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SRI LANKA'S ENGLISH NEWSPAPER WITH THE LARGEST CIRCULATION



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KADAWATHA-MIRIGAMA STRETCH OF ROAD

GOVT INCURS RS 20B LOSS DUE TO DELAY

By Uditha Kumarasinghe

Highways Minister Johnston Fernando said the Government has to incur a Rs. 20 billion loss due to the delay in construction work on the Kadawatha-Mirigama stretch

of road on the Central expressway by the former Yahapalana Government.

The Government has already released Rs.17 billion as its 15 percent share to expedite construction work on the expressway.

Although the former Yahapalana Government constructed the Mirigama-Kurunegala stretch of road on the Central expressway, the Kadawatha-Mirigama stretch of road had been left unattended. The former regime had not released the

15 percent of its share to construct the Kadawatha-Mirigama stretch of road over the past five years.

As a result of this delay, the Government had to incur a Rs.20 billion loss, the Minister told the *Sunday Observer* yesterday. ▶ TO PAGE 2

HUNGER STRIKE AT BOOSSA HIGH SECURITY PRISON

Govt won't bow to unreasonable demands - Defence Secy

By Maneshka Borham

Defence Secretary, Major General (Rtd.) Kamal Gunaratne said the authorities would not bow down to unreasonable demands by incarcerated criminals. He was referring to the ongoing hunger strike at the Boossa high security prison led by underworld gangsters, Podi Lassie, Wele Sudha and other notorious underworld characters.



"Those on hunger strike are the most dangerous criminals in this country," he said, adding that the authorities are willing to consider fair demands by inmates.

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Over 100 health projects before year's end

By Nadira Gunatilleke

Over 100 health development projects built at a cost of over Rs. 1,100 million will be launched before the end of this year, Senior Communication Officer of the Primary Health Care Systems Strengthening Project, Suneth Janaka Bandara said.

He said state hospitals in all nine provinces will be developed under this World Bank funded project.

Laboratories of selected state hospitals will be developed under the project and, thereafter, samples from all other state hospitals will be tested at these modernised laboratories.

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President Gotabaya Rajapaksa who paid homage to the *Atamasthana* in Anuradhapura on Friday greeted a group of young devotees at the foot of the Sri Maha Bodhiya. He was accompanied by First Lady Ioma Rajapaksa. Pic: PMD media

Covid-19 deaths to top one million worldwide

The number of deaths worldwide is expected to top one million this week as the USA and India still continue to suffer the most due to the Covid-19 epidemic.

Over 920,200 deaths were reported up to yesterday due to the

coronavirus with the number of deaths reported from the USA and India topping 1,000 each in a day for successive days.

Around 1,202 deaths were reported in India while the corresponding figure in the USA was 1,094.

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PROPOSALS ON 20TH AMENDMENT

Prune quorum to two - EC

By Maneshka Borham

The Election Commission (EC) in its proposals on the 20th Amendment to the Constitution, has called for pruning the quorum to convene a meeting to two.

The Commission has presented proposals relating to its functions to be incorporated in the 20th Amendment which is being mooted by the Government. According to Director Le-

gal of the Election Commission Nimal PUNCHIHewa, the relevant proposals have been presented to the Ministry of Justice.

The regulations call for all three members of the...

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Govt to fix scanners to fast track cargo services

By Aanya Wipulasena

The Government will fix scanners at airports soon to fast track cargo services to reduce the time spent on getting approval from separate institutions before clearance, Aviation and Export Zones Development State Minister D.V. Chanaka said.

The new procedure will reduce the time and improve the effi-



ciency of cargo clearance. State Minister Chanaka said cargo clearance is usually sought by Sri Lanka Customs, Civil Aviation... ▶ TO PAGE 2

MEPA to take legal action against supertanker owners

By Maneshka Borham

The Marine Environment Protection Authority (MEPA) will take legal action against the owners of the supertanker MT New Diamond which caught

fire in Sri Lankan waters on September 3. According to the Deputy General Manager, MEPA, Jagath Gunasekara, the decision was taken after it was found that there was a leak of bunker oil from the ill-fated vessel. The Authority is considering whether to claim criminal liabil-

ity or civil liability, Gunasekara said. Action will be filed under local laws to protect the marine ecosystem of the country. Greece-based Porto Emporios Shipping Inc has been identified as the registered owner of the 20-year-old Panama-flagged supertanker. ▶ TO PAGE 2



Complications of Diabetes

The Eyes

Diabetes can affect the blood vessels at the back of the eye (retinopathy) and this can lead to visual impairment or blindness. Diabetes is the leading cause of blindness in the working population.

Source - www.iddt.org (InDependent Diabetes Trust)

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News

Legalising and exporting cannabis on the cards

BY AANYA WIPULASENA AND MANESHKA BORHAM

Cannabis has been used for Ayurvedic medicine in Sri Lanka for centuries. As the demand for medicinal cannabis continues to grow across the world, the Government is now mulling legalising and exporting the plant.

When the Cabinet Minister of Trade, Bandula Gunawardana met the Canadian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka David McKinnon recently, the latter was seen perusing the book *Trilokavijaya* written by Prof. Wasantha Sena Welinge on Cannabis use and its history in Sri Lanka. The discussion between the two parties had been on the possibility of developing a market for non-traditional Sri Lankan products in Canada.

The export of medicinal cannabis can help the Sri Lankan economy, Gunawardana told the *Sunday Observer*. "We have found that there is a big market for cannabis in the world. We can grow it here and export," he said.

According to the Minister, there is ongoing research on the medicinal use of cannabis. "We are also coordinating with the Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology (SLINTEC) to carry out research. Cannabis is said to be used in medicinal products to treat cancer, autism, parkinson's and other neurological ailments," he added. Though cannabis is used for ayurvedic treatment in the country, growing the plant for recreational use is illegal.

Accordingly, cannabis cultivation and use is prohibited by the Poisons, Opium and Dangerous Drugs Ordinance of Sri Lanka. It has been classified as a dangerous drug at international conventions dealing with drugs - The Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 and the United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988. Opinion is divided over the use of the plant.

A committee has been formed by the Government Medical Officers' Association (GMOA) to research on the matter after the topic had given rise to public debate recently. According



to the Editor of the GMOA, Dr Haritha Aluthge, the report by the committee led by Dr Thanuja Mahesh on its findings will be submitted to the Association in two weeks.

According to long time activist for the legalisation of cannabis, Prof. Wasantha Sena Welinge, cannabis should be legalised in Sri Lanka.

"Cannabis should be legalised. There is no question about it. Over 60 countries make use of cannabis products; we are the last in this race," he said.

Following his book 'Trilokavijaya' on the use of cannabis Welinge will release yet another publication soon on policies on cannabis which he believes should be introduced to Sri Lanka.

"My new book looks at policies favourable for cannabis cultivation," he said. Welinge said cannabis is not only used for its medicinal properties but also has other uses as well.

"Cannabis can be used in different ways. For medicine, to manufacture paper, cosmetics, oil and fibre for garments. On the other hand, it is used for recreation, such as cigarettes and alcohol. But how can we use a product that gives us satisfaction as a medicine or a raw material for industrial purposes? How can we grow it without conflicts? Different varieties of cannabis give us different products. For example the plant we grow to produce fibre for clothes cannot be used to derive pleasure," he said.

"The oil we produce from cannabis seeds can be used to manufacture cosmetic products. White light oil that is imported is a byproduct of petroleum. We could stop importing it, if cannabis cultivation is legalised," he said.

Weling said, however, cannabis cultivation must be promoted in a proper way. "My book looks at how this can be achieved. We also have to legalise cannabis in the right way," he said.

Though the Government is considering legalising the cultivation only for exports, Welinge and many others believe that it should also be legalised for local use, other than for medicinal purposes.

For nearly 10 years, Gihan Indika has used cannabis for recreational purposes. "We can buy cannabis from anywhere now. It is freely available and many young people are using it," he said. According to him, as a first time user, he was surprised as to how easily he can get cannabis. But he said that some cannabis sold could be harmful as they are laced with certain substances.

As for legalising the plant locally, Indika said it could lead to the creation of more issues in drug use. "I would like it to be legalised, but that will create more issues. I have not met anyone who is addicted to cannabis but familiarisation with the drugs could lead people to go for more harmful substances, such as cocaine.

Who could stop them once the wheel starts rolling," he said.

Since the beginning of the public debate on the issue, opposing views have been expressed on the issue. Administration and Finance Director at the Alcohol and Drug Information Center (ADIC) Sampath De Seram is critical of the move.

"The biggest issue that we see in the country now is the attempt to legalise cannabis. Bandula Gunawardana is lobbying for it. He is backed by clergy, artists, and even lecturers. With experience I can say that, if legalised, it will lead to a major issue in the country," he said.

De Seram said that there are many social media accounts which promote the use of cannabis claiming health and economic benefits.

"They are presenting a convincing argument that is not backed by facts. They say it has medicinal properties and is used in various products. But that is just a little. We can use what the police raid daily to meet the demand" he said.

According to De Sarem, there are around 300,000 cannabis users in the country. "This number will increase, if it is legalised," he said.

"We, at the ADIC, try to educate people about the risks of legalising cannabis, and in return, we are threatened. Some social media users abuse us with foul language. But we have to say what is true. Legalising cannabis was never a good idea.

"Sri Lanka is now at a better place than its neighbours. There was a spike in illegal drug related incidents and this is mostly because these cases are publicised by the media," he said.

The Sri Lanka Medical Associations (SLMA) in a statement this week opposed moves to legalise cannabis. "We are concerned about statements to promote cannabis cultivation," the release stated.

"There is a process to provide cannabis to licensed Ayurvedic Practitioners by the Ayurvedic Department and the Government Administrative Network. There is no need to legalise the cultivation," it stated. It added that if cultivation is allowed, there will be leakage of cannabis to the people.



A book on foreign policy perspectives edited by President's Counsel Sarath Wijesinghe was presented to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa recently. Former Sri Lankan Consul General to USA Jeff Gunawardena is also in the picture. The book will be published by the Ambassadors' Forum



Our sister newspaper *Daily News* (www.dailynews.lk) secured the Merit Award for the Best Media, Sports and Entertainment website at the best-web.lk awards held by LK Domain Registry, last week. Assistant Manager (Digital) Jagath Dharmaratne, web journalist Shabeeha Basheer and web developer Madusha Lakmal received the award on behalf of the ANCL. The *Daily News* and the *Sunday Observer* websites, South Asia's first online newspapers celebrated their 25th anniversary last week. Courtesy BestWeb.LK

Mattakkuliya crossroad, a death trap

Residents of Centre Road, Mattakkuliya, Colombo 15, have called upon the authorities to install traffic lights as a matter of urgency at Centre Road, St. Mary's crossroad which is now a veritable death trap.

A spate of accidents had occurred in the recent past at this crossroad and this has posed a grave danger to motorists and pedestrians.

It was only last week that three people, including a Senior Assistant Director of the Central Bank died on the spot, while travelling in a trishaw to work. Several others

were maimed and injured. It was revealed that the van driver who rammed into three other vehicles was under the influence of heroin.

It has also been observed that motorcyclists seem to be using this stretch of road as a racing track, late at night, disturbing the peace of the neighbourhood.

There are schools close to this spot and children are exposed to these speed fiends.

This matter has been brought to the notice of the Officer-in-Charge of the Mattakkuliya police station, residents said. (DJ)

Govt incurs Rs 20b ... From page 1

Minister Fernando said it was regrettable that the former Yahapalana Government had given the contract to Olympus Construction (Pvt) Ltd owned by one of its Ministers, Daya Gamage to construct a two and a half kilometre stretch of road on the Central expressway. Later, the construction work of another one kilometre stretch of road had been given to the same company. However, that company had not fully completed the three and a half kilometre stretch of road of the expressway and another one and a half kilometre stretch of road has to be completed.

"The Government has not been able to complete the construction work on the Central expressway due to the delay on the part of Olympus Construction (Pvt) Ltd. Otherwise, the expressway would have been opened within four months. It is regrettable that those who spoke against corruption and malpractices had awarded contracts to their own Ministers to construct the expressways," he said.

Minister Fernando said during the tenure of former President Mahinda Rajapaksa, the foundation was laid to begin the construction work on the Central expressway. However, the Yahapalana Government which took office cancelled that project. Before 2015, the construction cost of one kilometre stretch of road on the Central expressway was Rs. 2.5 billion. Three months after the Yahapalana Government took office, they increased it to Rs.3.5 billion and a huge amount of money had been unnecessarily spent to construct the expressway. We have begun an independent investigation to look into these irregularities.

Covid-19 deaths... From page 1

While Sri Lanka continued its exemplary record as one of the world's best, India continued to record 97,654 new cases on Friday. The number of cases reported from India is over 4.658 million, second only to the USA at 6.637 million. The number of deaths recorded in the USA is over 197,500.

India has the second highest number of confirmed cases of Covid-19 in the world, having overtaken Brazil. This has created a

The Minister said a proposal has been presented to the Cabinet to construct stretches of roads on the Central expressway from Pothuhera to Galagedara and Kurunegala to Dambulla. We hope to complete construction work on these expressways within the next three and a half years. We also fast-tracked and completed the construction work on the Matara to Hambantota stretch of road on the Southern expressway within four months.

Minister Fernando said it has also been planned to construct another expressway from Hambantota to Batticaloa. Moreover, a feasibility study will be conducted to construct an expressway from Kandy to Nuwara Eliya.

He said as outlined in the President's Policy Manifesto "Visitas of Prosperity and Splendour," We have decided to develop 100,000 Kms of road network and construct several new expressways. We have already begun to develop 10,000 Kms of the road network. The aim of this program is to ease traffic congestion. The Highways Ministry will carpet almost all roads under the purview of Provincial Councils, Pradeshiya Sabhas and the Central Government.

Minister Fernando said he has also instructed the Highways Ministry and Road Development Authority to expedite construction work on the Ruwanpura expressway. Cabinet approval has been given to proceed with the Ruwanpura expressway construction, with funds of local banks and the services of local construction companies. "I think we would be able to get Cabinet approval within the next two weeks and begin construction work on the expressway," he said.

big demand for hospitals and ambulances. The medical services, particularly in smaller cities and rural areas, find it hard to cope, at times.

As the Covid-19 pandemic spreads and case numbers soar in India, a vaccine is keenly awaited.

Serum, an Indian-based company that made billions of doses of vaccines in the past, hopes to roll out a vaccine soon, its CEO Adar Poonawalla told the BBC.

Prune quorum to... From page 1

...Commission to be present to convene a meeting. As a result the three-member Commission cannot convene in the absence of any of its members. Therefore, the EC has proposed to change the quorum for EC meetings to two.

With the term of the present Commission expiring in November,

Govt to fix scanners... From page 1

...Authority of Sri Lanka, the Airforce and SriLankan Airlines.

The Aviation Ministry hopes to merge the database of these institutions by using scanners.

"At present, it takes three hours to get a cargo cleared at the airport. We hope to cut down that time by half," the State Minister said. The Aviation Ministry has called for a feasibility report and separate reports from all stakeholders to analyse their require-

Over 100 health ... From page 1

Bandara said a mobile laboratory service will be launched to visit people's homes and collect samples for medical tests. At present, only some private hospitals in the country offer this service.

All details of this project and others will be computerised to obtain details instantly. The President too

in its proposals forwarded to the Ministry, the Commission has suggested that an experienced official be appointed as one of the Commission's three members. It has proposed to appoint a retired officer who was formerly a Deputy Commissioner or of a higher rank as a member of the Commission.

State Minister Chanaka said the project will cost about Rs. 700 million and the scanners are expected to be fixed within a month.

Trade Minister Bandula Gunawardana said the Government is exploring new products that can be branded and exported, and added that research is being carried out to identify the best which has a global demand, and is grown in the island successfully.

could ascertain the progress of these projects online, he said.

By the end of last month double cabs were given to MOH offices in all 25 districts to offer a better service to the public under this project while motor-cycles were provided to 807 PHIs under the same project, he added.

MEPA to take legal... From page 1

The MT New Diamond is currently stationed 45 nautical miles East of Batticaloa. The fire on board has been fully controlled, the Navy said. However, following an oil slick, on Friday Navy diving teams were deployed to examine the tanker. Two distinct bunker trails were detected on the 20-year-old ship's aft.

