with a population of more than one million, has had an explosive recent history of gang violence.

In January 2003, one gang opened fire with an illegal semi-automatic sub-machine gun at a rival group. Two teenage girls who were bystanders were killed in the hail of bullets.

Cara Curran, a nightclub promoter, was working at the Arcadian Centre on Saturday night.

She told AFP she saw "groups upon groups" of people fighting in and around the venue and heard the use of "racial slurs". "I had seen a lot of tensions building through the night, which wasn't quite like what I've seen before," she said.

"I had left with my boyfriend. I heard a commotion and saw multiple police coming towards our direction. I headed towards where I saw them coming and it all just unfurled in front of me." "It was quite a street fight. It didn't really look like fighting. It was just multiple people on top of each other, not one on one." Curran said the violence caused people in the area to flee the scene.

Police and other emergency services arrived quickly and cordoned off the area.

The elected mayor of the West Midlands Andy Street said there had been a "series of incidents" in the Hurst Street area, which is in the heart of the city's Gay Village district.

"They look to be related but the motivation for them is not yet understood. The area is calm and the advice to the public is to go about their business as normal," he told BBC television. Television footage showed forensic specialists in protective clothing poring over the scene, which was taped off and guarded by officers.

"Work is still going on to establish what has happened, and could take some time before we are in a position to confirm anything," West Midlands Police said. "At this early stage it would not be appropriate to speculate on the causes of the incident." AFP



SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA - SEPTEMBER 05: People gather on the beach along the Pacific Ocean on the first day of the Labor Day weekend amid a heatwave on September 5, 2020 in Santa Monica, California. Temperatures are soaring across California sparking concerns that crowded beaches could allow for wider spread of the coronavirus amid the COVID-19 pandemic. AFP

## Germany attacks Trump over rigged vote claims

German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas said Sunday that an "unscrupulous" President Donald Trump was trying to sow doubt about the US presidential election by urging his supporters to vote twice, which is illegal.

"We owe an incredible number of things to the United States and the country remains one of our closest partners but... it is disturbing to see that an American president thinks he might need such a move," Maas told Sunday's Bild, Germany's top selling daily.

"I have confidence that Americans' good sense will scupper this unscrupulous effort to sow doubt on the validity of the election with the later aim, probably, of not accepting defeat," he added. Trump said earlier this week that voters could use a mail-in vote-which he has slammed as a ruse to rig the election against him - and then also cast a vote at a polling station as a guarantee, with officials left to decide which of the ballots to count.

The president has repeatedly raised doubt over whether he would accept defeat in November's election, charging that his Democrat Party opponents are doing all they can to fix the outcome. AFP

## Turkey 'disappointed' by Kosovo's move to recognise Israel

Turkey on Sunday voiced disappointment over majority-Muslim Kosovo's decision to recognise Israel and set up its mission in Jerusalem.

A vocal advocate of the Palestinian cause, Turkey became one of the first countries to recognise Kosovo, which declared its independence from Serbia in 2008.

"Even the thought by Kosovo officials of taking such a step – which is a clear violation of international law – is disappointing," the Turkish foreign ministry said in a statement.

The ministry called on the Kosovo leadership to avoid such steps that would harm the legal status of Jerusalem.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Friday Serbia will become the first European country to transfer its embassy to Jerusalem. Kosovo will also set up its Israel mission in Jerusalem and in exchange earn Israel's recognition, as it seeks to further legitimise its statehood. AFP

### 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 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 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. : 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.

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 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.**

## 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 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 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.**

## WASTE POLYTHENE

L.D.P.E.

Factory Waste & Washed Clean Waste  
And  
LDPE RE-CYCLED PELLETS  
Purchased at Higher Price

Polypak Secco Ltd.,  
4th Floor, "Proptex Court"  
108, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mw., Colombo 02.  
Tel. 2330128-30, 2331288-94  
2326658 - 2447712

Public Notice of incorporation of limited liability companies  
Notice is hereby given in terms of the Section 9 of  
Companies Act No. 07 of 2007

Name of Company: Cisco Gases (Pvt) Ltd  
Reg. No.: PV 00224484  
Date: 18.07.2020  
Address: 214/1/C/2, Ranala Road, Mullegama

Name of Company: R & A Medicals (Pvt) Ltd  
Reg. No.: PV 0022442  
Date: 02.06.2020  
Address: 12/98, Perera Mw, Kotuwegoda, Rajagiriya.

Name of Company: Melbourne Steel (Pvt) Ltd  
Reg. No.: PV 00212606  
Date: 14.06.2019  
Address: 45/2, Kurunduwatta Rd., Ekala, Ja-ela

Name of Company: N & A Metal (Pvt) Ltd  
Reg. No.: PV 00212735  
Date: 18.06.2018  
Address: 367/3, Negombo Road, Wattala.

Name of Company: Wickramathilake Food Corporation (Pvt) Ltd  
Reg. No.: PV 104852  
Date: 30.03.2015  
Address: 552, Galle Road, Katubedda.

THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT  
AS AMENDED BY THE LAND  
ACQUISITION (AMENDMENT)  
ACT NO. 28 OF 1964 NOTICE  
UNDER SECTION 7

My Reference No.: AMB KO/3/5/A/157

Ministry of Lands & Parliamentary  
Reforms Reference No.: 4-3/2/2013/FR/83

The Government intends to acquire the land which is described in the following schedule. Please see the Part III of the Extraordinary Gazette No. 2141/17 dated 18.09.2019 & Gazette No. 2184/45 dated 17.07.2020 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

## SCHEDULE

- i. District : Nuwara Eliya
  - ii. Divisional Secretary Division:  
Ambagamuwa Korallaya
  - iii. Village : Ruwanpura
  - iv. Grama Niladhari Division:  
320 G - Ruwanpura
  - v. Name of Land : Binoya Estate
  - vi. Plan & Lot No.: Lots No. 01 and 02 in  
Block No. 04 Sheet  
No. 01 of C.M. No.  
330252
  - vii. Extent : 28.2916 Hectares
- Sithara Ruwini Gamage,  
Divisional Secretary,  
Ambagamuwa Korallaya.

Divisional Secretariat,  
Ambagamuwa Korallaya  
19.08.2020

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY &  
MINES BUREAU (GSMB)

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

## PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Sealed tenders will be entertained by the Chairman, Procurement Committee, of the Geological Survey and Mines Bureau (GSMB), for the supply of undermentioned laboratory items for the Analytical Laboratory of Geological Survey & Mines Bureau (GS&MB).

Item No.	Item	Tender No.	Non-refundable tender documents fee (Rs.)	Bid Security value (Rs.)	Closing date of issuing/receiving tender forms specifications and other information	Closing date of receiving Tenders
01	ICP-OES Machine	PR/02/Q/65/20	7,000/-	150,000/-	25.09.2020	28.09.2020
02	Platinum Ware	PR/02/Q/64/20	3,000/-	25,000/-	25.09.2020	28.09.2020
03	Planetary Ball Mill	PR/02/Q/66/20	3,500/-	46,950/-	25.09.2020	28.09.2020

Tender documents specifications and other information regarding tenders could be obtained by the interested tenderers up to 3.00 p.m. on the relevant dates given in the table above from the Procurement Officer (First Floor), of the Geological Survey & Mines Bureau (GS & MB), upon payment of the relevant fees, prescribed in the schedule above. Duly completed sealed tenders should either be sent by registered post addressed to the **Chairman, Procurement Committee, Geological Survey & Mines Bureau (GS&MB), No. 569, Epitamulla Road, Pitakotte** or deposited in the Tender box kept at the Purchasing Division of Bureau to be received **on or before 2.00 p.m.** on the closing date as relevant in the table above. Tenders thus received will be opened at **2.00 p.m.** on the **Same Day** of closing of tenders and tenderer or his authorized agent could be present on this occasion of opening of tenders. Please indicate the Tender No. and the name of the item, quoted on the top left hand corner of the envelope, enclosing tenders clearly. (Separate Tenders should be submitted in respect of each item of the tender).

**Chairman,**  
**Department Procurement Committee,**  
**Geological Survey & Mines Bureau,**  
**No. 569, Epitamulla Road,**  
**Pitakotte.**

## MINISTRY OF HEALTH

## NATIONAL HOSPITAL OF SRI LANKA

## INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

## SUPPLY OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

01. Sealed bids will be received by me the Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee, National Hospital of Sri Lanka up to 10.00 a.m. on 06.10.2020, for the supply of undermentioned medical equipment, to this hospital.