"It was observed that the internal piping system connected to two seawater inlets, 19.3 metres below the water level on the left side and 16 metres below the water level on the right side of the ship, was damaged," Navy Spokesman Captain Indika De Silva said. "One of the vents was leaking bunker oil from the engine room into the water," he added. The Navy Media spokesman said that there has been no oil leak into the sea from the ship's crude oil storage reserves.

Three salvage experts from SMIT Singapore (Pvt) Ltd, an internation-

al Singapore-based company, who were appointed by the commercial owner of New Diamond, as its salvage expert had boarded the MT New Diamond for the first time on Wednesday (9) and conducted an on-board assessment. Foreign experts who boarded the ship are expected to present a report of the ship's current condition to the Navy shortly. The Navy spokesman said that there was no damage to the ship so far.

Attorney General Dappula de Livera has instructed the Marine Environmental Protection Authority to move the ship 200 nautical miles to prevent damage to the coast and the ocean by the fuel spill from the New Diamond, and not to endanger human lives.

The ship is currently being handled by a salvage company appointed by the ship's owners. Captain Indika De Silva said that the Navy is monitoring the situation.

UNP to decide on leader this month

BY AANYA WIPULASENA

The United National Party (UNP) will decide on who will assume the position of its leader this month, UNP member and former State Minister Palitha Range Bandara said.

He said several members have expressed their willingness to take up the position, and the party's working committee is discussing the matter.

"Nothing concrete has been decided," Bandara said.

He said that the party is not considering former minister Mangala Samaraweera for the leadership

even though he has expressed his keenness to the media on Thursday. Samaraweera expressed his willingness to take up the leadership when he arrived at the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) probing the alleged incidents of political victimisation to give a statement.

Sources said that the party Working Committee is scheduled to meet tomorrow. Top positions of the party, including the deputy leader, treasurer and chairman will be filled on a temporary basis during the meeting. However, members are yet to receive an official letter in this regard.

Govt. won't bow to... From page 1

"However, we will not give into unreasonable demands by them. That is a maximum security prison. Even if it's the Commissioner General of Prisons, any person entering is checked thoroughly," the Defence Secretary added.

The hunger strike launched by 40 inmates on Wednesday (9) continues for the fifth consecutive day. However, according to prison officials, 13 of the inmates have already given up the fast. The inmates are demanding that officials relax several security measures. These include the body search of visitors, inability to phone their relatives and stopping raids within the prison.

Janith Madushanka De Silva alias Podi Lassie and Tharaka Perera alias Kosgoda Tharaka, members of an organised criminal gang had recently made death threats on the Commissioner of Prisons, and other prison officers over the heightened security measures. Podi Lassie had openly threatened the prison officers, the

President, Defence Secretary and their families with death. The Defence Secretary said he would not take up the post if he was afraid of such threats.

"We cannot work in these posts if we are afraid of such threats. We will do our utmost to ensure that the people of this country can live freely. Or else, this country has no future," he said.

"Only one person, Dileepan, who went on a hunger strike had died in Sri Lanka. He did not die due to the hunger strike but from an illness he was already suffering from. All others who went on a hunger strike gave it up in a few days. They would adduce some reason and then stop the strike by accepting a glass of fruit juice," Gunaratne said.

The Defence Secretary said this was a similar scenario. "They are being provided food but they are refusing it. A few are still refusing to eat, but they will probably do so in a few days so there is no issue," he added.



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19A targeted political opponents, not people's well-being

- Minister Johnston Fernando

By
Uditha
Kumarasinghe



Chief Government Whip and Highways Minister Johnston Fernando said the SJB or the UNP has no moral right to talk of the independence of the judiciary. In an interview with the *Sunday Observer*, the Minister said the audio clips of some SJB MPs have proved how they connived with the Police officers to imprison their political opponents and the Maha Sangha.

The Minister said the people gave a two-thirds majority to the Government to change the present Constitution and introduce a new one. He said 'first we would only abolish the 19A. The question as to who voted for the 19A or who did not is irrelevant. What is important is the public mandate. The 19A targeted the Rajapaksas, and not the well-being of the people. The sole purpose was to remove the powers vested with the then President Maithripala Sirisena and vest it in the then Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe. However, the people rejected it.'

Q: How do you view the SJB walking out of the Chamber, protesting against SLPP Ratnapura district MP Premalal Jayasekara taking oaths?

A. Rather than protesting against MP Jayasekara taking oaths, the SJB should have faced the debate on the Central Bank annual report. They strategically made use of Premalal Jayasekara's case and walked out of the Chamber as they could not face the debate on the Central Bank report. The SJB need not protest against Jayasekara taking oaths. There are two court rulings on Jayasekara. One has convicted him, against which MP Jayasekara has appealed. Both rulings have been given by the Court. When the death penalty was given to Jayasekara, the SJB said the judiciary was independent, but when he comes to Parliament to take his oaths, they say the opposite. This shows their double standard. They think the present Government will also act like them. Our Government acts very independently.

Q: The SJB parliamentary group has unanimously decided to defeat the 20th Amendment to the Constitution. Is there any basis for this?

A. What can they do except oppose the 20A? They need to play the role of the Opposition. The people have discarded them. This is the ground reality. The people decided to send the UNP led Yahapalana Government home even before they completed four and a half years of their tenure although they were voted to office with a resounding mandate. Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa is manipulated by others, he doesn't have any leadership qualities. He does what Rajtha, Champika and Harin ask him to do. Nobody in the SJB listens to Premadasa. Video clips show that when SJB MPs attempted to walk out of the Chamber to protest against MP Jayasekara taking oaths, Sajith Premadasa stood up and asked his MPs not to go. But they all left the Chamber ignoring his request. Similar to Ranil Wickremesinghe being stranded, Sajith Premadasa has been entrapped.

Q: Opposition lawmakers ask why Government parliamentarians now want to abolish the 19th Amendment whereas they supported it in Parliament except for the then UPFA MP Sarath Weerasekara and the Speaker. Your comment on this?

A. The issue before us is who raised their hands in support of the 19A. At the last General Election campaign, we pledged to abolish the 19A, and the people voted for that. We requested the people to give us a two-thirds majority in Parliament. The Opposition said the Government would not be able to secure a two-thirds majority and even some of our members said we would only win 125 to 130 seats. However, the people gave a two-thirds majority to the Government to change the present Constitution and introduce a new one. First we would only abolish the 19A. It is irrelevant who voted for the 19A or who did not. What is important is the public mandate.

Q: The Opposition attempts to portray that the 20A would pave the way for authoritarian rule and deprive the people's democratic rights. Your comments?

A. These are the same slogans put forward by the Opposition to defeat the then President Mahinda Rajapaksa in 2015. These slogans are not valid in today's context. Under the 19A, the then Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe did what he wanted to do, while President Maithripala Sirisena was unable to do anything and had become a prisoner of conscience. When the independent commissions were set up, they appointed their henchmen as members. Although they wanted to show the world that the Commissions were independent, they were not independent at all.

The majority of the members were those who represented various NGOs and who had been in the forefront to defeat Mahinda Rajapaksa in 2015. Invisible dictatorship prevailed in those Commissions. The then President Maithripala Sirisena could not appoint even the most senior Police officer as the IGP. Therefore, the people decided to change the situation. Any undue or new powers will not be given to the President by the 20A. He would exercise the same powers exercised by his predecessors before 2015. During the short tenure of his rule, all the decisions taken by

President Rajapaksa so far are people friendly.

Q: SJB has raised concern over the independence of the judiciary citing the case of SLPP MP Premalal Jayasekara taking oaths in Parliament. Your comments?

A. The SJB or the UNP has no right to talk of the independence of the judiciary. The audio clips of some SJB MPs have clearly proved how they connived with the Police officers to imprison their political opponents and the Maha Sangha.

Q: The SLFP has said that it has become a decisive factor to pass the 20A adding that if 14 SLFP MPs refrain from voting, the Government cannot secure a two-thirds majority. Is it correct?

A. It is not important whether the SLFP would support or not. We are a Government elected by the people with an overwhelming majority. The people gave us a two-thirds majority to implement our policies, and we have stated that we would abolish the 19A and bring in a new Constitution. I believe all would stand together to implement this public will. We extended our support to the former Government to pass the 19A to make the necessary changes in the country. Otherwise, they would have said that the Opposition didn't allow them to implement their programs.

Q: Some Opposition lawmakers have raised concern on the 'immunity of President from suit' as proposed in the 20A. The Education Minister Prof.G.L. Peiris has clarified that it is not for the President's benefit but to provide an uninterrupted service to people. Could you explain?

A. They talk about the Constitution introduced by its 'godfather' the late President J.R.Jayawardene in 1978. Most of those who make a big hue and cry today were not in Parliament during the time of J.R.Jayawardene. This Constitution has survived since 1978. When Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga was

FACT-FILE Johnston Fernando

► **1964:** Born in Kurunegala, Johnston Xavier Fernando had his education at St. Anne's College, Kurunegala

► **1991:** Elected to the Kurunegala Municipal Council

► **1993:** Minister of Health, Indigenous Medicine in the North Western Provincial Council

► **1999:** Re-elected to North Western Provincial Council

► **2000:** Elected Member of Parliament for Kurunegala District from the United National Party

► **2001:** Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs

► **2004:** Contested the General Election under United People's Freedom Alliance (UPFA) and elected to Parliament from the Kurunegala district

► **2010:** Minister of Co-operatives and Internal Trade in the UPFA government

► **2018:** Minister of Trade, Consumer Affairs, Co-operative Development and Christian Affairs

► **2019:** Minister of Roads and Highways, Ports and Shipping in the government of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa

► **August, 2020:** Re-elected to Parliament from Kurunegala district having contested under Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) and secured 199,203 preferential votes

► **August 12, 2020:** Minister of Highways in the government of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa

► **2004:** Contested the General Election under United People's Freedom Alliance (UPFA) and elected to Parliament from the Kurunegala district

► **2010:** Minister of Co-operatives and Internal Trade in the UPFA government

► **2018:** Minister of Trade, Consumer Affairs, Co-operative Development and Christian Affairs

► **2019:** Minister of Roads and Highways, Ports and Shipping in the government of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa

► **August, 2020:** Re-elected to Parliament from Kurunegala district having contested under Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) and secured 199,203 preferential votes

► **August 12, 2020:** Minister of Highways in the government of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa

Source: Internet, Graphic: Mahil Wijesinghe



Government hold different opinions on the proposed 20A?

A. Of course there could be different opinions but we all contested the election under the SLPP banner. The people gave a two-thirds majority to implement the Government's National Policy framework, "Vistas of Prosperity and Splendour". Whatever the different opinions, we have to go together and respect the people's mandate. Nobody can shirk his responsibility. We are confident we can pass 20A in Parliament with a two-thirds majority. At present, some Opposition MPs have requested to join the Government. Some have told me personally that they wished to join the Government. They say there is no point in being in the Opposition as the SJB will not be able to capture power for years to come. These MPs want an opportunity to work for their people.

Q: What are the initiatives taken to develop the highways sector?

A. As outlined in the President's 'Vistas of Prosperity and Splendour', we have decided to develop 100,000 Kms of road network and construct several new expressways. The intention is to ease traffic congestion. In this regard almost 90 percent of the decisions have already been taken. Even during the lockdown we made several decisions to develop the road network. We promised the people a Government that will work for its people. We have already commenced to develop 10,000 Kms of the road network, and intend to complete the construction of 100,000 Kms of the road network before five years. Our target is a modern road network in the country. At present there is huge traffic congestion in Colombo and the suburbs and other major cities in the districts. We have already taken alternative measures to ease the traffic congestion in Colombo and suburbs. An elevated road will be constructed from the Kelani Bridge up to Kaduwela. We will conduct a feasibility study to construct similar elevated roads from Dehiwela to Panadura via the sea. Otherwise, we have to spend a huge amount of money to encroach lands.

On the instructions of the President, a bridge will be constructed at Nawala to ease traffic congestion in that area. We have also planned to construct an elevated road from Rajagiriya to Wellawatta. A program has also been formulated to produce disciplined drivers. As instructed by the President and the Prime Minister, the Highways Ministry will implement a massive program within the next four years. Trees will be planted on either side of the road to have a green environment. A similar concept will be introduced to the expressways as well.

Q: Do the constituent parties of the

the President, the then UNP Government brought the 17th Amendment in 2001 as Ranil Wickremesinghe was not in a position to come to power. However, with Wickremesinghe's inability to become the President, they once again changed the Constitution after Maithripala Sirisena became President by introducing the 19A.

Former Presidents, J.R.Jayawardene and Ranasinghe Premadasa functioned under this Constitution. There is no validity in these arguments by the SJB. This Constitution is the UNP's brainchild. They brought amendments to the Constitution as they were unable to consolidate power. The net result is, the very same Constitution would remain intact until a new Constitution is introduced.

Q: The SJB has decided to form a 'broad coalition' against the Government's move to introduce 20A which they say will create an all-powerful Presidency and take the power away from Parliament. Your comments?

A. Earlier too, the SJB formed a broad coalition and asserted that Sajith Premadasa was the only candidate who can defeat Gotabaya Rajapaksa. However, Sajith Premadasa was defeated at the Presidential election by 1.7 million votes. Then they said they cannot contest the General Election with Ranil Wickremesinghe,

YES, THE 19A TARGETED THE RAJAPAKSAS AND WAS NOT FOR THE WELL-BEING OF THE PEOPLE. ITS SOLE PURPOSE WAS TO CRAFTILY REMOVE THE POWERS VESTED WITH THE THEN PRESIDENT MAITHRIPALA SIRISENA AND VEST IT ON THE THEN PRIME MINISTER RANIL WICKREMESINGHE

Will education be the new currency of choice?

By
Dr. Thilhan U.
Hewage



Navigating through all the new concepts and trends, such as, student-centered teaching, use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), smart classrooms, digital libraries, Internet of Things (IoT), Learning Management Systems (LMS), online teaching/learning and assessments, bite-sized learning, Integrated/Blended Learning, Blockchain technology,all the way to virtual schools and universities, in the field of education, has itself become an intimidating challenge for all the stakeholders involved in the process.

Most importantly the students have to decide whether they should select one method over another depending on their area of interest. In the case of primary and secondary school students, perhaps their parents and teachers have to help them to make those decisions. But, more often than not, parents and teachers, who are a generation ahead of those students, are not very familiar with the latest trends and technologies and therefore it

is important for them to get themselves educated and trained first. Even though some of these concepts have been in use from the mid-1990s in some of the countries, they were not very popular among the parents of the students due to lack of knowledge about the methods and lack of scientific studies evaluating the effects of each of those methods.

Creative thinking

People are constantly reminded of the advantages of sharpening their creative thinking abilities and emotional intelligence and to be life-long learners. But there is no proper guidance in navigating one's life through all the different fields of study, methods of study and career paths other than just following the herd or settling with what is available locally. Children are told that they must think 'out of the box' but each letter and number in the answers in the marking scheme of their examinations is put, metaphorically speaking, in steel boxes that will survive even a nuclear attack.

If anyone dares to write an answer different from those in the marking scheme he will learn the importance of staying in the 'box'. The formal education process itself is well known for sending



mixed messages like that, the reasons for which are justified as the necessity to teach children about divergent thinking while keeping the uniformity of the evaluation process. What most of the stakeholders forget or fail to mention is that there is no uniformity in the learning processes and the schools those children attend. Some who manage to score well in their examinations mostly by parrotting get stuck at the end of their formal education goals having no opportunity to use it at least to make a living.

What if there was a way to quantify the value of each educational achievement, diploma, degree, the training program and the career choice and connect that to the type of skills you

would develop and what opportunities will open for you through them? At present there are entrepreneurs who are trying to use blockchain technology to do build systems to securely share data about our education, skills, ambitions, and employment history. Within the context of a 'Knowledge Economy' where people are becoming life-long learners a system like that could track one's learning behaviour and thinking patterns from kindergarten to retirement and beyond.

Service providers in education can use such a system to gain unprecedented access to the network of the education pipelines to facilitate learners with a personalised road map match-

ing their dreams with the most suitable path through education to land exactly where they planned to land in the path of their chosen career. Employers will be able to use the system to pick and choose exactly the type of employees they want to hire for specific tasks. This type of system could eventually support a global economy where skills are the new currency.

It can even come to a level where the students are even paid to learn in exchange for their data. Education can become the new Gold Standard. In the world of economics, one should be able to build a market on top of anything that is quantifiable.

Blockchain technology

Blockchain technology has evolved to a level where each and every business dealing with a supply chain providing their products and services to consumers will not be successful without it. Schools, universities and other educational service providers will be at one end and the employers, both in the public and private sectors, will be at the other end. Of course the security of the information is going to be the main issue where most of the students and par-

ents will be reluctant to share all these information about them with the whole world. On the other hand, one will get a chance of marketing one's skills in the global market in which one's physical location has no impact on joining an organisation and doing the work.

Not only mapping the educational path with the career and the employers with the employees but also mapping the type of career path one should choose depending on one's talents, ambitions, philosophy of life and even the personalised definition of happiness is not far away with AI on a broader database. The best part of the whole process is that any change made to the set of variables will make changes in the whole supply chain with the agreement of all the stakeholders so that the decision to make that change will have no negative effect on the outcome. The machine will tell you what your goals should be and even give you several choice maps with expected savings at the beginning of your retirement. What more can one ask for?

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

Pharmaceutical Investment Zone to be set up in Hambantota

Plans afoot to produce 50% of country's pharmaceutical needs

The Government plans to produce 50% of the country's needs of pharmaceuticals locally within the next three years.

The objective is to provide quality medicine to the public and the foreign market at affordable prices. All products will be made in accordance with the recommendations and standards of the World Health Organization.

Eighty-five percent of the country's drug needs is met through imports at an annual cost of Rs.130 billion. Producing pharmaceuticals locally will pave the way to save Rs.60 billion annually, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa said at a discussion on the future plans of the State Ministry of Pharmaceutical Production, Supply and Regulation at the Presidential Secretariat last week.

Sri Lanka is the largest importer of drugs in the Asian region. It was time to turn tables and a large number of local businessmen are willing to make investments, he said.

An area of 400 acres will be set aside in the Hambantota Industrial Zone to manufacture medicines targeting the global market. The world's top pharmaceutical companies have expressed interest in investing. There are market opportunities for pharmaceuticals in the African and Southeast Asian region and an effort should be made to capture it.

The President made an open invitation to all pharmaceutical importers to invest in manufacturing medicine locally. The program to produce a new medicine each month has commenced. The target is to increase this to one new medicine every fortnight. An investment zone for local investors will be set up on a 100-acre block of land at Oyamaduwu, Anuradhapura. Twenty-five medium scale businessmen are prepared to invest USD 300 million in this endeavour.

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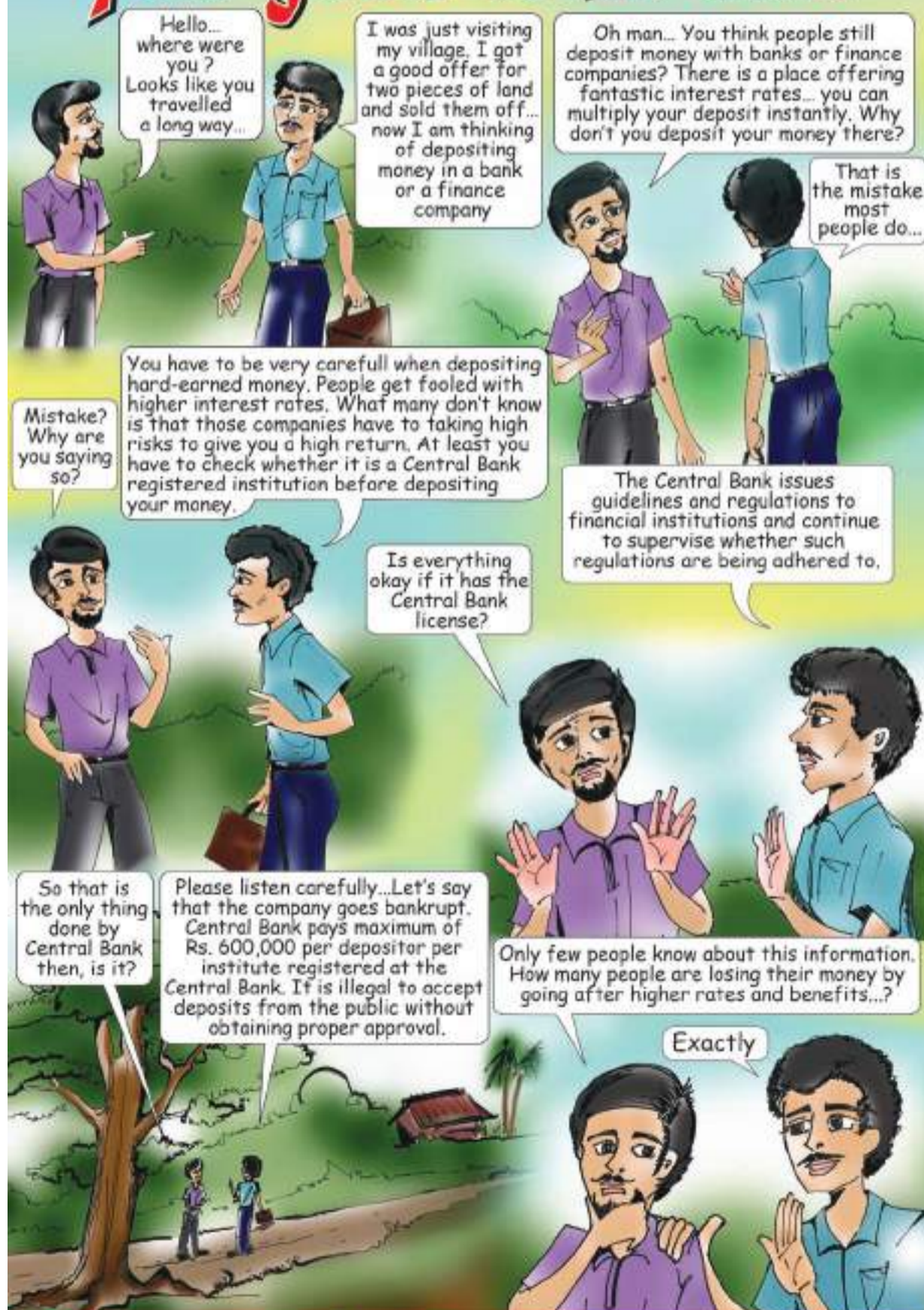
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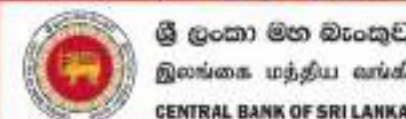
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News Feature

UNP leadership stakes: Mangala joins the fray

Government and Opposition lawmakers engaged in heated arguments in Parliament on Tuesday, September 8 over the swearing-in of SLPP Ratnapura district Parliamentarian Premalal Jayasekara, a death row convict.

Opposition Parliamentarians from the SJB argued in the House over the precedent that is being set by allowing death row convicts to enter Parliament.

Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena defended his decision to allow Jayasekara to take oaths saying he is abiding by the Order of the Court of Appeal which stated that Jayasekara is entitled to all the rights as an MP. MP Jayasekara was sworn in as an MP amidst uproar from the SJB.

At the commencement of sittings, Speaker Abeywardena announced that Jayasekara could take his oaths as an MP. As the announcement came, SJB Kandy District MP and Chief Opposition Whip Lakshman Kiriella began protesting against the swearing in. He was followed by SJB MPs wearing black shawls around their necks and shouting slogans against Jayasekara.

Leader of the House, Minister Dinesh Gunawardena pointed out that as per the Standing Orders, the MPs could not raise a Point of Order when the Speaker was making an announcement. However, SJB frontliners Harin Fernando, Nalin Bandara and Lakshman Kiriella shouted that it was illegal for Jayasekara to take oaths as an MP. Amidst the uproar, Sergeant-at-Arms Narendra Fernando accompanied Jayasekara to the Speaker's Chair and was sworn in. MP Jayasekara was congratulated by Government lawmakers Vijiya Berugoda, Janaka Wakkumbura and other front row members on the Government side.

Raising a Point of Order, MP Kiriella said, "Today a person who had been sentenced to death by a High Court took oaths as an MP before the Speaker." He pointed out how a quite similar incident took place in the House in 2010. "When Sarath Fonseka was elected to this House but could not come to take oaths as he was in the prison, we raised the issue and spoke of the need to permit him to take oaths."

But Prof. G.L. Peiris opposed it citing provisions of Section 89 of the Constitution and informed the House that the MP elect could not take oaths if he or she has been convicted by a court.

Kiriella attempted to portray that the Speaker had no power above the court's conviction. Refuting Kiriella's claim, Leader of the House Minister Dinesh Gunawardena told the House that a new MP who had been elected by his people had taken his oaths. Thereafter, there is no room for others to raise Points of Order against it. The Minister said as per the Standing Order, anyone who is sworn in before the Speaker as an MP has the rights and privileges of an MP.

Thereafter, when the Speaker moved the House to proceed with the day's business, SJB MPs began



FORMER PRIME MINISTER RANIL WICKREMESINGHE, IS A GREAT LEADER WHO IS DOING HIS BEST TO SAVE THE PARTY
- MANGALA

while serving a death sentence in a murder case.

Maiden speech

MP Jayasekara in his maiden speech in Parliament said that he was convicted on false charges levelled against him by the Yahapalana Government to take political revenge. Jayasekara said he was sent to jail for a crime which he did not commit.

"My conscience knows that I am innocent. I have not engaged in clean politics. I have not engaged in any fraud or corrupt activities during my political career," he said.

The MP said it was the Yahapalana Government and the then Justice Minister and the CID who were behind the moves to put him behind bars.

The CID headed by its Director Shani Abeysekera manipulated the investigations against him for political reasons and filed false allegations. CID officials who were behind the moves against him should be investigated and arrested.

The main opposition party, the SJB on September 8 launched a protest to safeguard the democratic provisions in the 19th Amendment to the Constitution. SJB leaders and several hundred supporters gathered at the park commemorating Ven. Maduluwawe Sobhitha Thera and took an oath to safeguard a just soci-



University of Politics

By Prof. Backbencher

ety. SJB Leader Sajith Premadasa and General Secretary Ranjith Madduma Bandara and other SJB frontliners offered flowers at Ven. Sobhitha Thera's statue. Speakers at the event warned against the provisions of the 20th Amendment to the Constitution which has been proposed by the Government. They said these proposals would take the country towards a dictatorship.

Education Minister Prof. G. L. Peiris clarified that the 'Immunity of the President from lawsuits' proposed in the 20th Amendment to the Constitution has not been drafted to protect the President from Court cases but to enable him to provide an uninterrupted service to the public.

He told the media that Article 35 (1) of the proposed 20A states, "While any person who holds office as President, no proceedings shall be instituted or continued against him in any court or tribunal in respect of anything done or omitted to be done by him either in his official or private capacity."

He said that as long as the 19th Amendment remains, the President will have to report to courts and will not be able to efficiently serve the public, adding that special arrangements will have to be made by allocating considerable time for the President to address court related matters.

The President was made to appear before various Commissions and courts before his election. If he is to appear before such courts and commissions after being elected as the President, he will not have sufficient time to implement pledges made in his election manifesto 'Vistas for Prosperity,' Minister Peiris said.

Clearing of forests

The Government Parliament group meeting was held at the Committee Room 1 of the Parliament complex under patronage of Prime Minister Rajapaksa on Tuesday. The PM proposed to bring about new laws to prevent bovine slaughter in the country.

Many Government lawmakers approved the Prime Minister's suggestion. The Premier had said that killing cattle for beef should be stopped as there are many who opposed the practice. He had also said that the Government should take maximum action to prevent the clearing of forests by people for various reasons.

There are many instances of forests being cleared citing the need to increase cultivated lands. This should be stopped and a clear demarcation between cultivated lands and forest reserves should be made. The Premier said no one would be permitted under any circumstances to clear jungles and reserved forests which are dwindling at a fast rate.

The Prime Minister also pointed out to the MPs the need to pay attention to alleviate the fertilizer shortage problem immediately as people from many places complain of a shortage.

Betrayal

The JVP-led National People's Power called the proposed 20th Amendment to the Constitution a betrayal of the mandate the people had given to the Government at the last General Election. JVP Parliamentarian Dr. Harini

Amarasuriya told the media at the JVP headquarters in Pelawatte, that the Government, claiming to respect people's sovereignty, had unveiled a draft amendment to concentrate more powers in the executive presidency at the expense of the rights of the people.

The draft of the amendment envisaged stripping the Prime Minister and Parliament of their powers. Those who drafted the Bill had shown that they had no trust in either the PM their parliamentary group or their political enemies. The proposed amendment would give more powers to the executive presidency than when it was under the J. R. Jayewardene Government.

Pledge

Minister Johnston Fernando said at the last General Election campaign, we pledged to abolish the 19A and the people voted for that. We requested the people to give us a two-thirds majority. The Opposition said the Government would not be able to secure a two-thirds majority and even some of our members said we would secure only 125 to 130 seats in Parliament. However, the people gave a two-thirds majority to the Government to change the present Constitution and introduce a new one.

Agriculture Minister Mahindanda Aluthgamage told Parliament that the 19th Amendment to the Constitution was brought forth by the Yahapalana Government with an ulterior motive to give more powers to the then Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe.

Opening the debate on six notifications under the Ports and Airport Development Levy Act, three regulations and six resolutions under the Customs Ordinance presented to the House, Minister Aluthgamage said the Yahapalana Government through the 19th Amendment also attempted to bring limitations to prevent the Rajapaksas from coming back to power.

He said contrary to the opinions of civil society activists, the Yahapalana Government brought in the 19th amendment not to strengthen democracy or to make the judiciary independent but to strengthen Ranil Wickremesinghe and "fill the pockets of his supporters."

The Yahapalana Government, instead of strengthening the judiciary, attempted to influence it by using politicians such as Ranjan Ramanayake.

The SLPP National Organiser Basil Rajapaksa had told the media that there is no need for him to enter Parliament. Rajapaksa made these re-

marks while responding to journalists in Badalgama, Kotadeniyawa recently.

When questioned about the shortcomings of the 20th Amendment to the Constitution and the increase in Presidential powers, Rajapaksa said, "The people granted the President more power and that was what the people expected."

The SLPP founder Basil Rajapaksa said the fourth anniversary of the SLPP which falls on November 1 will be celebrated on a grand scale.

Rajapaksa had discussed with Provincial Council and Local Government members at the SLPP headquarters at Nelum Mawatha regarding the arrangements for the ceremony. The responsibility of organising the party convention has been vested with a group of SLPPers led by Ministers Rohitha Abeygunawardena and Prasanna Ranatunga.

Several to cross over

Reliable sources confirmed two Muslim Parliamentarians from the Opposition had held talks with Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa at his office in the parliamentary complex on September 8. The two MPs had expressed their desire to join the Government.

The Premier had referred the two MPs to SLPP National Organiser Basil Rajapaksa to make the groundwork for their accommodation. However, the SLPP-led Government had repeatedly said that they would not entertain Sri Lanka Muslim Congress leader Rauff Hakeem and All Ceylon Makkal Congress leader Rishad Bathiudeen.

However, doors are open for the junior members of their parties. Hence, several Muslim MPs in the Opposition are to cross over to the Government so that securing two-thirds majority would not be a chal-



GOVERNMENT LAWMAKERS SAID THE SJB STRATEGICALLY MADE USE OF PREMALAL JAYASEKARA'S CASE AND WALKED OUT OF THE CHAMBER AS THEY COULD NOT FACE THE DEBATE ON THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CENTRAL BANK

RELIABLE SOURCES CONFIRMED TWO MUSLIM PARLIAMENTARIANS FROM THE OPPOSITION HAD HELD TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER MAHINDA RAJAPAKSA. THE TWO MPS HAD EXPRESSED THEIR DESIRE TO JOIN THE GOVERNMENT

lenging task for the Government. A senior Cabinet Minister confirmed that 10 Opposition MPs have decided to extend their support to the proposed 20A to the Constitution.

A group of Opposition MPs are to cross over to the Government when the 20A is debated in Parliament. Another Opposition MP has expressed his willingness to support the legislations and motions moved by the Government while remaining in the Opposition.

Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa conferred the congratulations and well-wishes of Parliament to Italy-based Sri Lankan sprinter, Yupun Abeykoon who has set a new national and South Asian record in the men's 100m event at an international meet in Dessau, Germany.