Item No.	Item	Reference No.	Quantity of the Items	Non-refundable Fee (Rs.)
01	Fully automated Elisa Analyzer	SG-IV/2019/LAB/26	01	1500.00
02	03 Nos. fully automated Biochemistry Analyzer	SG-IV/2019/LAB/25	03	6000.00
03	HbA1c Analyzer	SG-IV/2019/LAB/23	01	1750.00
04	Gamma Counter	SG-IV/2019/LAB/33	01	4000.00
05	02 Nos. Fully Automated Immunoassay Analyzer	SG-IV/2019/LAB/24	02	4000.00
06	Fully Automated Osmometer	SG-IV/2019/LAB/31	01	3000.00

02. Only the bidders who are the sole nominated agents or accredited representatives for or on behalf of manufacturers who manufacture and supply these medical equipment to the Sri Lanka Market are eligible to participate in this bid invitation.

03. Bidding documents could be obtained by the interested eligible bidders, on production of the receipt for payment of the relevant non-refundable fees made to the Deputy Director General of Health Services, National Hospital of Sri Lanka, Colombo 10, from 9.30 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. on working days of the week, from 07.09.2020 to 05.10.2020 (Telephone: 011-2691111, Ext.: 2722)

04. Pre-bid meeting will be held at 10.00 a.m. on 22.09.2020 for all the items of medical equipment.

05. Sealed bids, duly perfected should either be sent by Registered Post addressed to the Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee, National Hospital of Sri Lanka Colombo 10 or deposited in the Tender Box, kept at the office of the Chief Accountant of the National Hospital, Sri Lanka, Colombo 10, if hand delivered to be received on or before 10.00 a.m. on 06.10.2020.

Bids will be opened immediately thereafter.

06. Further details in this regard, if so required could be obtained from the Chief Accountant, National Hospital of Sri Lanka, over Telephone No. 011-2694595.

**Chairman,**  
**Regional Procurement Committee,**  
**National Hospital of Sri Lanka,**  
**Colombo 10.**





## 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 01<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY TO 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER IN THE YEAR 2021 ON RATE RUNNING CONTRACT BASIS

1. 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 01<sup>ST</sup> January 2021 to 31<sup>ST</sup> December 2021 on rate running contract basis. The validity of the submitted rate of the bids should be from 01<sup>ST</sup> January 2021 to 31<sup>ST</sup> December 2021.

(a). Selected Contractors should transport all the items ordered by SLN to Transit Stores at SLNS "Mahasen", Welisara, Ragama.

(b). 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 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020 to 06<sup>th</sup> 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.

2. The detailed information of General Stores Items and approximate quantities required for the 01<sup>ST</sup> January 2021 to 31<sup>ST</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/02/RC/2021	Winding Wires	07 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/03/RC/2021	Cable House Wiring	07 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/04/RC/2021	Switches / MCB's / MCCB's RCCB's	07 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/05/RC/2021	Sanitary Fittings	07 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/07/RC/2021	Tyres / Tubes	07 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/08/RC/2021	Conduits and Accessories	07 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/09/RC/2021	Tor Steel	07 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/10/RC/2021	Industrial Gases	07 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/11/RC/2021 (File No. 01)	Hardware (Civil Engineering) - Mild Steel and GI Items	07 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/11/RC/2021 (File No. 02)	Hardware (Civil Engineering) - Door Window Item and Accessories	07 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/11/RC/2021 (File No. 03)	Hardware (Civil Engineering) - General Items	07 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/12/RC/2021	Cleaning Material	08 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/13/RC/2021	Telephone Cables, Indoor Drop Wires and Telephone Instruments	08 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/14/RC/2021	Office Stationery	08 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/15/RC/2021	Papers and Books	08 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/16/RC/2021	Local Timber	08 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/17/RC/2021 (File No. 01)	Hardware Items (General Engineering)	08 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/17/RC/2021 (File No. 02)	Hardware Items (General Engineering)	08 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/17/RC/2021 (File No. 03)	Hardware Items (General Engineering)	08 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/18/RC/2021	Welding Electrodes	08 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/19/RC/2021	PVC Items	08 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/20/RC/2021	Plywood Sheets	08 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/21/RC/2021	General Paints	09 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/22/RC/2021	Tar Emulsion	09 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/23/RC/2021	Bearings	09 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/24/RC/2021	Bulbs	09 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/25/RC/2021	Roofing Sheets	09 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/26/RC/2021	Auto Paints	09 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/27/RC/2021	Printing Items	09 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/28/RC/2021	Imported Timber	09 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/29/RC/2021	Glass-Reinforced Plastic (GRP) Material	09 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/30/RC/2021 (File No. 01)	Spare Parts For Vehicles	09 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/30/RC/2021 (File No. 02)	Upholstering Materials for Vehicle	09 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/33/RC/2021	Reverse Osmosis Plant (Ro Plant) Items/Accessories	09 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/34/RC/2021	Cement 50Kg	09 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs
SLN/LOG/36/RC/2021	Sand River, Metal 3/4" & Rubble 6"x9"	09 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1000 hrs

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. 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.

8. Selected bidders will be notified by Registered Post for signing of agreement.

9. Bidding forms can be inspected free of charge at the office of the Director General Logistics, at Navy Headquarters, Colombo 01.

10. 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.

11. Details of this tender invitation are available in Sri Lanka Navy website [www.navy.lk](http://www.navy.lk).

The Chairman,  
Department Procurement Committee,  
Sri Lanka Navy,  
Colombo 01.

## PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES NORTH WESTERN PROVINCE

### INVITATION FOR BIDS

#### Supply of Cooked Meals and Washing of Soiled Linen for year 2021

Quotations are received from 07.09.2020 up to 11.00 a.m. on 25.09.2020 for the supply of services such as supplying of Cooked Meals (except for Hospitals for which Dry Food is supplied) and Washing of Linen to hospitals under the Offices of the District Director of Health Services of Kurunegala and Puttalam for the period from 01<sup>st</sup> January 2021 until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021. Bid details and applications may be obtained on working days of the week between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. from 07.09.2020 until 24.09.2020.

Amounts to be paid and documents to be submitted to obtain bid documents:

- National Identity Card with a Photocopy and the letter of request for documents

#### Supply of Cooked Meals

Institution	Non Refundable Fee	Refundable Deposit	Value of Assets Certificate
Base Hospitals	2,000.00	40,000.00	250,000.00
Regional Hospitals A	1,000.00	25,000.00	100,000.00
Regional Hospitals B	1,000.00	7,500.00	25,000.00
Regional Hospitals C	1,000.00	5,000.00	15,000.00
Primary Medical Treatment Units	1,000.00	2,000.00	10,000.00

#### Washing of Soiled Linen

Institution	Non Refundable Fee	Refundable Deposit	Value of Assets Certificate
Base Hospitals	2,000.00	40,000.00	300,000.00
Regional Hospitals A	1,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00
Regional Hospitals B	1,000.00	7,500.00	15,000.00
Regional Hospitals C	1,000.00	5,000.00	7,500.00
Primary Medical Treatment Units	1,000.00	2,000.00	2,500.00

- Assets Certificate should be valid from 07.09.2020 until 31.12.2020 and should have been issued by the relevant Divisional Secretary.

- Receiving and Opening of Bids

Bids perfected in duplicate should be inserted in separate covers marked as Original and Duplicate and both covers should be reinserted in a single cover mentioning the Name of the Service and Name of the Hospital on the left hand top corner and may either be sent by registered post to the address given below or hand delivered or deposited in the Bid Box kept at the Office of the Chief Accountant of this office to receive before the scheduled closing date and time. Bids will be closed at 11.00 a.m. on 25.09.2020 and will be opened at 11.05 a.m. on the same day. Bidder or his authorized representative may be present at the time of opening of bids.

Chairman,  
Departmental Procurement Committee,  
Office of the North Western Provincial Director of Health Services,  
Negombo Road,  
Kurunegala.

## 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 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. 011-2264103 / 011-2264104, E-mail : [head.scm@airport.lk](mailto:head.scm@airport.lk) or by visiting our Website : [www.airport.lk](http://www.airport.lk)

Chairman  
Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited  
Bandaranaike International Airport,  
Katunayake.





## DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN DEVELOPMENT

### INVITATION FOR BIDS

#### Construction of One Stop Shops

- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, on behalf of the Department of Agrarian Development now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for "Construction of One Stop Shops" as per the annexure.
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure (NCB). Since the Total Cost Estimate of each procurement is below Rs. 50Mn, regional preference and CIDA grade preference shall apply as stipulated in Public Finance Circular No. 04/2016(ii)
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall be registered in the field of Building Construction for relevant CIDA grade with the Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA) as per the Annexure, valid until the date of closing of the bids. Further the registration should be valid at the date of award.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from Deputy / Assistant Commissioner, Relevant Agrarian Development District office and inspect the Bidding Documents at the same address on any working day from 9:00hrs to 16:00hrs.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the Deputy / Assistant Commissioner of relevant agrarian development district office from 07.09.2020 until 21.09.2020 From 9:00 hrs to 15:00hrs upon payment of a non refundable fee as stated below.
- Bids shall be delivered or sent by registered post with duplicate to the address mentioned in the Annexure to reach at or before 22.09.2020 at 16:00hrs. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing at the same address mentioned in the Annexure in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- Bids shall be valid for a period of 60 Days from the date fixed for receiving of Bids or any extended period.
- All Bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security which shall be:
  - In the form included in the Section 09 in the Bidding document.
  - In favour of Deputy / Assistant Commissioner of relevant district office,
  - For an amount mentioned in the Annexure
  - Valid up to 18.11.2020
  - Issued by one of the agencies indicated in the clause 16.0 of the Schedule
 OR
  - A refundable cash deposit as mentioned in the Annexure should be paid to the Relevant Agrarian Development District Office and attached the original receipt.

Commissioner General of Agrarian Development,  
Department of Agrarian Development,  
No 42, Sir Marcus Fernando Mawatha,  
Colombo 07.  
07.09.2020

#### Construction of One Stop Shops - 2020

Serial No.	Project Name	District	CIDA Grade	Non-Refundable Fee (Rs.)	Estimated Cost (Rs.Mn)	Construction Period	Bid Security		Address for Collecting & Submitting the Bidding Documents	Contact No. & Fax No.
							As a Bank Guarantee (Rs.)	As Cash Deposit (Rs.)		
01	Construction of One Stop Shop at Padaviya ASC Area	Anuradhapura District	C8 & C7	1000.00	2.75	60 Days	40,000.00	20,000.00	Deputy Commissioner, Agrarian Development District Office, Godage Mawatha, Anuradhapura	TP: 025-2053838 Fax: 025-2222812
02	Construction of One Stop Shop at Panadura ASC Area	Kalutara District	C7 & C6	2000.00	5.83	75 Days	60,000.00	30,000.00	Assistant Commissioner, Agrarian Development District Office, 4 <sup>th</sup> floor, District Secretariat, Kalutara	TP: 034-2222404 Fax: 034-2222407
03	Construction of One Stop Shop at Ragala ASC Area	Nuwaraeliya District	C7 & C6	2000.00	5.83	75 Days	60,000.00	30,000.00	Assistant Commissioner, Agrarian Development District Office, Jayathilaka Mw, Nuwaraeliya	TP: 052-2222308 Fax: 052-2222308
04	Construction of One Stop Shop at Andambalama ASC Area	Gampaha District	C7 & C6	2000.00	5.83	75 Days	60,000.00	30,000.00	Assistant Commissioner, Agrarian Development District Office, Sri Bodhi Road, Gampaha	TP: 033-2222698 Fax: 033-2239555

## MINISTRY OF PLANTATION SRI LANKA STATE PLANTATIONS CORPORATION

### Invitation of Bids for the Supply of Printed Packing Container Bags for Sanstha Tea

Tender No: SLSPC/HD/MAR/SANSTHA TEA/T-126/2020

Sealed bid quotations are hereby invited from reputed companies and institutions for the supply of printed packing container bags with the following specifications for the packing of "Sanstha Tea", which is a product of the Sri Lanka State Plantations Corporation.

- Paper Cover with inner Aluminium Foil (Heat Seal Custom, Craft Paper Bags).
- Should be able to seal them with a sealer machine.
- Outer print should be in three colours.

#### Packing Bags Details:

Description	Size of Bag (Approx)	Required Quantity
100 Gram Pack	100 mm x 190 mm	200,000
200 Gram Pack	130 mm x 210 mm	150,000
400 Gram Pack	180 mm x 230 mm	60,000
01 Kg Pack	220 mm x 340 mm	50,000

Further details required can be obtained on any weekday between 8.30 a.m. and 3.30 p.m., either by calling over at the Head Office address stated below or on telephone.

Sealed quotations, the relevant cover clearly marked, "Supply of Packing Bags for Sanstha Tea" at the left-side top corner, should be submitted to the Chairman, Procurement Committee of the Head Office of the Sri Lanka State Plantations Corporation at No. 21, Meeraniya Street, Colombo 12, to be received at or before 2.00 p.m. on 21st September, 2020.

Chairman,  
Procurement Committee,  
No. 21, Meeraniya Street, Colombo 12.  
Tel No.: 011-5921465/5921463.

## INVITATION FOR BIDS

### Ministry of Finance

#### Maintenance of HVAC System at Treasury New Building

Contract Number: MF/06/07/Central AC/New Bul./2020

- The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee on behalf of the Secretary, Ministry of Finance now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for "Maintenance of HVAC system at Treasury New Building, Ministry of Finance, Lotus Road, Colombo 01"
- The intended maintenance service period will be **Two (02) years**. *Renewal of 2nd year shall be subjected to satisfactory performance of 1st year.*
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
- Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:
  - Shall have a valid business registration in Sri Lanka
  - Shall be registered in Construction Industry Development Authority under EM5 or above grade. Registration shall be valid at least up to 28.12.2020.
  - Shall require minimum 03 years' experience for key staff of the maintenance crew.
  - Minimum 03 years' experience in Maintaining of HVAC systems at Government Departments/Institutes or well reputed companies from private sector.
  - Shall not be a blacklisted contractor at the time of bidding and at the time of award of contract.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from **Chief Accountant, Finance Division, Upper Ground Floor, New Building, Ministry of Finance, Lotus Road, Colombo 01 (Tel. 0112484535)** and inspect the bidding documents at the office of **Chief Accountant, Finance Division, Upper Ground Floor, New Building, Ministry of Finance, Lotus Road, Colombo 01 from 07.09.2020 to 28.09.2020 from 0900hrs to 1500hrs.**
- A complete set of bidding documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the **Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Lotus Road, Colombo 01 from 07.09.2020 to 28.09.2020 from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs** upon payment of **non-refundable fee of Three Thousand Five Hundred Rupees (Rs. 3,500/-)**. The method of payment shall be in cash only.
- Bids must be delivered to the **Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee, Finance Division, Upper Ground Floor, New Building, Ministry of Finance, Lotus Road, Colombo 01** at or before **1400 hrs. on 29.09.2020**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidder's representative who chooses to attend.
- Bids shall be valid up to 28.12.2020
- All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security of **Sri Lankan Rupees One Hundred Thousand (Rs. 100,000.00)**. A bid security shall be only in the form of a Bank guarantee according to the approved form in bidding document, issued by a commercial bank approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka in favour of **Secretary, Ministry of Finance. Bid security shall be valid up to 25.01.2021.**
- All interested bidders shall encourage to carry out the Site Inspection from 1000 hrs to 1500 hrs on working days from **07.09.2020 to 28.09.2020**.

Chairman,  
Ministry Procurement Committee,  
Finance Division,  
Upper Ground Floor, New Building,  
Ministry of Finance,  
Lotus Road,  
Colombo 01.  
Date: 07.09.2020

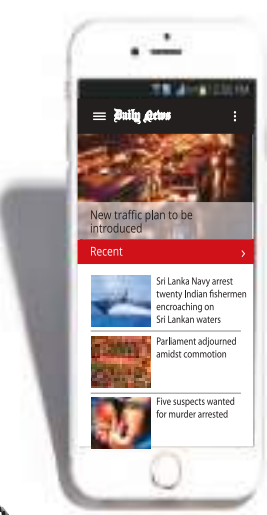
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## MAHARAGAMA URBAN COUNCIL

### TENDERING OF PUBLIC TOILETS

Tenders are invited for the leasing-out of the right to cleaning of public toilets and charging of fees from users of the undermentioned public toilets, belonging to this Urban Council, for the period from **13.10.2020** up to **12.10.2021**.

1. Maharagama Town Public Toilet
2. Kottawa Town Public Toilet
3. Public Toilet in the Maharagama Public Market Ground
4. Kottawa Public Market Public Toilet
5. Thalawathugoda Public Toilet

Further details can be obtained either from our website - maharagama.uc.gov.lk or Email address: **mucmaharagama@gmail.com** or Telephone No. **0112745002** or by contacting the Urban Council's Health Section.

**Chairman,**  
**Maharagama Urban Council**  
Date: 02.09.2020

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## USED CONSTRUCTION TOOLS FOR SALE TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER

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| * AIR COMPRESSORS         | * RAMMERS           |
| * ASPHALT CUTTER MACHINES | * THEODOLITES       |
| * AUTO LEVELS             | * SUBMERCIBLE PUMPS |
| * CORE DRILL MACHINES     | * VIBRATING RAMMERS |
| * LIGHTING UNITS          | * WATER PUMPS       |
| * PORKER VIBRATORS        | * WELDING PLANTS    |
| * PORTABLE GENERATORS     | * OTHERS            |

#### Inspection Places:

1. No.07, Braybrook Place, Colombo-02.
2. No.25, Kaolin Refinery Rd, Werahara, Boralasgamuwa.

#### Inspection Period:

7th Sep 2020 to 18th Sep 2020  
at 9.00 a.m to 4.30 p.m. on week days.