With permission from the Chair, Opposition Leader Premadasa said that Abeykoon had recorded a time of 10.16 seconds setting up a new record in the 100 metres. "I on behalf of Parliament confer our congratulations and well-wishes to Abeykoon," he said.

Leadership crisis

The leadership crisis within the UNP has taken a new turn with former UNP MP Mangala Samaraweera also contending for party leadership. Earlier, Karu, Ruwan and Vajira had expressed their willingness to lead the party.

Former Minister Samaraweera told the media that he will consider taking on the leadership of the UNP if he is requested to accept the position. Samaraweera said that he never withdrew his UNP membership. He made these remarks to the media after recording a statement at the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) probing the alleged incidents of political victimisation on Thursday, September 10.

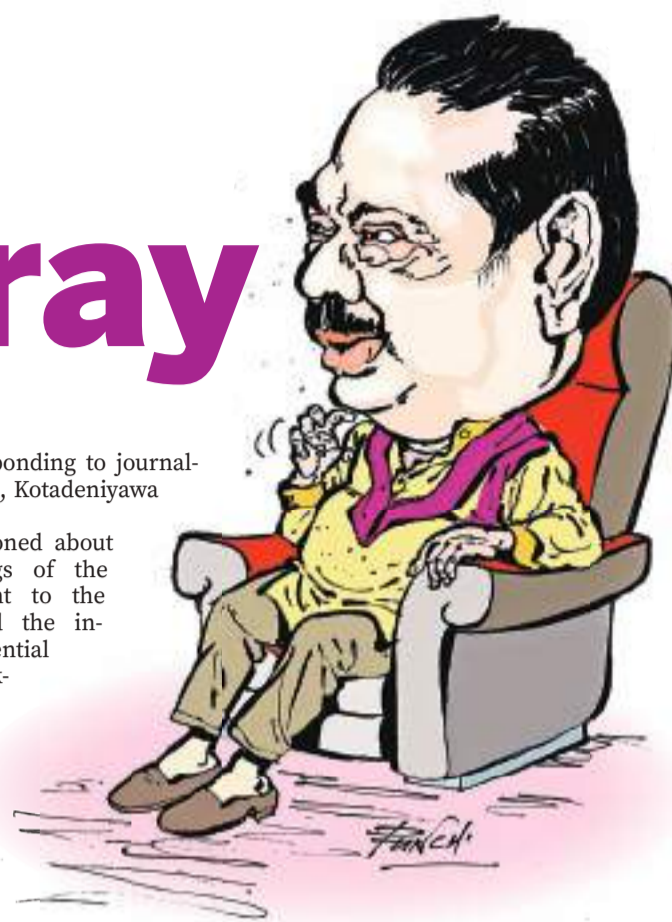
The former Minister also pointed out that a fitting leader can rebuild the UNP soon. Responding to queries on former Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe, Samaraweera said Wickremesinghe is a great leader who is doing his best to save the party.

PC system

Members of the ruling SLPP continue to voice against State Minister Sarath Weerasekara's stance on abolishing the Provincial Council (PC) system, alleging that he is merely promoting himself by dragging the Government and the country into inconvenience.

In a continuation of this allegation, the Provincial Members Collective of the SLPP calling a press briefing on Friday, September 11 stated that Minister Weerasekara would provoke hatred among the public by his comments.

Collective member and former Western Provincial Council member Mahesh Almeda said the then President Mahinda Rajapaksa set up the Northern Provincial Council for the benefit of the youth who engaged in a terrorist war to ensure their right to hold political power. He pointed out if this PC system is to be abolished, it will not be possible to abolish it without giving consideration to the Indian factor.





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INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY AGENCY OF SRI LANKA (ICTA)

INVITATION FOR QUOTATIONS

ICTA/GOSL/SER/NCB/2020/03

Procurement of providing office space for ICTA office for lease/rent basis

Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka (ICTA), is the apex government agency, mandated to take all necessary measures to implement the Government's Policy and Action plan in relation to ICT development.

Sealed quotations hereby invited for obtaining a suitable office space in Colombo on rent/lease basis for a period of Four (04) years for ICTA office.

The building shall comply with the requirement and facilities listed and published on the ICTA web site - www.icta.lk/procurement which can be downloaded or you may collect the list by sending an E-mail to: procurement@icta.lk

Self-prepared quotation considering the items of the above mentioned list and including the expected monthly rent, terms and conditions, existing facilities, extent of the building, certificate of conformity (COC), proof of ownership, contact detail for visiting etc and properly signed Quotation submission form should be sent in a sealed envelope by registered post or hand delivery along with photocopies of approved building plan, COC with the address of the property to reach the below address on or before 28th September 2020 at 3 p.m. by mentioning the "Quotation for Rent/Lease for Office Building" on the top of the left hand corner of the sealed envelope.

Sealed Quotations will be opened immediately after the deadline for submission of quotations at ICTA Auditorium, in the presence of Bidders or their authorized representatives who choose to attend.

Head of Procurement
Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka
2nd Floor, No. 160/24, Kirimandala Mawatha,
Colombo 05.
Telephone: 011 2369099
Email: procurement@icta.lk
13th September 2020

Marriage

Proposals

in the

Sunday Observer

Is the best way to fulfil your Future Dreams

SUNDAY OBSERVER

Lessons from New Diamond saga

There are many lessons to be learnt from the saga involving the VLCC Crude Oil carrier MT New Diamond. But first, all Sri Lankans have to be grateful to the Sri Lanka Navy, Sri Lanka Air Force and the Indian Coastguard whose personnel worked day and night to douse the fire on board the MT New Diamond, (though it ignited again on a smaller scale) to prevent a massive oil leak from the crude oil storage area. The ship was carrying 260,000 MT of Crude. One can only imagine the scale of the disaster had that come to pass.

To get an idea of what this could mean, one does not have to go back to the days of the Exxon Valdez disaster (March 24, 1989) in which 37,000 MT of Crude affected over 2,100 Km of the Alaska shoreline. Its effects are felt to this day. One just has to review what happened recently off the coast of Mauritius. The environmental disaster began on July 25 when the ship MV Wakashio strayed off course and struck a coral reef a mile (1.6 kilometres) offshore. After being pounded by heavy surf for nearly two weeks, the ship's hull cracked and on August 6 it began leaking fuel into a lagoon, polluting a protected wetlands area and a bird and wildlife sanctuary. It spilled just 1,000 MT of oil, but even that has been devastating to the marine life and of course, the economy of Mauritius. The ship owner (Nagashiki Shipping) and operator (Mitsui OSK) have apologised to the Government and people of Mauritius, but that counts little given the massive environmental impact.

Now the authorities as well as the ship operators/owners of MT New Diamond must do everything possible to prevent a disastrous oil spill, which will have dire consequences for Sri Lanka and even for southern parts of India. Indeed, it was gratifying to see the two countries' Security Forces working together to rescue the sailors on board and douse the mega fire with limited resources at hand. The Sri Lanka Air Force introduced several innovative techniques in this regard doing nearly 200 sorties using helicopter and surveillance aircraft.

The authorities must also work with the ship operators and owners to seek costs for these operations as well as compensation for whatever environmental impact the fire has caused, including an oil slick from the ship's propulsion fuel (not the crude in the holds). Sri Lankan legal authorities are already working on this aspect. Just to cite an example, the Japanese operator of the ship that ran aground in Mauritius said it will provide 1 billion yen (\$9 million) to fund environmental projects and support the local fishing community. Mitsui O.S.K. Lines said the Mauritius Natural Environment Recovery Fund will be used for mangrove protection, coral reef recovery, protection of seabirds and rare species, and research by private and government groups.

Both these incidents, though different, have posed almost similar challenges to two Indian Ocean islands. Granted, Sri Lanka is a much bigger island and the impact may not cover the entire country, the challenge however is more or less the same. These two incidents call for a comprehensive review of maritime security conditions and disaster preparedness of Indian Ocean Rim countries. This is vital as Sri Lanka is strategically located on a major East-West shipping route and many ships carrying dangerous or volatile cargo sail perilously close to our shores.

Thus the Indian Ocean countries should have a 24/7 network to monitor the shipping movements, that is also capable of rapid deployment of relevant navies/coastguards at the first hint of trouble. Satellite data must also be shared. This will also be vital in the fight against transnational terrorism, sea piracy, overfishing/poaching of fisheries resources, narcotics smuggling and people smuggling. It is also vital to strengthen the capacity, readiness and technological prowess of institutions that would be directly involved in any environmental disaster, such as the Navy, Coastguard, Disaster Management Centre, Central Environmental Authority, Met Department, Marine Pollution Prevention Authority and Fisheries Ministry. Several shortcomings were identified in some of these institutions during recent incidents, though all of them went above and beyond their call of duty in the risk mitigation exercise despite having limited resources.

There should also be a comprehensive plan to face any environmental disaster, possibly with international help in the course of events of this nature. It might not be financially possible or even feasible for countries like Sri Lanka to handle maritime disasters on their own. Even a developed country like the USA took many years to ward off the effects of the Exxon Valdez disaster. Protecting a vast coast from various vulnerabilities is not easy and the resources we are currently allocating may not be adequate given the current and future challenges.

One such challenge is Climate Change, which has the potential to wipe out entire coastal cities off the face of the Earth in less than 150 years unless mankind takes collective steps to rein in Greenhouse Gas emissions. Any rise (even by one metre) in sea levels could have devastating consequences to coastal communities and even world trade, as coastal ports are the lifeblood of the world. Therefore, the world must urgently address the issue of Climate Change and also expedite the switch to Green, renewable energy to put an end to the near-total dependence on oil. In the light of events surrounding the two recent incidents in the Indian Ocean, there is a real urgency to take more urgent steps to protect our fragile environment.

Those who rail against the 20th Amendment, should realise they invited it

by
Rajpal Abeynayake



This is being written even as there are aggrieved noises being made by those who profess great love for liberal democratic ideals. They suggest that the 20th Amendment — and indeed the plans for a new Constitution — are harbingers of a reversal to an era of substantial democratic deficit.

Constitutions they famously say, are living breathing documents that are of an organic ever-changing character. The changes we are contemplating with the 20th Amendment and the Constitution that is to follow did not arise out of a vacuum, in this context. Often, the same elements that now lament that there is a reversal to a more centralised constitutional order, can be seen as the very people that caused these contemplated transitions to come about.

How so? They contributed too much to the anarchy that prevailed as a result of the last UNP regime's systemic failure and its ad hoc constitutional tinkering that resulted in the notorious gridlocked administration that will be talked of — and laughed at — in history when citing a time of pathetic democratic dysfunction.

The left hand did not know what the right hand was doing, and there was such a contest for power in the middle between contending parties within the administration, that the final result was that it looked as if nobody was in power. When things spiralled so completely out of control, the people were treated to the spectacle of finger-pointing, while they suffered immensely under a national security and economic deficit.

Obviously when the people voted with a two-thirds majority for the party formerly in the opposite ranks, they wanted this scheme of things out lock stock and barrel.

In other words, having messed things up right royally with their own ostensibly liberal constitutional experimentation, these ultra-right civil society do gooders and other fellow travellers cannot now ask that change — drastic not incremental change — should not be made.

Retired

They don't, however, seem to be able to level with their reality. Incidentally, followers of news and current affairs will remember that the police force auctioned veteran service dogs to civilians recently after these canines had retired from service. The President apparently wants the



police administration to retrace these four-legged veterans and house them back in special service kennels run by the police.

This reminds us of the various lobbyists now lamenting a constitutional order that left so much chaos and misery in its wake. These promoters of an abandoned order, now want to auction parts of that old constitution to the President and the framers of the new constitutional document.

The Police that tried to auction off aged dogs at least had a better rationale, even though they didn't do that well either. But that was an unpopular, unseemly auction. It's a bit of the same with the attempt to auction off piecemeal, parts of the old constitutional arrangement to the new framers. It's an unpopular exercise with no solid rationale, and if there are no takers unlike in the service dog auction, no surprises there because there shouldn't be any popular appeal for damaged goods from a chronically dysfunctional, mostly forgettable era.

Besides, the 20th Amendment can be transitional per se. The Committee tasked with framing the new constitutional document will no doubt have another look at 20, and they are bound to take into consideration various input from all sectors of society, when they make a final decision on incorporating facets of the old Constitution in the new one, and such a review will include the recent Amendments as well.

The 20th addresses some immediate issues, and rationalises the various 'independent' Commissions by taking the edge off them by making them representative within the meaning of franchise. How did the sneaking in of various so called civil society persons make the 'independent' Commissions more representative?

What is the logic behind having unelected persons appointed to crucial decision making bodies and having them take key decisions on important matters regarding accountability, franchise, etc?

Representative

The 'liberals' who wanted these changes often look up to the United States, but if they look at the US system closely, they'd find that the Supreme Court judges are appointed by the president, the Attorney General is appointed by the President, etc. in that democracy.

The following is taken from the USA.gov website:

Attorneys General are the top legal officers of their state or territory (in the U.S). They advise and represent their legislature and state agencies and act as the 'People's Lawyer' for the citizens. Most are elected, though a few are appointed by the governor. Select your state to connect to your state attorney general's website. End quote. The Attorney General of a State is elected, as can be seen from the above citation, but there is no system of civil society appointments of various unelected laymen to crucial State apparatus. 'Elected' in the US has far more credence and sanctity than 'unelected' and that's how it should be in a nation that believes it is a representative democracy.

Where did we get the idea that unelected officials in our various 'independent' Commissions somehow make these institutions more independent than having them made up of elected representatives from any side of the political isle?

So, anyone who laments about the alleged loss of the independent status of the Commissions should be made to realise what these Commissions really were, especially when they had folk such as Hoole or Javed Yusuf in the Constitutional Council — or any of the other so called independent Commissions.

Hoole made nonsense of the notion of independence, having signed various documents as a Commission member and then deciding to rail against their content in public. Javed Yusuf was rather transparently UNP in his political statements, especially when crucial elections were imminent.

The whole idea of the so-called in-

dependent Commissions was imported from Bangladesh or Nepal or some such place, where the experiment was half-baked as much as it is half-baked here. This writer remembers that the greatest fans of the so-called independent Commissions were persons such as one Nigel Hatch, who played a rather nondescript advisory role in the long gone Chandrika Kumaratunga administration once upon a time.

Ideological

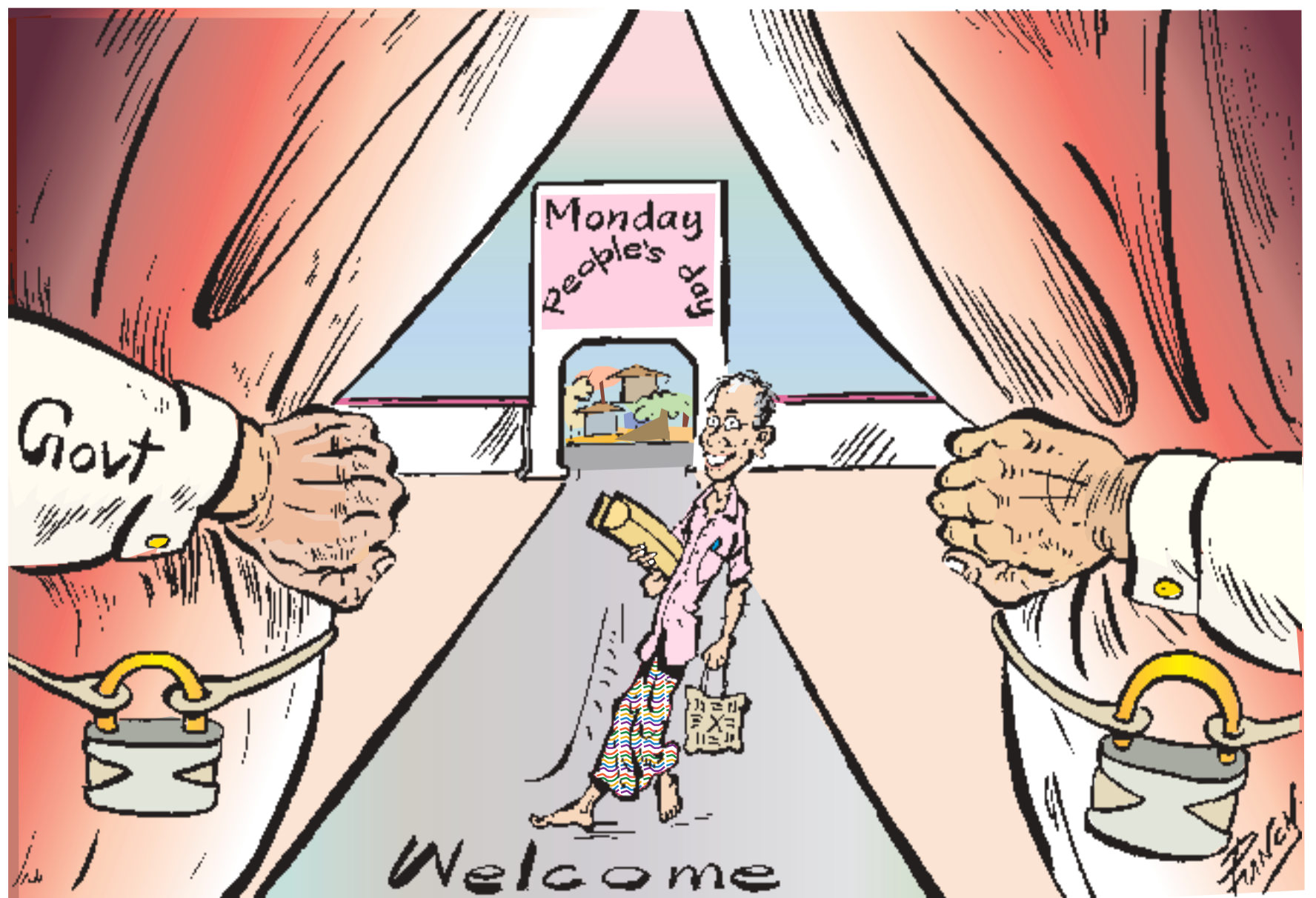
Does the fact that the US President appoints his Supreme Court judges, make the US an overtly centralised State? The experience of the US has been that various presidents appointed conservative and liberal judges, depending on which side of the political isle they hailed from.