Sealed quotations should be submitted on or before 3.00 p.m on 21st Sep 2020 to the address given below.  
Tender will be evaluated under "CLOSED BID"

**The Manager, Heavy Equipment  
KEANGNAM ENTERPRISES LIMITED**  
No. 85/4, Neralu Uyana, Battaramulla.  
Bidding Inquires : 077 320 7565  
**CLOSING DATE 21. 09. 2020**

## NOTICE

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 9(1) of the Companies Act No. 7 of 2007.  
Name of the company: **MACAW AUTO HOLDINGS (PRIVATE) LIMITED**  
Registration No.: **PV 00226391**  
Registered Address: **No. 01, Kahawaththa Road, Kudugala, Ambathenna.**  
Reg. Date: 26.08.2020  
**COMPANY SECRETARY**

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Lucky Innovations (Pvt) Ltd hereby gives the notice to the public on incorporation under Section 9(1) of the Companies Act No. 7 of 2007.  
Name of the Company: **LUCKY INNOVATIONS (PVT) LTD**  
Registered Office: **No. 227, Hospital Road, Kalubowila, Dehiwala.**  
Registration Number: **PV 129510**

## NOTICE OF INCORPORATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 9(1) of the Companies Act No. 07 of 2007.  
Name of the Company: **P R INVESTMENT (PVT) LTD**  
Company Reg. No.: **PV 84183**  
Registered Address: **1st Floor, YMBA Building, Fort, Galle.**  
- Company Secretaries

## SHOW ROOM/ OFFICE LEASE OR RENT IN COLOMBO 3

Facing Main Road Dharmapala Mawatha, Colombo 3.  
Approx. - 4,000 sq.ft. ground and first floor  
Approx. - 13 car parks.  
**Contact: 076 049 3334**  
(Call between 9.00 a.m. and 5.00 p.m. only)

**The Housewives' companion  
Classified on  
Daily News**

## 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**

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 can 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

## GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

### MINISTRY OF HIGHWAYS

## ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

### INVITATION FOR BIDS

### Hiring of Vehicle and Machineries for Colombo and Avissawella Executive Engineer's Divisions for the year 2020/2021

01. The Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee, Chief Engineer's Office, Road Development Authority, Colombo on behalf of the Road Development Authority (RDA), invites sealed Bids from eligible service providers for Hiring of Vehicles Colombo and Avissawella Executive Engineer's Divisions for the year 2020/2021.

Detailed description of requirement and specification are given in Bidding Document.

S/N	Contract Number	Name of the Contract	Qty	Bid Security (Rs)	Tender Fee (Rs)
01	RDA/CE/COL/TEN/2020/25	Hiring of Tipper 1.25 cube (5 ton) - Colombo Division, Nawala Depot	01	5,000.00	1,080.00
02	RDA/CE/COL/TEN/2020/26	Hiring of Tipper 1.25 cube (5 ton) - Colombo Division, Orugodawatta Depot	01	5,000.00	1,080.00
03	RDA/CE/COL/TEN/2020/27	Hiring of Tipper 1.25 cube (5 ton) - Colombo Division, Navinna Depot	01	5,000.00	1,080.00
04	RDA/CE/COL/TEN/2020/28	Hiring of Tipper 1.25 cube (5 ton) - Colombo Division, Rathmalana Depot	01	5,000.00	1,080.00
05	RDA/CE/COL/TEN/2020/29	Hiring of Tipper 1.25 cube (5 ton) - Colombo Division, Kaduwela Depot	01	5,000.00	1,080.00
06	RDA/CE/COL/TEN/2020/30	Hiring of Tipper 1.25 cube (5 ton) - Colombo Division, Nawala and Navinna Depots	01	5,000.00	1,080.00
07	RDA/CE/COL/TEN/2020/31	Hiring of Tipper 1.25 cube (5 ton) - Colombo Division, Kaduwela and Orugodawatta Depots	01	5,000.00	1,080.00
08	RDA/CE/COL/TEN/2020/32	Hiring of JCB Backhoe Loader (4WD) - Colombo Division, All Depots	01	5,000.00	1,080.00
09	RDA/CE/COL/TEN/2020/33	Hiring of JCB Backhoe Loader (4WD) - Colombo Division, All Depots	01	5,000.00	1,080.00
10	RDA/CE/COL/TEN/2020/34	Hiring of Vibrating Roller (1 ton) - Colombo Division, All Depots	01	5,000.00	1,080.00
11	RDA/CE/COL/TEN/2020/35	Hiring of Tipper 1.25 cube (5 ton) - Avissawella Division, Kaluaggala Depot	01	5,000.00	1,080.00
12	RDA/CE/COL/TEN/2020/36	Hiring of Tipper 1.25 cube (5 ton) - Avissawella Division, Galagedara Depot	01	5,000.00	1,080.00
13	RDA/CE/COL/TEN/2020/37	Hiring of Tipper 1.25 cube (5 ton) - Avissawella Division, Homagama Depot	01	5,000.00	1,080.00
14	RDA/CE/COL/TEN/2020/38	Hiring of Tipper 1.25 cube (5 ton) - Avissawella Division, Kesbewa Depot	01	5,000.00	1,080.00
15	RDA/CE/COL/TEN/2020/39	Hiring of JCB Backhoe Loader (4WD) - Avissawella Division, All Depots	01	5,000.00	1,080.00
16	RDA/CE/COL/TEN/2020/40	Hiring of JCB Backhoe Loader (4WD) - Avissawella Division, All Depots	01	5,000.00	1,080.00
17	RDA/CE/COL/TEN/2020/41	Hiring of Tipper 2.75 cube (12 ton) - Avissawella Division, All Depots	01	5,000.00	1,080.00
18	RDA/CE/COL/TEN/2020/42	Hiring of Vibrating Roller (4 ton) - Avissawella Division, All Depots	01	5,000.00	1,080.00

02. Bidding will be conducted using the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) Procedure that shall be governed by the Procurement guidelines of Government of Sri Lanka and is open to all eligible Bidders that meet the eligibility and Qualification requirements given in the Bidding Documents.
03. A complete set of Bidding Documents in Sinhala Language shall be obtained from Chief Engineer's Office (Colombo), No. 36, Udumulla Road, Battaramulla from 9.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs on all working days, from 08.09.2020 to 21.09.2020 upon payment of non-refundable fee of Sri Lankan Rupees One thousand eighty (Rs. 1,080.00).
04. Duly perfected Bids addressed to "The Chairman, Procurement Committee, Chief Engineer's Office, Road Development Authority, No. 36, Udumulla Road, Battaramulla" shall either be sent by registered post or deposited in the Tender Box kept in Chief Engineer's Office, Road Development Authority, Colombo on or before 02.00 p.m. on 22nd September 2020.
05. Any further particulars may be obtained from Chief Engineer, Road Development Authority, Colombo.  
Tel: 011-2879113-15 Fax. 011-2879116

**Chief Engineer - Colombo**  
**Road Development Authority**  
07 September 2020

## Ministry of Civil Aviation



## Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka

### Notice by the Director General of Civil Aviation Under the Air Navigation Regulation 196

Members of the public are hereby notified that this office has received on 04th September 2020 an application dated 03rd September 2020 from Fly Lankan Asia (Pvt) Ltd, No.07, Walagamba Mawatha, Off Borupana Road, Ratmalana, seeking an Air Operator Certificate and Airline Licence to engage in Domestic Regular Operations Carrying Passengers and Mail and International Regular Operations carrying Passengers, Cargo and Mail in compliance with Civil Aviation Act and Regulations made thereunder. Business name of the company is Fly Lankan with the trade name as "Fly Lankan". The Directors of the Fly Lankan Asia (Pvt) Ltd are as follows:

- Mr. Sivanathan Sivarasa
- Mr. K.M.D.S.N.Ranaweera
- Mr. D.J.G.S.Edirisinghe
- Mr. N.J.Weerakoon

Fly Lankan Asia (Pvt) Ltd has nominated AVM PD.J. Kumarasiri to be the Accountable Manager in charge of the proposed operations.

A copy of the aforementioned application is kept at the Technical Library, Ground Floor, of Head Quarters of the Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka, No. 152/1, Minuwangoda Road, Katunayake, for perusal of the members of the public, during office hours of any working day of the week.

Members of the public are hereby informed that this office would proceed with the certification process of this application after 13th of October 2020 as per the established procedures to examine the degree of applicant's compliance with the applicable legislative provisions, Air Navigation Regulations in accordance with associated local requirements adopted by this office and as certain the applicable level of compliance with the requirements for the safe, secure and efficient operation of proposed air services, prior to granting the requisite Air Operator Certificate and other relevant approvals for the commencement of proposed operations.

Any person may, not less than 10 days before the aforementioned date in the penultimate paragraph, make representations to me in writing, setting out the specific grounds on which such representations are made in respect of this application, in accordance with the Air Navigation Regulations. Such representations shall accompany written evidence as to the truth of any statement contained therein. A copy of every such representation shall be sent to the applicant, at the same time as it is sent to this office and a certificate to that effect shall be attached to the representation.