This has for the most part bequeathed an evenly balanced Supreme Court in the US, but anyway in that country they don't seem to think that judges are not human beings; they readily classify them as liberal or conservative and fully expect them to make judgments from the Bench that are broadly reflective of their personal ideological backgrounds. Of course the judges selected by the president go through a Senate vetting process, but though the opposition to some appointments is fierce, the appointees always eventually make it, as was the case with Brett Kavanaugh J, and Clarence Thomas J.

But what's significant is that these judges are selected by the elected president, and not by some mishmash of unelected civil society busybodies and other elected officials from all sides of the political divide. Basically you could say that for all intents and purposes the incumbent president is given the prerogative power of having his Supreme Court represent his broad political agenda that's been given the people's imprimatur with an electoral mandate.

By any yardstick therefore, the illusion that the so-called independent Constitutional Council and Commissions are truly independent is just that — an illusion.

The Constitution is of course not a mere legal document, it's the bedrock principles and ideals of the state, codified. Therefore, public discussion and broad public contribution to the process of constitution making is called for. But that should be from a broad cross section of society and not merely from civil society 'liberals' who seem to be merely feeling sorry for themselves, and are shell-shocked that their own constitutional machinations have exposed their far from independent Commissions and eventually, led to the downfall of these institutions as is currently manifest.



CJ Burnside (1882) rejected Vellala “SHOW OF FORCE AND TERROR”

Confirmed one law, one nation

By
H. L. D. Mahindapala

Once upon a colonial time, when the Vellalas dominated the casteist fiefdom of Jaffna, the husband of a low-caste Tamil decided to bury his wife accompanied by the ritual of beating the tom-tom. But beating the tom-tom was an exclusive privilege accorded only to the Vellalas, the highest caste. The ritual of beating the tom-tom by low-castes was taboo. It was considered to be an intrusion into the domain preserved exclusively for the Vellalas. Angered by the violation of this ritual a Vellala mob waylaid the low-caste mourners and assaulted them. The triumph of the Vellalas was in humiliating and putting the low-castes in their place.

Any challenge to the supremacy of the Vellalas was resisted fiercely and ruthlessly from the Dutch period. However, in attacking the low-caste mourners the Vellalas had crossed the line. The Police of the British Raj decided to act. They charged the Vellala Supremacists with unlawful assembly. The law found them guilty but the Vellalas appealed.

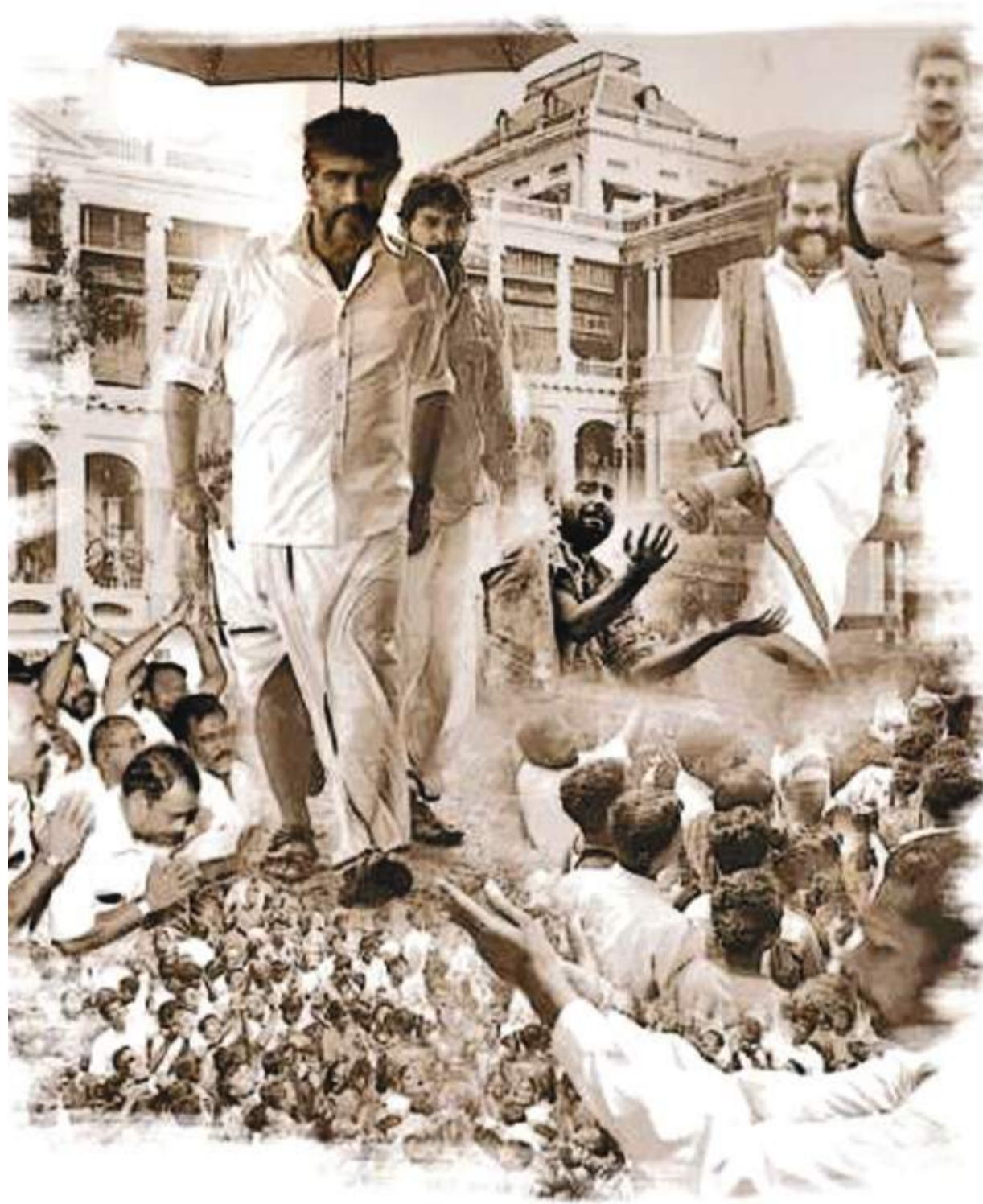
One of the eminent leaders of the Vellalas, Sir Ponnambalam Ramanathan, a disciple of Arumuka Navalar, the demi-god of the Vellalas, appeared on behalf of the Vellalas. He “contended in appeal that the accused (the Vellalas) had the right to act in the way they did, in view of Section 8 of Regulation No. 18 of 1806.

Regulation of 1806

It was not brought to the notice of the Court that this Regulation had been repealed by Regulation 20 of 1844 (the year in which the British abolished slavery). In Queen vs. Ambalavanar, His Lordship Burnside, C.J., assuming that Regulation of 1806 was still in force, said: “In the present, it might be sufficient to ask what does this mean? Does it really mean that by the laws of this country one of Her Majesty’s subjects could be prevented from honouring the dead in a particular way; because some other person or body of people said they had the exclusive privilege of doing so?”

But suppose it is conceded that this the law, and that the Supreme Court should be moved for a writ of injunction to prevent a woman from being carried to the grave to the sound of tom-tom, does it follow that a body of men may assemble themselves together, and by show of force and to the terror of the other subjects of the Queen enforce their own edict to that effect against the party who favoured the tom-tom. I apprehend not. I say it with diffidence in the face of the

ERIK SOLHEIM, THE PEACE-MAKER, MADE IT CATEGORICALLY CLEAR THAT NO NATION IN THE WORLD WAS WILLING TO RECOGNISE THE TWO-NATION THEORY. HE SHOULD KNOW BECAUSE HE DEALT WITH INTERNATIONAL ACTORS WHO WERE VITAL FOR THE SURVIVAL OF PRABHAKARAN, THE LOW-CASTE HERO OF THE HIGH CASTE VELLALAS



learned Counsel’s contention. I trust that none of the ancient rights of the Malabar inhabitants of Jaffna Patnam will be jeopardised.

Notwithstanding the contention and the venerable authority on which it is based, I make, bold to hold that the Malabar inhabitants of the Province of Jaffna Patnam, whoever they may be, must one and all be subject to the universal proposition of law applicable to the whole colony, that the people cannot take the law into their own hands, and seek to administer it after the fashion of Judge Lynch.” (p. 19, Tesawalamai, T. Sri Ramanathan, Lecturer in Law, The Nadaraja Press, 1965). In this brief paragraph Chief Justice Bruce Lockhart Burnside (1882) summarised succinctly how the Vellala Supremacists took the law into their hands and ruled Jaffna with an iron-fist from the womb to the tomb.

His comment on the “body of men who would assemble themselves together, (it happened on a larger scale in May 1976 at Vadukoddai) and by show of force and to the terror of the other subjects of the Queen enforce their own edict” is prophetic.

He rejected the claim of the Vellalas to exclusive rights based on ‘venerable authority’ and declared that this is one nation with one law.

He summed up by saying “whoever they may be, must one and all be subject to the universal proposition of law applicable to the whole colony, that the people cannot take the law into their own hands, and seek to administer it after the fashion of Judge Lynch.”

Political peninsula

Casteism turned Jaffna into a political peninsula of the Vellalas, run by the Vellalas, for the Vellalas. Vellalalism was a religio-political force that enthroned the Vellalas as the God-given rulers of Jaffna. It was this casteist ideology of Vellala supremacy that led them incrementally into separatists.

Only the Vellalas had the power and the resources to determine and direct politics of the peninsula. Vellalas first fought to retain their power and privileges with rival castes (e.g.

THE IRON-FISTED RULE, INHERENT VELLALA VIOLENCE, THE SUBJUGATION AND THE OPPRESSION OF THE TAMIL PEOPLE, EXCLUSIVENESS REJECTING THE ‘OTHER,’ THE OVERALL POLITICAL CULTURE THAT DEHUMANISED THEIR OWN TAMIL PEOPLE, REJECTING CHANGE AND ADHERING TO FEUDAL FASCISM, THE VELLALAS GANGING UP AGAINST ANYONE ELSE CHALLENGING ITS POWER, ARE REVEALED EXPLICITLY IN THE JUDGMENT

Madapallis). Under the British rule low-level resistance came from the low-castes, as seen in this case. But, by and large, the Vellalas kept the other castes categorised as pariahs (outcasts) reduced to subhuman level.

They were denied the minimum space to live with human dignity. This was the entrenched political culture of the peninsula which even the colonial masters failed to dismantle despite the British abolishing slavery in 1844.

Vellala supremacy came out of Hinduism. In classical Hinduism the Brahmins constituted the anointed high priests – the highest in the casteist hierarchy. But there was religious taboo on Brahmins crossing the seas.

So when the waves of Vellalas crossed the Palk Strait, leaving the Brahmins behind, there was no one to fill the place of the high priests in the peninsula. The gap was filled by the Hindu revisionist, Arumuka Navalar, the caste fanatic who crowned the Vellalas as the God-given lords of the land to take the place of the Brahmins – the law-givers and hence the rulers of Jaffna. He fortified their supremacy with his new interpretation of Saivite Hinduism. This is the religious source of Vellalalism.

But before Arumuka Navalar sanctified and reinforced Vellalalism as a God-given commandment, the rights and the powers of the Vellalas were

codified and legally enthroned by the Dutch in the Tesawalamai, the Bible of the Vellalas endorsed by 12 leading Vellala mudliars of the time. This is the secular source of Vellalalism.

The sum and substance of the Tesawalamai was to legitimise the supremacy of the Vellalas. Untrammelled ownership of slaves was handed over to the Vellalas. It was the legalised beginning of subhuman slavery in Jaffna.

The menials to the Vellalas

For instance, the Pallas were classified as “the menials to the Vellalas. They were slaves from their origin.” The rights of the Vellala owners were defined as “(1) Right to exact service; (2) Right to control the marriage of slaves; (3) Right of appropriating children. (The child of female slave belongs to the Master). (4) Right over the slaves’ properties. (p. 16 – Ibid).

Also, “a freed person insolent could be brought to slavery again.” (p.16 – Ibid.) The best piece of Tamil literature that came out of sterile peninsular culture, Kanal, dramatised graphically the suffering and the exploitation of the low-castes by the ruthless Vellalas.

This is a thumb-nail sketch of the subhuman history of Vellalalism. Its tyrannical abuse of power became

an inviolable code to maintain the supremacy of the Vellalas. The Vellala determination to impose its casteist will is exposed in the judgment of Burnside C.J. Some of the main characteristics of the Vellalas are contained in the judgment.

The iron-fisted rule, inherent Vellala violence, the subjugation and the oppression of the Tamil people, exclusiveness rejecting the ‘other,’ the overall political culture that dehumanised their own Tamil people, rejecting change and adhering to feudal fascism, the Vellalas ganging up against anyone else challenging its power, are revealed explicitly in the judgment.

The Vellala determination to be the unchallenged lord and master of Jaffna, excluding the ‘other’ (even if they are Tamils) has been demonstrated in Burnside’s judgment.

Clearly, it is not ‘Tamilness,’ nor the greatness of Tamils and their culture, nor the concept of a ‘Tamil nation’ that made the Tamils into what they are today.

It is Vellalalism that morphed into ‘Tamilness.’ It is the Vellala oppressors and persecutors of the non-Vellala Tamil people who are posing today in verti as ‘Tamil nationalists.’ By definition, the Tamils included all the Tamil-speaking people of Jaffna.

Communalism in Jaffna

But the non-Vellalas were not admitted into the Vellala-dominated Jaffna society. The non-Vellalas were pariahs, the outcasts, who were not quality Tamils.

The Vellalas who were in a commanding position to define and determine the political agenda, controlled events to feather their own nest. Jane Russell, in her penetrating study of communalism under the Donoughmore Constitution (1931 – 1947), documents how the Vellalas manipulated the system to keep the non-Vellalas out of the power elite.

The rise of G. G. Ponnambalam represents the radical towards communalism in Jaffna. He combined in his person the two most virulent forces: communalism and casteism. Both went hand in hand to shape the future of Jaffna politics. Ponnambalam’s virulent communal campaign laid the foundations for subsequent communal conflagration. He was no Tamil nationalist.

He was a rabid, casteist communalist – and both went together in Jaffna. It was his campaign that snuffed out the idealistic Youth Congress, a formidable force in the late twenties dedicated to combat communalism and casteism. The Gandhian Movement could not stand up to the overwhelming force of casteist communalism ignited by Ponnambalam.

Vellalalism and Ponnambalist communalism were inseparable. In fact, when the Tamils talk of ‘homeland,’ or ‘the heartland’ they mean the haven of the Vellalas and not the Tamils. To the Tamils outside the Vellala circles Jaffna was a hell-hole created by the Vellalas.

Though the Tamils boast about their ‘Tamilness’ the Jaffnaites were not even recognised as Tamils by the Dutch and British administrators. As documented in Burnside’s judgement, the word Tamil was not even used to describe the Jaffnaites by the colonial masters.

They were referred to as ‘Malabar’ because they were recruited as cheap labour from Malabar. Chief Justice Burnside’s reference is precise: “the Malabar inhabitants of the Province of Jaffna Patnam”. There is no reference to the Tamils at all.

Sri Lankan Tamils did not exist in the eyes of the world. Not until Sir Ponnambalam Arunachalam named them in the first census conducted in 1901.

The Vellalas embraced ‘Tamilness’ and ‘Tamil nationalism’ only when they found that Vellalalism had passed its use-by-date to win power in competitive electoral politics. Arumuka Navalar’s Vellala casteism had lost its divine status in the 20th century. It was no longer marketable as a political force to survive in post-Donoughmore politics.

Tamil nationalism was the last refuge of Vellala exploiters of the Tamil people. Nationalism replaced casteism. Twentieth century did not recognise casteism as a viable politi-

WHOEVER THEY MAY BE, MUST ONE AND ALL BE SUBJECT TO THE UNIVERSAL PROPOSITION OF LAW APPLICABLE TO THE WHOLE COLONY, THAT THE PEOPLE CANNOT TAKE THE LAW INTO THEIR OWN HANDS, AND SEEK TO ADMINISTER IT AFTER THE FASHION OF JUDGE LYNCH

cal force.

If the grandson of G. G. Ponnambalam dares to look back objectively he will realise that his grandfather never talked of two nations. The idea of Tamils as a separate nation, like the Muslims of India, was not in his political vocabulary. That came later with his junior, S. J. V. Chelvanayakam.

The truth is that Ponnambalam condemned any separatism. He, in fact, declared that federalism is bad for Ceylon and worse for the Tamils. So, when the grandson talks of two nations he is in reality mocking his grandfather. Besides, he is refusing blindly to accept the reality facing him. He cannot get a separate state without the consent of the international community.

Erik Solheim, the peace-maker, made it categorically clear that no nation in the world was willing to recognise the two-nation theory. He should know because he dealt with international actors who were vital for the survival of Prabhakaran, the low-caste hero of the high caste Vellalas.

Besides, the claim of a Tamil homeland has been debunked comprehensively by two eminent scholars: Prof. K.M.de Silva and Prof. G. H. Peiris. In their masterpieces they have provided irrefutable evidence to reject the homeland theory. The Tamil ideologues, on the contrary, are striving laboriously to construct theories that would be politically useful for separatism.

Vadukoddai Resolution

The officially accepted theory for Eelam was presented in the Vadukoddai Resolution which contains concoctions and distortions to claim that they were makers of history from the dawn of time. But Prof. K. Indrapala, the first Professor of history of the Jaffna University, wrote in his doctoral thesis that the Tamils established their first settlements only around the 10th century.

This is not the authorised version of history of the Vellalas. So, he had to leave the University in a hurry. Later he recanted and constructed a new theory to fit into the political agenda of the separatists. The Tamils are still searching history to confirm their claim in politics.

Finally, when the grandson contradicts his grandfather it exposes the credibility of both. Tamils have been floating in this dilemma of credibility. They do not know whether to believe the Vadukoddian history or Vadukoddian politics that led them all the way to Nandikadal.

The future of Tamils depends on coming down to earth from the homelands they build in the air and accept the reality of peaceful co-existence which is the only place available for all communities.

They must accept that the place occupied by the Tamils today, despite all its imperfections, is far, far superior to the place given to the oppressed Tamils by the casteist Vellalas or fascist Prabhakaranists.



Tissa Attanayake

BY MANJULA FERNANDO

The Samagi Jana Balawegaya National Organiser and one time UNP firebrand Tissa Attanayake said they call upon the UNP leadership to open a path to bring these two parties together heeding the call of the party supporters.

Adding that, 'the UNP leaders are still oblivious to the reality', Attanayake said they were ready to speak to a moderate leader who will succeed Ranil Wickremesinghe and salvage the great old party.

Q: The media reported that talks on a possible tie up between the UNP and the Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) ended without success. Are these efforts still on going?

A. There were no official talks between the SJB and the UNP to that effect but there were opinions expressed that these two parties must get together. Especially, UNP supporters and those who worked for SJB's recent election campaign were enthusiastic about this prospect. Public opinion is that we must merge, but I don't see a positive response from the UNP. It seems that the UNP leaders are yet to learn the bitter lesson although the voters spelt it out loud and clear at the last two elections.

If they realise the predicament they are currently in the talks would have been initiated from that end.

To have a broad alliance against the Government we must get the UNP supporters at the grassroots level back in our fold. We believe that, to come together, there are two options.

The people's blessings are with Sajith Premadasa, so he should be made the UNP leader. The other option would be to appoint a moderate leader to the UNP and let the two political forces reach a compromise and move forward.

But going by the developments so far, I don't think the UNP is still ready to reach a compromise, they have a very rigid attitude. According to information, the UNP is not going to appoint a new leader till January.

SJB has no issue with Ruwan becoming UNP leader

- Tissa Attanayake

is a person to whom we can relate to politically, we can consider that prospect - to begin a dialogue to join forces and work together.

Q: There is a rumour that MP Ruwan Wijewardena is going to succeed as the new Leader, that this is the wish of the present leader. If MP Wijewardene mounts to the top position of the green party are you willing to talk to him?

A. We don't have any issues with him. Of course, we are not certain if he has the maturity and experience to steer this noble party just yet but we are optimistic about him than of the other members who have joined the leadership fray. He has no allegations of engaging in 'dirty political-deals'.

But to lead a political party one must earn his place through sacrifice, skill and popularity. We are not sure if he matches this description. Besides Ranil Wickremesinghe must realise that this is not exactly the people's wish. Can he (Wijewardena) restore the past glory of the party?

In 1946, D.S.Senanayake established this party, and it has survived 74 long years.

This party was led by outstanding leaders. However, during the past 26 years, the party has crumbled under Ranil Wickremesinghe. Therefore, a vibrant leadership is the need of the hour. I'm not trying to undermine anyone but this is the reality.

Q: Ranil Wickremesinghe has not been charged with family bandyism. But now there is this allegation that he is favouring Ruwan Wijewardene as the next leader.

A. That is a puzzle even to us. From D.S. Senanayake, John Kotelawela, Dudley Senanayake, JRJ, R. Premadasa, D.B. Wijetunga and Ranil Wickremesinghe, none of these leaders was forced upon the party, the needs of the moment created them. Therefore, there can't be puppet leaders.

The people's wish to appoint Sajith Premadasa as the next leader was neglected, he became the presidential candidate due to the huge outcry by outspoken members and party loyalists. Later, they had to walk out of the UNP and contest the General Election. The UNP leaders are still oblivious to the reality.

Our re-merger will also give meaning to the 250,000 party loyal-

ists who voted for the UNP on August 5.

Q: Internal intelligence before the parliamentary election, must have surely pointed at this monumental defeat. Why didn't the UNP leadership realise the need to change strategies before the General Election?

A. We did warn the UNP about this fact. But they were blinded by the arrogance of a few individuals who misled the leader. Actually, the projections for the SJB too were lowered at the election. We expected 75 seats for the SJB. Our calculations for the UNP were four seats.

There were several reasons for this. First of all people realised that the UNP was working against the SJB and helping the Government camp. They tried to cancel our nominations. Even after the election, they attempted to annul our parliamentary seats.

Q: What is your stance on 20-A?

A. The SJB is rejecting the 20-A in toto because 19-A was passed with the consent of the entire Parliament minus one MP - Sarath Weerasekera. The objective was to give a human facet to the Executive President. It was a historic vote in the House where the Government parties and the opposition joined hands to enact this important piece of legislation.

It is true that it has certain flaws. We acknowledge that these flaws need correcting. For instance the functions of the independent commissions, the role of the commission members, the process of appointment - there are various allegations that these are flawed. What we must do is to remove technical glitches and strengthen these democratic institutions. and not repeal them altogether.

Therefore, we will support a 19+. The Government has twisted the people's mandate. The mandate was to strengthen democracy through Parliament. The argument that the President should retain the Defence Portfolio is also without basis. During Ranil Wickremesinghe's rule in 2001 the Defence Minister was Tilak Marapana.

The President is the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces, he has the authority to declare war and he is the Head of the Cabinet. The Head of the Security Council is also the President. The Minister has only an administrative role and will attend

TO HAVE A BROAD ALLIANCE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT WE MUST GET THE UNP SUPPORTERS AT THE GRASSROOTS LEVEL BACK IN OUR FOLD. WE BELIEVE THAT, TO COME TOGETHER, THERE ARE TWO OPTIONS. THE PEOPLE'S BLESSINGS ARE WITH SAJITH PREMADASA, SO HE SHOULD BE MADE THE UNP LEADER

to transfers and promotions.

Q: What will be your reaction to the 20-A?

A. We have already expressed our strongest protest against the move to abolish 19-A. We will definitely petition the Supreme Court within the next 14 days seeking a ruling against the enactment of the 20-A.

Secondly, in Parliament, the SJB will work against the 20-A being enacted, we will do our best to block it. We will also ensure a strong voice among civil society and like minded groups.

The civil society movement began at the Ven. Maduluwawe Sobhitha Thera statue in Kotte, last week.

The SJB will also launch a public lecture series to educate the masses on the dangers of the 20-A.

Q: There are rumours that Rishad Bathiudeen's party and the SLMC MPs were contemplating supporting the Government on the 20-A. This means the deprivation of a further six seats to the SJB.

A. We have no clear idea about this. The Government has been criticising Rishad and Hakeem. I would like to ask, how ethical is it for them to obtain the support of these MPs to get the 20-A passed in Parliament and consolidate their power.

The Government needs two thirds, that is 151 votes to get the 20-A Amendment passed. In a backdrop even the government ministers expressing opposition to the amendment, I don't think a few votes will do the trick for them.

Q: Some say the 19-A was a piece of legislation to empower Ranil Wickremesinghe who was the Prime Minister at the time from a different party than that of the President. Was it to balance power between the PM

and the President and not for any noble cause as claimed?

A. At the time of introducing the 19-A there was a huge social discourse that the excessive powers of the President must be pruned. Everyone in Parliament supported this view and all voted for it except one MP. Chandrika Kumaratunga in 1994 and Mahinda Rajapaksa in 2005 were voted in on a mandate to abolish the Executive Presidency. Ven. Sobhitha Thera's 'Just Society Movement' also supported the election of Maithripala Sirisena on this pledge.

This Amendment was made in response to a people's call. The President and the PM were in the same camp when they got elected, they did not represent different political objectives or different opinions. So, that argument is not valid. The intention was to prune the dictatorial powers of the President.

Q: How would you define your role in Parliament as the main opposition?

A. The SJB will fulfill the role of the opposition which is to vigorously fight for and represent the rights and the wishes of the masses. We will not be a traditional opposition, we will be very constructive in our role.

As a first step we have already completed naming members to Ministerial advisory committees. Our numbers in Parliament will not matter, we will make all efforts to be a robust opposition.

I remember at one time the opposition in the Parliament had only 18 MPs. But as a single unit the SJB has 54 MPs, this is in addition to the JVP and ITAK members whom we would not hesitate to work with in an hour of need. Sajith Premadasa as the Opposition Leader has to work with them to play an effective role.

Impact of media on national issues

by Hemantha Kulatunga

"If I had to choose between 'a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I would not hesitate to prefer the latter' Thomas Jefferson - 1787

The media, widely considered fourth estate in the political system, after the executive, legislature, and judiciary, plays a pivotal role in ensuring the flow of information to the public on social, economic, and political activities. As a non-specialist and a countryman, this writer believes the Sri Lankan society, irrespective of race, religion, caste, class, or any other difference, immensely trusts media involvement in every national or social issue concerning the public.

Main media

However, the extensively literate and intelligent masses count on the mainstream media for credible information, as against the news on the prevailing social media platforms. Although the social media information flow is relatively faster than the print and electronic media, society looks forward to the confirmation of the main media to consider the facts on any hot news published in the alternative media. Although the media is placed in fourth position, it is a most powerful tool in the country as it ensures the transparency of the first three key systems.

The media presents to the public the correct side of information and make them aware of important national issues and how the three important entities perform. The influence of the media on public opinion

is so enormous that it is capable of making complete changes in the political arena or any other sphere concerning public issues. The public is aware that the media leaves no stone unturned in disclosing corruption, malpractice, waste, pollution, and so forth. In Sri Lanka the mainstream media undoubtedly maintain a high level of credibility in the eyes of the masses.

On the subject of media ethics, most mainstream media institutions follow self-made regulations and maintain a satisfactorily high level of discipline. However, the same cannot be said of the current social media application, referred to now as the 'fifth estate', in communicating information to society. It is also known as Citizen Journalism, where anyone can upload their own thoughts or ideas onto the internet. Experts say the bulk of information or news in this medium is unsubstantiated, unverified, and without any authenticity.

The irony is that there is no proper regulatory mechanism to control these websites, Facebook pages, video presentations, and others. Arbitrary personal opinions, mudslinging, maliciously targeted misinformation, slander, and other forms of gross misconduct are common in the social media domain.

These rogue elements damage the goodwill of sensible websites. The main threat is that a certain segment of the population accepts whatever appears in these sites as the truth, thus making a permanent impression depending on the type of news. In recent years, the internet has become a considerably large part of discussions on media ethics. It is virtually impossible to police everything that finds its way to the internet. The impact of the facts reported through social media can be tremendous with the availability of 10.1 million internet users,

6.4 million social media users, and 31.8 million mobile connections in Sri Lanka.

Legal situation

Even the legal situation on judicial proceedings that can be taken against misinformation is somewhat complicated according to experts. Sri Lanka Police Cybercrime Unit is currently delivering a credible service to the community although it is debatable whether they have adequate resources and facilities to perform efficiently and effectively.

The Sri Lankan citizenry is more knowledgeable, compared to the other countries in the region, Hence, public response to national issues is also more intense.

Media performance, particularly the mainstream, is admired and appreciated by the masses; people trust media information implicitly. The impact of the media on society is enormous and on any national issue or crisis, public involvement is hugely controlled by the media.

Therefore, ethical and responsible reporting is imperative. One of the main subjects currently discussed is the media's significant contribution to environmental protection. In some cases, in the absence of the media, the damage inflicted could have been immeasurable.

The country as a whole is grateful to the media for their pro-active involvement in environmental issues. Wrong-doers and other anti-social elements, allegedly protected by politicians think twice before engaging in nefarious environment-related



dealings due to the constant and relentless presence of the media. In this worthy move, both mainstream and alternative media work hand in hand to combat willful environment destruction. The Sri Lankan media plays an important role in society as a watchdog in the effort to eradicate drug-related trade and crime.

The Government's battle against the drug menace, spearheaded by Major General (retd.) Kamal Gunaratne is amply supported by all factions of the media. Information provided to the public by the media is highly appreciated by the entire population.

The media in unison influenced their audiences by feeding information to commence a dialogue in society as well as a political debate to get the political leadership to make timely and appropriate decisions.

For example, the strong media coverage on the escalating and dangerously damaging heroin-related

crimes played an effective role in creating a general interest in society. As per the Police sources, most of the organised criminal activities are drug-related. However, the conspicuous drawback is the inadequate emphasis on the existing punishments for drug-related offences. Such information could warn and probably scare possible newcomers.

Vigorous and emphatic media coverage in relation to illicit drug use and trade can have multifarious effects on the youth, particularly students in upper Grades in schools who are constantly targeted by the drug mafia.

Media engagement in politics or politicians is another important factor in Sri Lanka. Without the media's presence, both mainstream and digital, politicians would be playing a different role altogether as per the past experiences of the public. The news media effectively serves

as the eyes and ears of the public. Through media reporting, the public gets real-time information on the functioning and viewpoints of politicians, both in the Government and the Opposition. Media holds politicians accountable to the public and educates the public to make assessments on the performance of each one of them.

New trend

The new trend is that comparatively only a few voters are ardently attached to politicians and political parties.