**Capt. Themiya Abeywickrama**  
**Director General of Civil Aviation & Chief Executive Officer**

**Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka,**  
**No. 152/1 Minuwangoda Road,**  
**Katunayake.**  
04th September 2020

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FRONT OFFICE

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Hotline  
1949



**DIVISION OF BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING SERVICES****PROCUREMENT NOTICE FOR SUPPLY OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT**

1. Sealed bids for the supply of undermentioned medical equipment will be received by the Committee, Ministry of Health & Indigenous Medical Services Chairman, Procurement, up to 10.00 a.m. on closing date stated below.

	Item	The period Bidding Documents could be obtained		Closing Date	Non-refundable fee to be made at BES Office (Rs.)	Estimated cost (Rs.) (In Million)
		From	To			
1.	774 Nos. BP Apparatus Aneroid	07.09.2020	28.09.2020	29.09.2020	3,500.00	10.062
2.	02 Nos. Laryngoscopes	07.09.2020	28.09.2020	29.09.2020	3,500.00	20

2. Only the sole nominated representative/accredited agent of manufacturers of the medical equipment offered for Sri Lanka market are eligible to participate in this procurement.
3. Sealed bids shall be made on a complete set of bidding documents in duplicate purchased by any interested eligible bidder.
4. Bidding Documents can be obtained from the Director (Finance), Division of Biomedical Engineering Services, 27, De Seram Place, Colombo-10 between 09.00 a.m. to 03.00 p.m. during the period stated above. (Tel. No. : 011-2691916, 2694479 - Fax No. : 011-2698317)
5. Bids will be opened immediately after the closing of bids at the office of Director (Finance), Division of Biomedical Engineering Services, 27, De Seram Place, Colombo-10.
6. Bidding Documents may be inspected free of charge at the office of the Director (Finance), Division of Biomedical Engineering Services, 27, De Seram Place, Colombo-10.
7. Please submit contract registration certificate issued by Company Registrar with bidding document.
8. Further information could be obtained from Director (Finance), Division of Biomedical Engineering Services on Tel. No. 2684732.

Chairman/ Procurement Committee,  
Division of Biomedical Engineering Services,  
27, De Seram Place,  
Colombo-10.

**NARAMMALA PRADESHIYA SABHA - NARAMMALA LEASE OF ASSETS - YEAR 2021****PROCUREMENT NOTICE**

1. Sealed bids will be received by me from purchasers up to 1.00 p.m. on 30.09.2020 for the lease of the property mentioned in the schedule for a period of one year from 01.01.2021 to 31.12.2021.
2. Relevant tender forms with regard to all assets will be issued from the Head Office of Narammala Pradeshiya Sabha at Narammala up to 3.00 p.m. on 29.09.2020.
3. All relevant tenders will be opened at 2.00 p.m. on 30.09.2020 before the tender board.
4. In addition to the tender amount lease amount enacted by the government from time to time will be levied.
5. Further details could be obtained from the Head Office of Narammala Pradeshiya Sabha and also through following telephone Nos.: 037-2249275 or 037-4947455.

Chairman,  
Narammala Pradeshiya Sabha,  
Narammala.

**Schedule - 1****2021 Lease of Assets - Description of Assets - Deciding Minimum Bid**

Serial No.	Description of Property	Minimum Bid Amount Year 2021 (Rs)	Tender Form Fee (Rs)	Tender Deposit (Rs)	Bid Security Deposit (Rs)
<b>Narammala Head Office</b>					
1.	Narammala Public Market Beef Stall	140500	1000.00	28100.00	70250.00
2.	Narammala Public Market Chicken Stall No. 01	712000	1000.00	14240.00	35600.00
3.	Narammala Public Market Fish Stall No. 02	712058.4	1000.00	14241.16	35602.92
4.	Narammala Public Market Fish Stall No. 03	382448	1000.00	7648.96	30595.84
5.	Narammala Public Market Fish Stall No. 04	454410	1000.00	9088.20	36352.80
6.	Coconut Yield of Courts Land	5350	100.00	267.50	-
7.	Coconut Yield Narammala Head Office Land	660	50.00	33.00	-
8.	Coconut Yield at Ruwangiri Sevana Land	4675	100.00	233.75	-
9.	Lease of Dry Land Block of the Sabha at Dodamwatte Auction Land, Kivulegedara	17499	500.00	874.95	-
10.	Canteen of Weekly Fair - Narammala	61400	500.00	3070.00	-
11.	Toilet of Narammala Weekly Fair	41000	500.00	2050.00	-
12.	Toilet near Peoples Bank Narammala	48500	500.00	2425.00	-
13.	Narammala Weekly Fair Pork Stall	498200	1000.00	9964.00	39856.00
14.	Narammala Weekly Fair Chicken Stall	841700	1000.00	16834.00	42085.00
15.	Narammala Weekly Fair Fish Stand	421747.75	1000.00	21087.38	-
16.	Coconut Yield of Royal Pond	2100	100.00	105.00	-
17.	Charging Parking Fees at Bus Stand	2299526	1000.00	114976.30	-
18.	Coconut Yield near Narammala Children's Park	1200	100.00	60.00	-

**Dambadeniya Sub Office**

Serial No.	Description Of Property	Minimum Bid Amount Year 2021 (Rs)	Tender Form Fee (Rs)	Tender Deposit (Rs)	Bid Security Deposit (Rs)
1.	Dambadeniya Weekly Fair	155200	1000.00	3104.00	12416.00
2.	Dambadeniya Beef Stall	194000	1000.00	3880.00	15520.00
3.	Coconut Yield of Dambadeniya Weekly Fair Site	9286.25	100.00	464.31	-
4.	Coconut Yield of Dambadeniya Sub Office Land	14559.7	100.00	727.98	-
5.	Coconut Yield of Athuruwelawatte Auction Land Block	3116.95	100.00	155.84	-
6.	Dambadeniya Weekly Fair - Fish Stall	108680	1000.00	2173.60	8694.40
7.	Coconut Yield of Maradagolla Kapthura Auction Land	1500	100.00	75.00	-
8.	Dambadeniya Toilet	25000	500.00	1250.00	-

SriLankan Airlines

**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](https://www.srilankan.com/en_uk/corporate/tender-notices)

With effect from 07<sup>th</sup> September 2020 after 09.30 hrs (Sri Lankan Time -GMT+0530)

Tender bid closing date: 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 10.00 hrs (Sri Lankan Time - GMT +0530)

**ENTERPRISE PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE,  
ON BEHALF OF  
SRILANKAN AIRLINES**

**DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL SECURITY****INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**

1. Sealed bids will be entertained by the Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, on behalf of the Department of Civil Security for the supply of under noted uniform items from eligible and qualified bidders as described in the schedule below.

S/ No.	Category of Goods/Items	Qty	Closing date of issuance of Bidding documents	Closing date of acceptance Bids	Non-refundable Bid documents fee (Rs.)
I.	Uniform materials (Desert Camouflages)	40,000 metres	28.09.2020	29.09.2020	10,000.00
II.	Uniform materials (Green Camouflages)	40,000 metres	28.09.2020	29.09.2020	10,000.00
III.	Blue colour uniform materials	18,000 metres	28.09.2020	29.09.2020	10,000.00
IV.	Black colour uniform materials	10,000 metres	28.09.2020	29.09.2020	10,000.00
V.	Male banyams / Banyams (West)	74,000 Nos.	28.09.2020	29.09.2020	10,000.00
VI.	Socks (black)	26,000 pairs	28.09.2020	29.09.2020	10,000.00
VII.	Socks (green)	74,000 pairs	28.09.2020	29.09.2020	10,000.00
VII.	Sarees	5,000 Nos.	28.09.2020	29.09.2020	10,000.00

2. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) Procedure.
3. Bidding documents could be purchased by the interested Bidders from 09.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. on working days of the week, except on public holidays at the following address on payment of the relevant non-refundable Bid documents fees, as mentioned against the items in the table above.
4. As the quality standard test reports should have to be obtained from three institutions for the above items, the Bidders/Suppliers of the above items, should have to bear the costs and expenses for these tests.
5. Interested qualified and eligible bidders could obtain further details over the following telephone Nos. and inspect the Bidding documents at the following address.

Director - Supplies  
Department of Civil Security,  
Jaya Mawatha, Katubedda,  
Moratuwa.

Director - Supplies - 011-2044854/5  
Fax No: 011-2044855

Director General  
Department of Civil Security

**PROCUREMENT NOTICE (GOSL FUNDS)****UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO SCHOOL OF COMPUTING (UCSC)****MANUFACTURE, SUPPLY, DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION OF FURNITURE AND OTHER ACCESSORIES FOR RESEARCH FLOOR AREA AT UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO SCHOOL OF COMPUTING****(TENDER NO : UCSC/NCB/G/PRP/2020/001)**

The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee of University of Colombo School of Computing (UCSC) invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for **MANUFACTURE, SUPPLY, DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION OF FURNITURE AND OTHER ACCESSORIES FOR RESEARCH FLOOR AREA AT UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO SCHOOL OF COMPUTING** (Tender No: **UCSC/NCB/G/PRP/2020/001**)

Details are as follows :

Procurement No.	Description of Goods	Quantity	Bid Bond Amount (Rs)
UCSC/NCB/G/PRP/2020/001	Manufacture, Supply, Delivery and Installation of Furniture and Other Accessories	Please refer to <a href="https://ucsc.cmb.ac.lk/">https://ucsc.cmb.ac.lk/</a>	140,000.00 <b>valid up to 25th December 2020</b>

1. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure.
2. A complete set of bidding documents in English Language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the Assistant Bursar - Procurements, UCSC, No. 35, Reid Avenue, Colombo 00700 and upon payment of a **non-refundable fee of Rs. 3,000.00** for the Bidding Document. The Payment shall be made **to People's Bank, Thimibirigasyaya Branch A/C No. 086-1001-2-1190316 or to the Shroff Counter at the 1st Floor of UCSC Building from 07th September 2020 to 24th September 2020.** Interested bidders may inspect the bidding document free of charge from Finance Division from 9.00 AM to 3:00 PM during normal working days or login to <https://ucsc.cmb.ac.lk/>
3. Pre bid meeting will be held on **18th September 2020 at 10.30 AM**
4. The duly completed sealed bids with Duplicate, addressed to the "Chairman - DPC, University of Colombo School of Computing (UCSC)" shall be deposited in the Tender Box at the Finance Branch, 04th Floor of the UCSC, No. 35, Reid Avenue, Colombo 07 **at or before 2.30 PM on 25th September 2020.** Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders or bidder's representatives who choose to attend at the address below, immediately after closing of bids. Late bids will be rejected. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security as mentioned in above table, which shall be valid up to **25th December 2020.**

Director/ Chairman - DPC  
University of Colombo School of Computing (UCSC)  
No. 35, Reid Avenue, Colombo 00700.

Tel: (0112) 581 245/Ex-6042 Fax: (0112)587 239

E-mail: [proc@ucsc.cmb.ac.lk](mailto:proc@ucsc.cmb.ac.lk)



## DEPARTMENT OF INLAND REVENUE

### REGISTRATION OF SUPPLIERS - 2021

Applications are invited from reputed Suppliers, Manufacturers, Local Agents Corporations, Cooperative Societies and Business Organizations who wish to register themselves with the Department of Inland Revenue for supply of undermentioned categories of supplies and services during the year 2021. Those who wish to register themselves should apply in the form issued by the Supply Branch, 13th Floor, Department of Inland Revenue up to 3.00 p.m. on 30th September 2020. Duly completed applications should be sent under registered cover, marked "Registration of Suppliers 2021" on the left-hand top corner, of the envelope to reach the Accountant (Supplies) Department of Inland Revenue, Sir Chittampalam A Gardiner Mawatha, Colombo 02. on or before 3.00 p.m. on 30th September 2020 or can be handed over to the Accountant (Supplies) at 13th Floor.

#### Activities

1. In Department of Inland Revenue Head Office & Regional Offices\*
  - I. Minor Building Repairs (Registered Contractors of ICTAD).
  - II. Building Construction (Registered Contractors of ICTAD).
  - III. Aluminium Partition (Registered Contractors of ICTAD).

#### Goods

1. Glass pads of various scales.
2. Office appliances ( Purchase of Calculators, Adding Machines, Facsimile Machines, Photocopy Machines )
3. Purchase of colored envelopes (with & without window) in various categories.
4. Purchase of non-colored envelopes in various categories
5. Office stationeries (Purchase of Pens, Pencils, Staplers, Typewriting papers, Computer papers, File Tags, File Tags (01 inch), etc
6. Purchase of Soap, Vim ,Vehicle Cleaning Materials and other cleaning materials.
7. Purchase of various kinds of Toner, Colour Cartridge, Photo-conductor & Ribbon (For Photocopy Machines, Fax Machines & Printers)
8. Purchase of Plates, Cups & Saucers and Water Glasses.
9. Purchase of Electric Kettles and Boilers.
10. Printed the colored Forms of the Department.
11. Purchase of additional computer appliances.(Pen Drive, Hard Disk, UPS, Monitors, etc )
12. Purchase of A4 Sheets.
13. Polymer Seals of the officers, Date Stamps & Self-Inking Stamps.
14. Name Boards of the officers (Plastic Letters, Printed Letters).
15. Office furniture (Purchase of cabinet, cupboards, shelves, table and chairs.)
16. Copying of Compact Disks.
17. Preparation of Annual Reports.

#### Services

1. Servicing of Motor Vehicles.
2. Repairs to Motor Vehicles, Tinkering and Painting.
3. Repairs to Auto Air Conditioners.
4. Cushioning of Motor Vehicles.
5. Supply of Tyres, Tubes and Batteries.
6. Repairs of Kitchen & culinary equipment.
7. Repairs of Air Conditioners at the Head office & Regional offices.
8. Fixing and Repairing of Cladding.
9. Repairs of Official Furniture at the Head office & Regional offices (Tables, Chairs, Steel Almirah, Steel Cabinets) .
10. Repairs of Office Chairs.(Rotating Cushion Chairs)
11. Preparation of office name plates at the Head office and all the Regional offices.
12. Maintenance of sound systems.
13. Maintenance of Telephone systems.
14. Repairs of printers ( which has expired the guarantee period )
15. Preparation of official Identity card.
16. Enter into the service agreements to repair Photocopy Machines, Fax Machines, Duplo Machines, Scan Machines, Cheque writers, Summation Machines and the respective services.

\* Building Contractors are registered from the Districts of Badulla, Kandy, Anuradhapura, Kurunegala, Nuwara Eliya, Negombo, Matara, Galle, Kegalle & Batticaloa where the regional offices are Located.

#### Conditions

1. Registration fee of Rs.500/- should be paid in cash for each item for which the suppliers wish to register themselves and the receipts be attached to the application.
2. Only the Suppliers who are outside the Colombo District and wish to register for Regional Offices under the above activity item 01 may send the due amount via mail by a cheque drawn in favour of "Commissioner General of Inland Revenue" to the Head Office. Arrangements would be made to send applications to those suppliers through the registered post.
3. The supplier who fails to quote when required or fails to execute orders in time, or those who fail to supply the high quality goods or who fail to comply with conditions calling for quotations are liable to be deleted from the list of suppliers registration, without any notice.
4. SLT Rainbow Pages will be used for all other items which has not been published in this advertisement
5. Suppliers will not be paid Advance Payments.
6. Suppliers should provide 30 days credit facilities.
7. Telephone and fax facilities would be preferable.
8. Copies of the Business Registration certificate and VAT Payment certificate should be sent with the application.
9. Commissioner General of Inland Revenue reserves the right to purchase goods by calling through other sources apart from Registered Suppliers.

Nadun Guruge,  
Commissioner General of Inland Revenue

Department of Inland Revenue  
Sir Chittampalam A Gardiner Mawatha,  
Colombo 02.  
24.08.2020

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## ATTANAGALLA PRADESHIYA SABHA



### Invitation for Bids (IFB)

Sealed bids are hereby invited for the selection of lessees, upon key money (pre-lease advance) basis for the Constructed Trade Stalls and for the trade stalls proposed to be constructed in the places / venues belonging to the undermentioned sub-offices of the Attanagalla Pradeshiya Sabha.

- ❖ Trade Stalls with 11 trade stalls of proposed two storeyed building to be constructed with attached wash rooms / toilets, in the land premises of Megodapotha Sub Office, within 50 metres towards Hanwella, passing Urapola Town, belonging to the area of authority of Megodapotha Sub Office. (There are 05 trade stalls on the ground floor and 06 trade stalls in the first floor.)
- ❖ Trade Stall No. 15 in the Building Consisting of 21 Trade Stalls, constructed near the Nittambuwa Public Playground and bus stand, in Nittambuwa, belonging to the area of Authority of the Egodapotha Sub-Office.