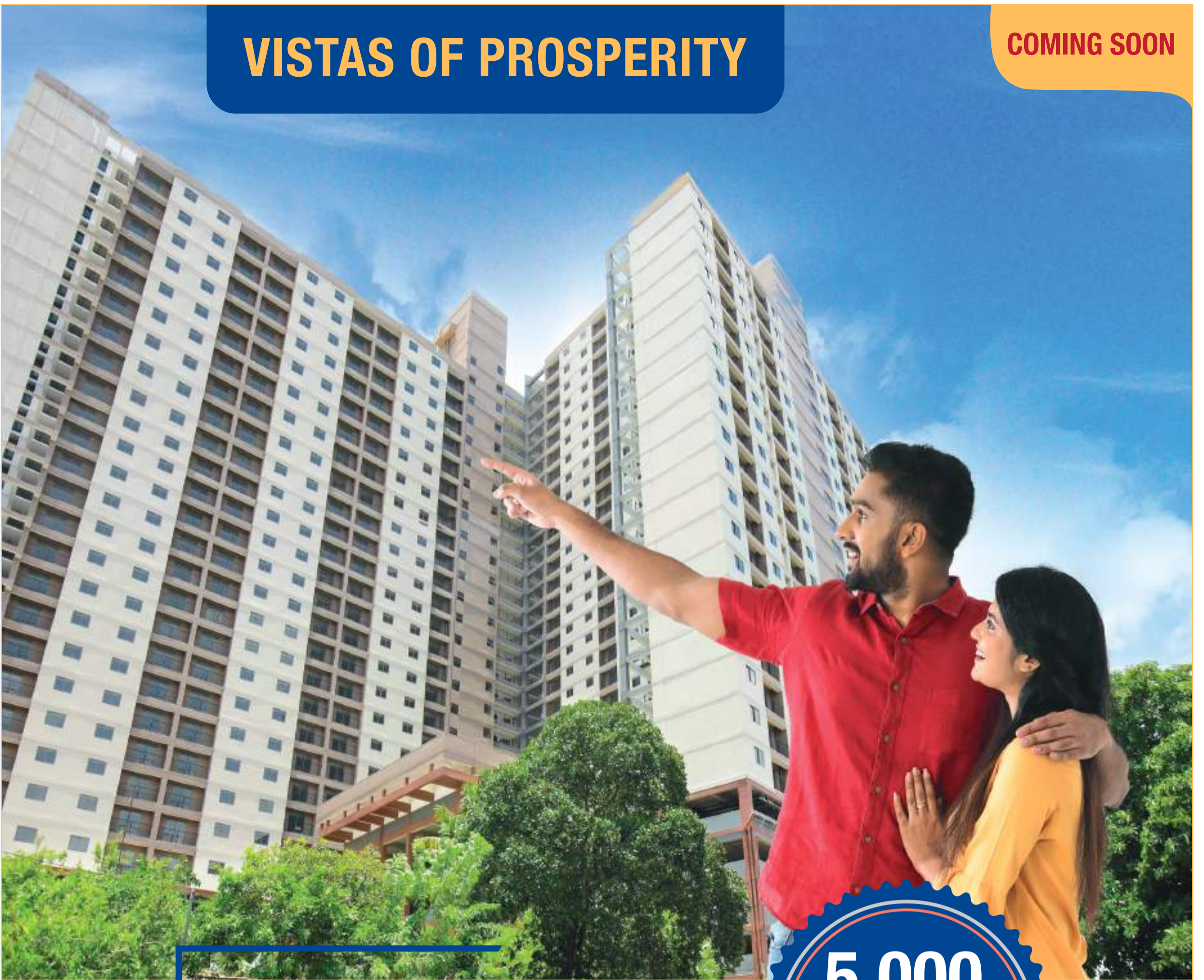
This fact was clearly evident at the last election where people voted based on the best interest of the country rather than petty political views. They have noticeably selected candidates predominantly based on the information provided by the media.

Overall, the media has a huge impact on shaping public opinion, and the ability to frame the issues of the day. They can persuade, manipulate, induce, and adjust public opinion, occasionally overnight, in different ways depending on the objective. In the recent past there were countless examples where positive media influence paid rich dividends to the public. The media is also at times blamed for being biased in political issues. However, this is a common phenomenon throughout the world, irrespective of whether the country is developing or developed.

The common people wake up with news and act based on the information provided by the media to make decisions in their day-to-day lives. Educating the masses about their rights, morals, and social responsibilities is an important function of the media.

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CA interim order on Premalal Jayasekera case

The Court of Appeal last Monday (7) issued an interim order directing the Prison Authorities to forthwith allow Premalal Jayasekera, who came second in the Ratnapura District SLPP preferential list to attend Parliament.

Jayasekera who was sentenced to death over a fatal shooting that took place in 2015 had filed a writ petition in the Court of Appeal seeking an interim order directing the prison authorities to allow him to attend Parliament. A two-judge-bench of the Court of Appeal comprising Justice (President) A.H.M.D. Nawaz and Justice Sobhitha Rajakaruna decided to grant the interim order permitting the petitioner to attend Parliament, since the election of the petitioner as a MP has not been invalidated so far. President's Counsel Romesh de Silva

appearing for Jayasekera had argued that the petitioner must be permitted to attend sittings of Parliament as Section 331(4) of the Code of Criminal Procedure Act, No.15 of 1979 specifically provides that where an appeal has been lodged against a conviction, the execution of the sentence should be stayed and that the person would be held in remand custody. The Court of Appeal held that the petitioner would be clothed with all the rights of an elected Member of Parliament, until his election is set aside by a court of competent jurisdiction. The Court is not going to look into the validity or invalidity of his election or any other disqualification as what is sought to be challenged on grounds known to administrative law is the letter issued by the Commissioner of Prisons', Justice Nawaz said.

IN THE COURT OF APPEAL OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA



Premalal Jayasekera takes oaths as an MP before the Speaker on September 8.

Pic: Sulochana Gamage

Decided on : 7.9.2020

A.H.M.D. Nawaz, J. (P/CA)

This application for judicial review seeks to quash in the main a "decision" made by the Commissioner of Prisons (the 1st Respondent) in this case on 28th August 2020, in regard to the Petitioner Premalal Jayasekera. This decision is a sequel to a request made on behalf of the said Premalal Jayasekera by his Attorneys-at-Law that he be permitted to attend Parliamentary sessions.

A relevant extract of the decision sought to be quashed by a writ of certiorari conveys, inter alia, the following:-

".....The Hon. Attorney General had instructed the Secretary of the Ministry with a copy to me by his letter AG/21/2020 dated 19th August 2020 that the request made by the Condemned Appellant Prisoner, Premalal Jayasekera could not be permitted.

I herewith kindly inform that Condemned Appellant Prisoner, Premalal Jayasekera was not permitted to attend parliamentary sessions based on the above instructions."(sic)

T.I. Uduwara
Commissioner of Prisons
For Commissioner General of Prisons"

It is quite clear that the 1st Respondent (Commissioner General of Prisons) prevents the Petitioner who has been elected as a Member of Parliament from the electoral district of Ratnapura, from attending Parliament solely on the basis of instructions received from the Hon. Attorney-General. Before I consider the import of this letter for purposes of administrative law and justice and whether this letter is amenable to a writ of certiorari, let me begin from some trite observations. In the eponymous Civil Service Union (CISU) case (1984) 3 All E.R.935 at 949 Lord Diplock said that: "To qualify as a subject for judicial review {a} decision must have consequences which affect some personeither (a) by altering rights or obligations of that person.....or (b) by depriving him of some benefit or advantage which.....he can legitimately expect.....". Similarly, Professor Wade in 1988 wrote of "whether some issue is being determined to prejudice in law". Wade's Administrative Law (6th Ed) p 638. Since the 7th Edition (1994), Wade and Forsyth have omitted reference to the words "in law".

The new formulation "the question is whether some issue is being determined to some person's prejudice" that began in the 7th Edition continues to date-see page 518 of Wade & Forsyth Administrative Law (11th Edition, 2014). So the question that arises in these proceedings is whether the Commissioner of Prisons is competent to prevent the Petitioner from attending Parliament on the instructions so received by him from the Attorney-General and a further question that arises is whether the "decision" that he conveyed is a decision at all provided he is empowered to take the decision.

I bear in mind that I am not called upon to decide the issue immanent in this application forthwith as the question that repays my attention at this threshold stage is whether notice should issue or not. In order to determine the question of notice I also wish to juxtapose the scope of the petition and affidavit before this Court vis-à-vis the relief sought by the Petitioner.

The Petitioner makes the prayer that he be allowed to attend Parliament. The main relief sought is to have the letter preventing him from attending Parliament quashed. Allied to this is the interim order which invokes an order on the 1st and 2nd Respondents to forthwith allow and enable him to attend Parliament.

It would suffice for purposes

of these two remedies and as I said before in CA/Writ/216/2020, CA/Writ/217/2020, CA/Writ/218/2020, CA/Writ/221/2020 and CA/Writ/222/2020 (CA minutes of 25.08.2020), an application for judicial review at the stage of notice demands that a court seized of an application for notice should consider whether the case is suitable for full investigation at a hearing at which all parties have been given notice-see R v. Secretary of State for Home Department exp Begum (1990) COD 107. The Court will take into account the question whether the application for notice relates to a matter that ought to be resolved after full argument.

In other words, at the notice stage, the court considers whether the matter brought before it is arguable. That entails the conclusion that notice should not be granted if the application for judicial review is unarguable-see R v. Legal Aid Board exp Hughes (1993) 3 Admin LR 623 at 628D in which Lord Donaldson MR held that Notice should be granted if an application is prima facie arguable. The permission judge needs to be satisfied that there is a proper basis for claiming judicial review, and it is wrong to grant notice without identifying an appropriate issue on which the case can properly proceed-see "Arguability Principles" by Michael Fordham QC in (2007) Judicial Review 12:4, 219-220.

As I now find upon a further survey, the modern approach to notice has also been set out in the following terms by Lords Bingham and Walker in Sharma v. Brown-Antoine (2006) UKPC 57; (2007) 1 WLR 780.

"The court will refuse leave to claim judicial review unless satisfied that there is an arguable ground for judicial review having a realistic prospect of success and not subject to a discretionary bar such as delay or an alternative remedy.... but arguability cannot be judged without reference to the nature and gravity of the issue to be argued. It is a test which is flexible in its application..... It is not enough that a case is potentially arguable."

Having thus set out the scope of the application which seeks a quashing order to invalidate the decision of the Commissioner General of Prisons vis-à-vis the remit of proceedings at this stage, I would pose the question whether the Petitioner raises a prima facie or arguable case before this Court.

The Petitioner contends that he contested the Parliamentary elections on 05th August 2020 and polled 142,037 votes in the Ratnapura District. On 31st July 2020 he was convicted inter alia of the offence of murder by the High Court of Ratnapura in Case bearing No. HCR 71/2016 and sentenced to death. On 04th August 2020 he caused to be filed a petition of appeal in respect of the aforesaid conviction and sentence. On 05th August 2020 parliamentary elections were held and he emerged second on Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna ticket.

Subsequent to the lodgement of the said appeal he is being held in remand at the Welikada prisons.

The Petitioner further states in his pleadings that though he made several requests to the 2nd Respondent and his officers to attend Parliament which had been summoned by His Excellency the President to meet on 20th August 2020, he was not permitted to do so.

If one looks at the correspondence in a chronological order, a former Attorney-General and President's Counsel Mr. Palitha Fernando wrote to the Attorney-General on 16th August 2020 urging that the Petitioner must be permitted to attend sittings of Parliament as Section 331(4) of the Code of Criminal Procedure Act, No.15 of 1979 (the Code) specifically provides that

where an appeal has been lodged against a conviction, the execution of the sentence should be stayed and that the person would be held in remand custody.

This letter further pinpoints that the period, served in remand custody, pending an appeal will not be considered as a period the person has served a sentence. This letter elicited a response from the Hon. Attorney-General who stated by his letter dated 17th August 2020 that clarifications have been sought from relevant authorities in respect of these matters.

Thereafter a communication has been sent by a firm of legal consultants to the Commissioner General of Prisons setting out the chronology of events and making a demand that the Petitioner be permitted to attend Parliament. It is in response to this communication that Mr. T.I. Uduwara, Commissioner of Prisons representing the Commissioner General of Prisons wrote to the legal consultants the letter dated 28th August 2020, which is being impugned before this Court as ultra vires, unlawful and void ab initio among several other grounds. Mr. Romesh de Silva, President's Counsel for the Petitioner heavily relied on Section 333 of the Code to argue that when an accused is sentenced to death, his execution is stayed and as such he cannot be classified as a person under a sentence of death.

He also submitted that since an accused upon whom a death sentence is passed is received into remand prison upon the acceptance of his appeal, he would not be serving a sentence of death and therefore the constitutional stipulation spelt out in Article 91 (1)(a) of the Constitution will not apply. In fact Article 91 (1)(a) of the Constitution sets out the following:-

"No person shall be qualified to be elected as a Member of Parliament or to sit and vote in Parliament-

(a) if he is or becomes subject to any of the disqualifications specified in Article 89;"

The relevant disqualification advanced by Mr. Nerin Pulle the learned Deputy Solicitor General is found in Article 89 (d) of the Constitution;

"No person shall be qualified to be an elected at an election of the president, or of the members of Parliament or to vote at any referendum, if he is subject to any of the following these qualifications, namely

(a).....
(b).....
(c).....

(d) if he is serving or has during the period of seven years immediately preceding completed serving of a sentence of imprisonment (by whatever name called) for a term not less than six months imposed after conviction by any court for an offence punishable with imprison-

ment for a term not less than two years or is under sentence of death or is serving or has during the period of seven years immediately preceding completed the serving of a sentence of imprisonment for a term not less than six months awarded in view of execution of such sentence :

Provided that if any person disqualified under this paragraph is granted a free pardon such disqualification shall cease from the date on which the pardon is granted."

In opposition to the arguments of Mr. Romesh de Silva, Mr. Nerin Pulle the learned Counsel for the State argued that if both Articles 89 (d) and 91 (1)(a) of the Constitution are sought to be interpreted in this manner, such an interpretative task lies within the domain of the Supreme Court by virtue of Article 125 (1) of the Constitution which mandates that the question must be referred to the Supreme Court forthwith.

Though the learned Deputy Solicitor General did not produce for perusal of this Court the opinion of the Attorney-General which the Commissioner General of Prisons refers to as an instruction in his decision, the pith and substance of the argument of Mr. Nerin Pulle is that the crux of the advice proffered by the Attorney-General is premised on Articles 89 (d) and 91 (1)(a) of the Constitution. Before I comment on these submissions, I would allude to the submissions of Mr. Uditha Egalahewa the learned President's Counsel who appeared for the Secretary General of Parliament Mr. Dhammika Dasanayake the 3rd Respondent to this application for judicial review.

The learned President's Counsel relied on Section 20 (3) of the Bail Act and contended that an accused who is convicted of murder and sentenced to death is received into a remand prison and as such he should be treated as a remand prisoner. In fact this submission was resonant of Section 333 (3) of the Code the essence of which is found in Section 20 (3) of the Bail Act. Mr. Uditha Egalahewa produced for perusal before this Court the letter written by the Secretary General of Parliament dated 28th August 2020, which makes a request of the Commissioner General of Prisons that the Petitioner be

brought before Parliament on 08th September 2020 in order for him to take his oaths as a Member of Parliament as he has been gazetted in terms of Section 62 of the Parliamentary Elections Act, No.1 of 1981 as an elected Member of Parliament.

Apart from these submissions, an arguable matter to my mind seems to be what is contained in P7, the so-called decision of the Commissioner of Prisons dated 28th August 2020. Though this was not raised by any counsel in their submissions, we deem it apposite

to raise it in this order as it is pivotal to the decision making process which administrative law seeks to police.

Provided the Commissioner General of Prisons had the power to make the "decision" as he did on the 28th of August 2020 in not permitting the Petitioner to attend Parliament, the quintessential question that arises is whether the Commissioner General of Prisons has taken a decision at all in the first instance having regard to the contents of his letter.

The letter raises an important issue whether the Petitioner has been stopped from attending Parliament, not by a decision of the Commissioner General of Prisons but solely on the instructions of the Hon. Attorney-General. The letter of the Commissioner General of Prisons whose extracts I have reproduced at an anterior part of this judgment specifically refers to instructions received from the Hon. Attorney-General.