Issuance of Bidding Documents : From 04.09.2020 up to 2.30 p.m. on 05.10.2020

Closing Date of Bids : Up to 2.00 p.m. on 06.10.2020

Opening of Bids : At 2.30 p.m. on 06.10.2020

Serial No.	Description of the Trade Stalls	Minimum of Key Money (Pre-lease advance) (Per Trade Stall) (Rs.)	Refundable Bid Deposit Fee (Per Trade Stall) (Rs.)	Non-Refundable Bidding Document Fee (Per Trade Stall) (Rs.)
01	11 Nos. Trade Stalls of 258 sq.ft. (each) per Trade Stall	2,958,000.00	295,800.00	1,000.00
02	01 Trade Stall of 100 sq.ft. in extent	1,693,000.00	169,300.00	1,000.00

A sketch depicting how the relevant trade stalls are numbered, will be given to the bidders along with the bidding documents and accordingly bidders should have to select the relevant trade stall they expect to bid (the relevant No.) and submit their bids only on bidding documents obtained upon payment of the prescribed fees stipulated in the table above. Attanagalla Pradeshiya Sabha, reserves the right to accept or reject any bid or all the bids. Further details, if required, could be obtained from the Head Office of the Attanagalla Pradeshiya Sabha.

A.A. Priyantha Pushpakumara,  
Chairman,  
Attanagalla Pradeshiya Sabha,  
Nittambuwa.

Attanagalla Pradeshiya Sabha,  
Telephone: 033-2287277  
02.09.2020

## MINISTRY OF HEALTH & INDIGENOUS MEDICAL SERVICES

### TENDER NOTICE

#### Supply of Endoscope Hanging Cabinet for Teaching Hospital, Batticaloa

1. Sealed bids for the supply of following Medical Equipment which will be received by the Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee, Teaching Hospital, Batticaloa up to 10.00 A.M on 25.09.2020.

#### Endoscope Hanging Cabinet - 01 No.

2. Only the sole nominated representative / accredited agent of manufacturers of the Medical Equipment offered for the Sri Lanka market are eligible to participate in this tender.
3. Bid documents should be made on a complete set of bidding document purchased by any interested eligible bidder, agent, representative or nominee for or on behalf of a bidder on the submission of
  - a. A written application to Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee, Teaching Hospital, Batticaloa.
  - b. Upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 1,000/- in cash, for above Item to Accountant, Teaching Hospital, Batticaloa during working hours.
  - c. A certified copy of certificate of business registration.
4. Bid documents could be collected from the Planning & Development Unit, Teaching Hospital, Batticaloa up to 24.09.2020 between 9.30 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. during the working days.
5. Sealed Bid documents should be sent by registered post to the address given below or deposited in the Tender Box maintained at the Office of Chief Accountant on or before 10.00 a.m. on 25.09.2020.
6. Bids will be opened immediately after the closing of tender at above address on 25.09.2020 at 10.00 a.m. At the time of bid opening the bidder or his representative could be present as an observer.

Chairman,  
Regional Procurement Committee,  
Teaching Hospital,  
Batticaloa.  
07.09.2020.

## CEYLON PETROLEUM CORPORATION

### (MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT)

#### Invitation for Expression of Interest for Appointing an Advertising Agency

B/39/2020

Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC) invites Expression of Interest from reputed and experienced Advertising Agencies interested in providing full scale advertising and marketing communications services for Ceylon Petroleum Corporation for a period of one year.

Ceylon Petroleum Corporation intends to implement a 360-marketing communication campaign to revamp the corporate image and carry-out sales promotional campaigns for CEYPETCO brand Lubricants using ATL, BTL and Digital media.

The Agencies who meet the following criteria are invited to submit their agency profile with the Expression of Interest (EOI) in the format specified by CPC.

1. Local and International Agencies with presence in Sri Lanka.
2. The Agencies must have at least 05 years' experience in developing and implementing 360 Advertising and Marketing Communication campaigns to promote corporate image and products of which at least 5 years' experience developing and implementing Digital and New Media will be favourably considered.
3. The Agencies must have dedicated units with experts to provide Strategic Planning & Creative, ATL media, Digital media, Public Relations, Activation & Events and Outdoor Advertising & Billboards.
4. Agencies that have won recognition through local and international awards and proven human talent for local and international media campaigns will be given preference.

The Agency profile that needs to be duly completed and submitted with the Expression of Interest which can be obtained from the website [www.ceypetco.gov.lk](http://www.ceypetco.gov.lk) or collected from the Office of Manager (Procurement & Stores), Procurement & Stores Function, 1st Floor, Ceylon Petroleum Corporation, No. 609, Dr Danister De Silva Mawatha, Colombo 09 until 1500 hrs on 17.09.2020.

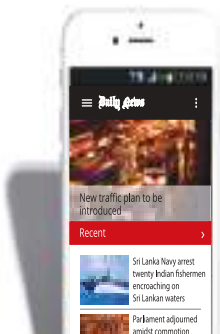
The interested eligible organizations may submit their duly completed Agency Profile and Expression of Interest addressed to the Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee, C/o Manager (Procurement & Stores), Procurement & Stores Function, 1st Floor, Ceylon Petroleum Corporation, No. 609, Dr Danister De Silva Mawatha, Colombo 09 in a sealed registered cover with a payment of Rs. 5,000.00 which is non-refundable. This payment can be made by either cash deposit to CPC or a bank draft addressed to CPC.

The EOI will be closed at 1400 hrs on 18.09.2020 "Expression of Interest - Advertising Agency" should be indicated in the top left-hand corner of the envelope.

The Procurement Committee of Ceylon Petroleum Corporation reserves the right to shortlist suitable Agencies based on information submitted. The request for Technical & Financial proposals will be issued only to the shortlisted Agencies.

Chairman,  
Departmental Procurement Committee,  
C/o Manager (Procurement & Stores),  
Procurement & Stores Function,  
1st Floor, Ceylon Petroleum Corporation,  
No. 609, Dr. Danister De Silva Mawatha, Colombo 09.  
Tel : 5455330, Fax : 5455424 Email - [rajapakse@ceypetco.gov.lk](mailto:rajapakse@ceypetco.gov.lk)

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DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

**ISSUE OF TREASURY BILLS**

**Rs. 40,000 million Treasury Bills are to be issued through an auction on 09<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

The Details of Treasury Bill issues are as follows :

Maturity Period	91 Days	182 Days	364 Days	Total
ISIN*	LKA09120L119	LKA18221C121	LKA364211106	
Amount Offered (Rs. Mn.)	10,000	12,000	18,000	40,000
Maximum yield rate for acceptance (%)**	4.52	4.67	4.89	

Date of Auction : 09<sup>th</sup> September 2020  
 Date of Settlement : 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020  
 Date of Issue : 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020  
 Closing date and time of bid submission : Wednesday 09<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 11.00 a.m.  
 Minimum amount of a bid : Rupees five million (Rs. 5,000,000/=) and multiples of Rupees one million (Rs. 1,000,000/=) there onwards.

Bids are invited from the Primary Dealers in Government Securities.

Bids should be made only through the electronic bidding facility provided by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL).

The CBSL may accept a higher or lower amount than the offered amounts for each maturity by reallocating amounts between the maturities, depending on the market conditions, but without exceeding the total amount on offer at this auction.

**The general public is invited to purchase Treasury Bills from the following Primary Dealers or any other Licensed Commercial Banks**

Acuity Securities Ltd.	2206297	NSB Fund Management Co. Ltd.	2425010
Bank of Ceylon	2541938	People's Bank	2206783
Capital Alliance Ltd.	2317777	Sampath Bank PLC	2305842
Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC	2332319	Seylan Bank PLC	2456340
First Capital Treasuries PLC	2639883	WealthTrust Securities Ltd	2675096

\* International Securities Identification Number

\*\* The rates specified may be subject to adjustment in the event of policy decisions and publicized accordingly in the CBSL web advertisement.

M.Z.M. Aazim  
 Superintendent / Registrar of Public Debt

**Issuing Office**

Public Debt Department

**CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA**

30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo 1.

Telephone: +94 112477011 Fax: +94 112477687

Web: www.cbsl.gov.lk

**MINISTRY OF PROVINCIAL SERVICES, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PROVINCIAL COUNCILS**

**JICA FUNDED RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN EMERGING REGIONS (LOAN NO: SL P 116)**

**PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION UNIT**

**UVA PROVINCE**

**RE INVITATION FOR BIDS**

This paper notice supersedes the previous paper notice published on 19.08.2020 for following Contracts except IFB No : SL-P116/UVA/GW-PW/2020/01

Loan Agreement No : SL-P116

Package Number : SL-P116/UP/RR/2019/01

Package Number : SL-P116/UP/RR/2020/02

Package Number : SL-P116/UP/AW/2020/01

- The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka has received a loan from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) towards the cost of the Rural Infrastructure Development Project in Emerging Regions. It is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for Improvements to rural roads in Meegahakiula and Haldummulla Pradesheeya Sabha areas of Badulla District, Improvements to irrigation systems in a Kandeketiya Pradesheeya Sabha area in Badulla District of the Uva Province.
- Bidding will be conducted through procedures in accordance with the applicable Guidelines for Procurement under Japanese ODA Loans, and is open to all Bidders from eligible source countries, as defined in the Loan Agreement.
- The Chairman of the Provincial Procurement Committee on behalf of the Uva Provincial Council now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the following Contract packages :
  - Package Number - SL-P116/UP/RR/2019/01**  
 Construction and completion of improvements to 3.95 km length of community access Road named Aggalaulpotha Road in Meegahakiula Pradesheeya Sabha of Badulla District in the Uva Province, as part of Phase 1 of Project implementation. The work includes earthworks, construction of new road sub-base and new concrete pavement, repair and overlay the existing asphalt road section with asphalt concrete and provision for reconstruction of two numbers of 600mm diameter hume pipe culverts, one new 3m x 2m reinforced concrete box culvert, concrete cross-drains, and concrete retaining walls to a length of about 20m.
  - Package Number -SL-P116/UP/RR/2020/02**  
 Construction and completion of improvements to 4.13 km length of community access roads named Amilagama Road (off Haldumulla - Karanawagama) and Jana Udanagama Road (off A4 road) in Haldumulla Pradesheeya Sabha of Badulla District in Uva Province as part of Phase 1 of Project implementation. The works include for Amilagama Road earthworks, new road sub-base and concrete pavement, repair of 600mm diameter Hume pipe culverts, reconstruction of 09 numbers of 600mm Hume pipe culverts, reconstruction of 02 numbers of 1m x 1m reinforced concrete box culverts, new construction of a 900mm diameter hume pipe culvert, and widening of 03 numbers of 600mm Hume pipe culverts.  
 The Jana Udanagama road has reconstruction of 04 number of Hume pipe culverts, new construction of 02 number of 600 mm Hume pipe culverts and concrete cross-drains, concrete retaining walls also to be constructed for about 20m length.
  - Package Number - SL-P116/UP/AW/2020/01**  
 Construction and completion of Improvements to Irrigation Systems in the villages of Etanwela, Bopitiya, Pallewela, Banjanapitiya in Kandaketiya Pradesheeya Sabha . The work comprises the rehabilitation of Etanwela Tank, Banjanapitiya Anicut and Canal and Mahanthewela Anicut. These include improvements to tank bund, construction of concrete lined canals, sluices, anicuts and other related irrigation structures in the systems

To be considered in contract award for above works, some highlighted criteria given in the Bid documents to be fulfilled as tabulated below.

SI No	Package No	Non Refundable Fee	Bid Security	CIDA Registration and other requirements	Financial Situation	Financial Resources	Construction Experience
i.	SL-P116/UP/RR/2019/01	LKR 12,500	LKR 1 million which is valid for 118 days from the date of Bid opening.	Minimum Grade C4 in highway construction and a copy of the certificate of registration issued by the Registrar of Companies in Sri Lanka and form PCA3	LKR 95 Million minimum average annual construction turnover previous 3 years.	LKR 30 Million minimum amount of liquid assets or credit facility	Minimum 2 similar nature contracts (each shall be at least 30 Million worth) satisfactorily completed in the last 5 years.
ii.	SL-P116/UP/RR/2020/02	LKR 20,000	LKR 2.8 million which is valid for 118 days from the date of Bid opening.	Minimum Grade C4 in highway construction and a copy of the certificate of registration issued by the Registrar of Companies in Sri Lanka and form PCA3	LKR 210 Million minimum average annual construction turnover previous 3 years.	LKR 47 Million minimum amount of liquid assets or credit facility	Minimum 2 similar nature contracts (each shall be at least 70 Million worth) satisfactorily completed in the last 5 years.
iii.	SL-P116/UP/AW/2020/01	LKR 10,000	LKR 600,000.00 Which is, valid for 118 days from the date of Bid opening.	Minimum Grade C5 CIDA registration in Irrigation and Drainage Canals, A copy of the certificate of registration issued by the Registrar of Companies in Sri Lanka and form PCA3	LKR 80 Million minimum average annual construction turnover previous 3 years	LKR 30 Million minimum amount of liquid assets or credit facility	Minimum 2 similar nature contracts (each shall be at least 17 Million worth) satisfactorily completed in the last 5 years

**Table 1**

- Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the Bidding Documents at the office of the Provincial Project Director, (Uva Province - RIDEP) Project Implementation Unit, No. 37/2, Bandaranayaka Mawatha, Badulla. T.P. 055 2232490, Email: ridepuva@gmail.com
- A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders on submission of a written application to the address above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee specified in above Section 03 of Table (1). The method of payment should be by cash. Bids shall be issued from **07<sup>th</sup> September 2020 to 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020** from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. on normal working days at the address above.
- The provisions in the Instructions to Bidders and in the General Conditions of Contract are the provisions of the Standard Bidding Documents under Japanese ODA Loans for the Procurement of Small Works.
- Sealed original and duplicate bids should be in separate envelopes, marked as **'Original'** and **'Duplicate'**, finally placed in one sealed envelope and marked **"Bids for Package No.....(as per the above table)"** on the top left hand corner, and sent by registered post to the Provincial Project Director, (Uva Province - RIDEP) Project Implementation Unit, No. 37/2, Bandaranayaka Mawatha, Badulla or may be deposited in the Tender Box available at the above location on or before **1.00 p.m. on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2020** and bids must be accompanied by a bid security as per the above Section 03 of Table (1). The form of the Bid Security shall be an unconditional guarantee issued by a Bank registered & authorized by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka.
- Bids will be opened in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend soon after bid closing at the Chief Secretary's Office, Uva Provincial Council, Raja Veediya, Badulla, Sri Lanka.
- Pre-bid Meeting will be held on 21st September 2020 at Conference Room, Provincial Project Director, (Uva Province -RIDEP) Project Implementation Unit, No. 37/2, Bandaranayaka Mawatha, Badulla as follows.  
 Package Number : SL-P116/UP/RR/2019/01 - 09.30 hrs.  
 Package Number : SL-P116/UP/RR/2020/02 - 09.30 hrs.  
 Package Number : SL-P116/UP/AW/2020/01 - 11.30 hrs.
- Bidders who have already collected bid documents under the previous bid notice published on 19.08.2020 are requested to return them to Provincial Project Director, (Uva Province - RIDEP) Project Implementation Unit, No 37/2, Bandaranayaka Mawatha, Badulla, and collect the new set of documents, free of charge, on or before 21st September 2020.
- If any bidder under above 10 is disqualified due to the change of the qualification criteria in the latest document is eligible to get the refund of "Non-refundable fee" by a written request and returning the Bid document and other related documents to the Provincial Project Director, (Uva Province ) Project Implementation Unit, No 37/2, Bandaranayaka Mawatha, Badulla on or before 21st September 2020.
- Bidders who wish to submit their Bids under our previous paper notice published on 19.08.2020 shall be rejected except IFB No : SL-P116/UVA/GW-PW/2020/01

**Chief Secretary,  
 Chief Secretary Office,  
 Uva Provincial Council,  
 Raja Veediya,  
 Badulla.**

E-mail : chiefsecuva@gmail.com/ridepuva@gmail.com

TP : 055-2232490

Fax : 055 2232490

Date : 07.09. 2020

**Office of the Regional Director of Health Services, Kalutara**

**INVITATION FOR BIDS**

Sealed bids are invited by the Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee of the Office of the Regional Director of Health Services, Kalutara from qualified bidders for the purchase of following goods.

- Supply and Installation of Five Part Automated Hematology Analyzer
- Supply and Installation of Electrolyte Analyzer

- Bids will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
- Prospective bidders should submit the following documents to obtain bid documents.
  - Valid Business Registration Certificate for the sale of listed equipment.
  - If the bidder is not the manufacturer, the bidder should have a written authorization from the manufacturer to sell the said item.
  - At least two (02) years experience being engaged in the relevant business.
  - NMRA Certificate for selling equipment
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from the Accountant, Office of the Regional Director of Health Services, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Kachcheri Complex, P.O. Box 29, Kalutara and the bid documents may be purchased between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on working days from 07.09.2020 until 29.09.2020 upon payment of a non refundable document fee of Rs. 1000.00 to the Office of the Regional Director of Health Services, Kalutara.
- When bids are submitted, a bid security to the value of Rs. 25,000.00 obtained from a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka and registered with the Central Bank of Sri Lanka drawn in favour of Regional Director of Health Services, Kalutara with the original bid.
- Duly perfected bids in duplicate marked as Original and Duplicate should be inserted in separate covers, sealed and both covers should be reinserted in a single sealed cover, mentioning "BME/MEQ/PSSP/2020" on the left hand top corner of the outer envelope and may either be sent by registered post or deposited in the Bid Box kept at the above address to receive at or before 10.30 a.m. on 30.09.2020.
- Late bids will be rejected and the bids will be opened immediately after closing of bids in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives.
- Further details may be obtained from the Office of the Regional Director of Health Services, Kalutara by calling on 034-2222610, 034-2222367, 038-2294700.

**Chairman,  
 Regional Procurement Committee,  
 Office of the Regional Director of Health Services,  
 Kalutara.**

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