In these circumstances the question also arises whether the Commissioner General of Prisons has only acted as conduit conveying the instructions of the Hon. Attorney-General. In such a situation, the arguable issue is whether the Commissioner General of Prisons has taken a decision at all on his own.

In administrative law, it is often the case that if a Respondent takes a decision by submitting to the wishes or instructions of a third party, the resulting decision is said to be ultra vires and void-see Wade and Forsyth page 269 of Administrative Law, 11th Edition. Therefore, this issue looms as large as life as this Court has to investigate whether there has been a surrender of discretion which is disavowed in administrative law. Thus this Court takes the view that this issue should be gone into only at the end of a final hearing. On a perusal of P7, the letter that is sought to be impugned in these proceedings, it is quite clear that the Commissioner General of Prisons states that it was because of the instructions of the Hon.

Attorney-General the request made by the Petitioner could not be permitted.

In any event this instruction that is sought to be placed before this court does overlook another important fact namely the election of this Petitioner has not been invalidated in competent proceedings. In a well known passage Lord Radcliffe said in the case of Smith v. East Elloe Rural District Council (1956) AC 736 at 769:-

"An order, even if not made in good faith, is still an act capable of legal consequences. It bears no brand of invalidity upon its forehead. Unless the necessary proceedings are taken at law to establish the cause of invalidity and to get it quashed or otherwise upset, it

will remain as effective for its ostensible purpose, as the most impeccable of orders."

Therefore, by a parity of reasoning unless the election of the Petitioner is set aside by a court of competent jurisdiction, the election remains valid and effectual and in any event, these are not proceedings in which the election of the Petitioner as an MP is sought to be invalidated.

In the circumstances, we would like to hear submissions on these questions and until the election is set aside by a court of competent jurisdiction, it is the view of this Court that the Petitioner would be clothed with all the rights of an elected Member of Parliament.

What is prohibited, on the argument of the learned Deputy Solicitor General, is sitting and voting in Parliament, provided this disqualification is held to be operative against this elected representative. This Court is not going to look into the validity or invalidity of his election or any other disqualification as what is sought to be challenged on grounds known to administrative law is the letter issued by the Commissioner of Prisons.

It has to be pointed out that Articles 89 and 91 do not prohibit the oath taking of an elected Member of Parliament when his election remains valid and unimpeached. If at all any declaration of invalidity can only be granted by a Court of competent jurisdiction and not by a letter written by the Commissioner General of Prisons. Even if oath taking was sought to be prohibited, should the legislature have provided for it expressly? As is axiomatic, one cannot presume prohibitions and prohibitions have to be expressly provided for and this is certainly another question that surfaces to the fore in this application.

The absence of any prohibition in the Constitution on oath taking appears to be an intentional omission and we would make the observation that as long as the election of the Petitioner remains valid and effectual, he cannot be prevented from attending Parliament and taking his oaths.

When we thus apply the provisions of the Constitution to the facts of this application before us, we are certainly not embarking on any interpretation of the Constitution and in any event if surrender of discretion and dictation are taken up as grounds of judicial review, no question of interpretation of constitution arises. So I take the firm view that arguable matters do arise in this case and notice has to issue perforce on these grounds.

Before I part with this order, let me make a few observations. Halbury's Laws of England, Parliament (Volume 78 (2018)) containing passages on Privileges of Parliament recites the following observations in paragraph 891 entitled "Claims to rights and privileges" The courts do not have jurisdiction to determine the rights of members to sit in either House of Parliament and have nothing to do with questions affecting their membership except in so far as it has been specially designated by law to act in such matters-Baron Mereworth v. Ministry of Justice [2011] EWHC 1589 (Ch).

So the question of sitting and voting does not arise before us and as the passage clearly indicates, it is the province of the speaker to deal with that matter or any other competent body. What is before us is a challenge to the letter P7 which prevents the Petitioner from attending Parliament and the House has exclusive rights to make judgments concerning the conduct of members and others in relation to Parliament-see Kimathi v. Foreign and Commonwealth Office [2017] EWHC 3379 (QB), [2017] All ER (D) 127 (Dec).

In a nutshell we have taken note of the important omission in the Constitutional provision namely, no person who has been elected as an MP has been prohibited from taking oaths which seems to be the first step in a sequence of events culminating in sitting and voting in Parliament, which subsequently takes place. In our view, we consider oath taking to be a deliberate omission. Therefore, since the election of this Member of Parliament has not been invalidated so far, the interim relief sought that he be permitted to attend Parliament has to be allowed, along with notice of this application.

What would subsequently take place is within the remit of the powers of the Speaker or anyone assigned by law for that purpose. In the circumstances, we issue notice on the Respondents and the interim order as prayed for in (d) and (e) of the prayer.

Dr. Ruvini Senasinghe appointed Medical Director



Dr Ruvini Senasinghe MB BS, MSc, MCH, DPM, MRC-Psych (Lon) consultant psychiatrist has been appointed medical director at the Cignet Hospital Godden Green in Kent from October 1.

She is a past pupil of Holy Family Convent, Kalutara and Devi Balika Vidyalaya Colombo. She graduated from the North Colombo Medical College and migrated to England in 1996. She is the wife of Dr Namal Senasinghe MBBS, DPM, FFARCS, FPPMCA Consultant in Pain Medicine at the London Pain Management Centre in Horton Place, Colombo and the mother of Dr Hasini and Dr Bhanuka in UK.

She is the daughter of the late Justice Ranjit Dheeraratne and Hema Dheeraratne.



Book on ecosystems

A book titled "Significant: Journey to Unique Ecosystems in Sri Lanka" authored by Central Environmental Authority (CEA) Research and Development acting Director Dr. Ajith R. Gunawardena will be launched at the CEA in Battaramulla on Thursday.

Dr. Gunawardena is a scientist working on Satellite Remote Sensing and Geographical Information

Systems (GIS).

The book, in Sinhala and English, is a descriptive compilation on some of the most significant ecosystems needing immediate conservation and management strategies. It is based on the author's experiences and observations.

"I observed that unique ecosystems outside conservation areas were fragile and facing numerous

threats by human activities. This booklet is designed to highlight the hidden ecological treasures and their natural beauty. It is important to educate the villagers who are living close to these locations and the local government authorities on impending dangers to the ecosystems. The book consists of details on lesser known but unique habitats," Dr Gunawardena said.



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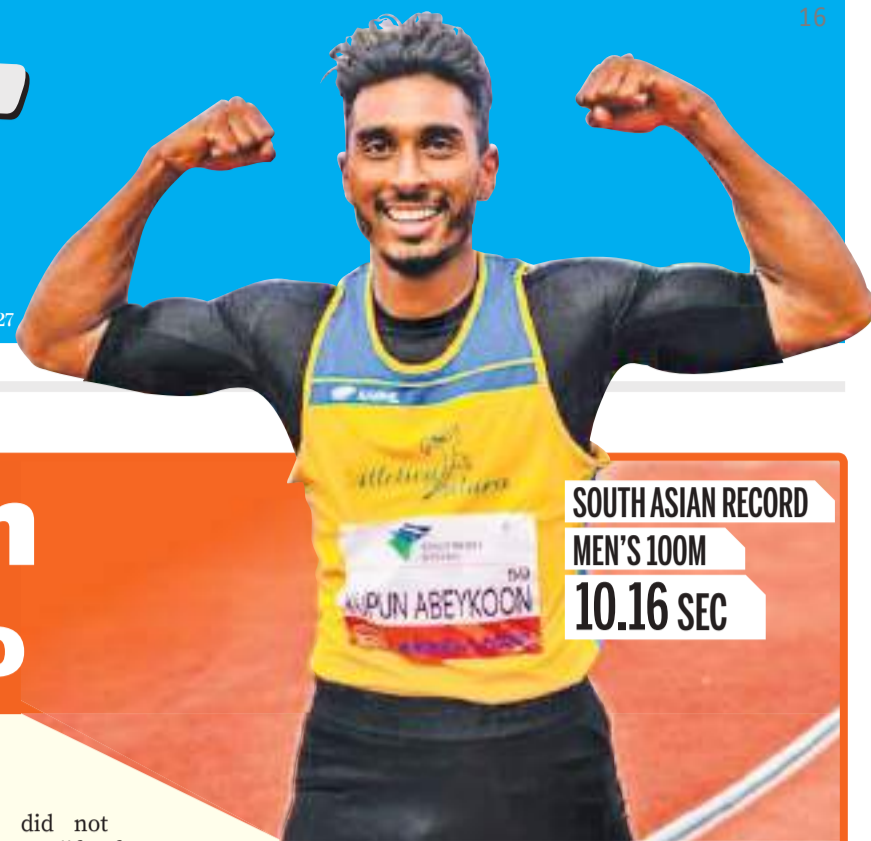


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SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

Sri Lankan bolt Abeykoon keeps raising the bar, eyes Tokyo

By
Dinesh Weerawansa

Sri Lanka's new sprint sensation Yupun Abeykoon targets to achieve Olympic qualifying standards in the coming year so he could represent his country at the 2021 Olympic Games to be held in Tokyo.

The 25-year old Italy-based Sri Lankan short distance runner surprised his countrymen when he had a dream run in Germany last week. Running in Anhalt 2020 European Championship, the Sri Lankan soldier returned a record timing of 10.16 seconds to win the men's 100m event.

He thus erased the previous South Asian mark of 10.22 seconds and also the Sri Lanka record of

10.26 held by Himasha Eashan at the 12th South Asian Games in India in 2016.

That accounted for a new Sri Lanka and South Asian record, giving fresh hopes for athletic fans. His elusive run was good enough to beat the hot favourite and German national champion Deniz Almas who clocked 10.18 seconds. The third place was won by Michael Pohl of Germany in 10.41.

In an exclusive telephone interview from Rome yesterday, Abeykoon said he is prepared to bridge the 0.11 second gap and gain a timing of 10.05 seconds which would give him automatic qualification for the men's 100m at the 2021 Olympics.

"I have cut down nearly 0.4 seconds in an year or so. Hence, I don't see a big difficulty in aiming for that goal," he said.

He said his head coach Licciardello, under whom he has been training for the past one year, was confident of doing a 10.15 this season. Asked whether he ever thought of becoming South Asia's fastest man, Abeykoon said his coach always thought that he could go for that target.

"But I didn't expect that to come here. Nevertheless, my coach has always put his bets on me - that I would improve up to 10.15 under," he said.

Even then, Abeykoon had not gone past 10.3 until last week's race. "Prior to last week's race, my personal best in the 100m was a 10.31 seconds recorded in Sri Lanka. In Italy, I only had done a 10.32 as my personnel best. So I am extremely happy with what I have achieved," he said.

But he is an open athlete who

welcomes competition. "I don't want this record to stand with me until I die. I broke my fellow countryman's record as well as the South Asian record. I would like to see this record being replaced more often. That will create completion that will help us to improve," he said.

"My immediate goals are to compete in at least three or four top grade meets in Europe so that I could get more opportunities to improve from the level that I have gained. Then in the early part of next season or even before that, I will go for my dream of achieving the Olympic qualifying mark of 10.05," he said.

Abeykoon, who has been living in Italy since he was five years old, was a member of the gold medal winning Sri Lanka's men's 4x100m relay team with a national record at the last South Asian Games. But he

did not qualify for the 100m individual event.

"When I broke the South Asian record, Sports and Youth Affairs Minister Namal Rajapaksa rang me to congratulate. He asked me about the facilities I need for better training. I will inform the Minister through Sri Lanka Athletics. He also paid a big tribute to Sri Lanka Athletics, especially its President Major General (Rtd) Palitha Fernando.

He thanked the Army for recruiting him in 2014. "I must thank Army Commander Lt. General Shavendra Silva who has given me all the support and encouragement. Special thanks to my regiment SLEME and all at the Army," he said. Prior to his South Asian Games

100m relay gold, he won a bronze medal at the World Military Games held in Mungyeong, South Korea in 2015.

Abeykoon Mudiyansele Yupun Priyadarshana Abeykoon was born in Negombo on December 31, 1994 and had his early education in Pannala. He also paid a tribute to his schools - Pannala National School and Joseph Vaz College, Wennappuwa for early support in his career.

It is said that his timing was the third best by an Asian, following the identical timing of 9.91 seconds by Su Bingtian (China) and Femi Ogunodo (Qatar) on two occasions each but three of them outside Asia.

STRANDED FOREIGNERS TO CONTEST SURFING

BY TB RAHAMAN

Several foreigners from some 2000 of them reported to be stranded in Sri Lanka due to the Covid-19 virus are expected to take part in the Open and National Surfing championship that will be held in Arugam Bay on September 26 and 27.

This championship is organized by Lanka Sportreizen and sponsored by Mobitel and Lin Asia Holdings that will have an Open event where the foreigners can participate and the Nationals where only local surfers will contest.

The Surfing Federation of Sri Lanka will also assist a great deal with the organizing.

"Most of these foreigners are in Sri Lanka enjoying the sun and surfing. Some of them will certainly enter to participate in this event. The waves in Arugam Bay are very active during these two months and ideal for surfing," said Tilak Weerasinghe the Chairman of Lanka Sportreizen at a media briefing held at the Sports Ministry Auditorium on Friday.

The Open event will be held on September 26 and the Nationals the next day.



Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa (left) and Minister of Tourism Prasanna Ranatunga talk to the media. Minister Rajapaksa became the proud father of his first born, a baby boy yesterday (Pic by Sulochana Gamage)

About 80 surfers will be allowed to participate at the Nationals as only four men will be sent out to surf at a time.

This event will be conducted to

coincide with the World Tourism Day that falls on September 27.

Weerasinghe also said that Sri Lanka had organized several surfing event where foreigners partici-

pated and planned with the World Surf League to conduct an event in September in the East which had to be abandoned due to the outbreak of Covid-19.

Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa said that he will generate revenue through sports and raise US\$ 1 billion in the next five years by way of merchandising, manufacturing sports equipment and sportswear for the international market.

He also said that water and adventure sports will attract tourists to the country and help boost the economy that has fallen to low levels in recent times while professionalism will be introduced.

"Some parents are afraid to send their children to participate in water sports and that it was a burden on their finances. This attitude should be reversed. Sportsmen in a family bring honour and revenue to the family," said Minister Rajapaksa.

Minister praises media

Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs Namal Rajapaksa praised the media for publishing sports stories even at a time when the sportsmen were indoors during the corona virus pandemic.

Tony Opatha's funeral today

The funeral of ex-Sri Lanka cricketer of the pre-Test era Tony Opatha will be held today at 3 pm at the general cemetery in Borella.

His remains now lie at Barney Raymond funeral Parlour in Borella. He was 73 years at the time of his death.

Sri Lanka's LPL to be launched in Hambantota

Sri Lanka Cricket has lined-up over 100 overseas players for the Lanka Premier League (LPL) that includes Chris Gayle, Darren Sammy, Darren Bravo, Shahid Afridi, Shakib-Al-Hasan, Ravi Bopara, Colin Munro, Munaf Patel and Vernon Philander.

It will be launched in what is fast becoming Sri Lanka's sporting capital Hambantota in the second week of November and player auctions are expected to be held on October 1. Built for the 2011 World Cup the Hambantota venue, which is known as the Mahinda Rajapaksa International Cricket Stadium, has been left to languish without action for several periods despite having a large cricket following in the region.

It will also serve as the home venue of the Galle franchise team.

Five franchise teams will contest the championship played on the lines of the Indian IPL and each side can buy six foreign players making up a total 30 international players who will join 65 local players.

The tournament will be run from November 14 to December 6 and the matches will be played in Dambulla, Pallekele and Hambantota.

The five teams will also have what is being called an iconic player each which could be the probable captain who will have a price value of Rs.12 million for the three-week show while the rest of the players will be auctioned.

Ex-sportsmen to be remembered at match

Former cricketers of Zahira College in Colombo have organized a cricket match in memory of their former legends Fazal Burah and MMK Namiz who excelled on the field at school and club level from 9 am at the College ground in Maradana today.



MMK Namiz

The match will be played for the Burah-Namiz Memorial Trophy.

Burah joined Zahira in 1983 after starting his academic career at St. Mary's College, Kegalle and excelled in cricket, rugby, soccer and athletics. He was a member of the College First XV rugby team as a fly half and centre three-quarter from 1984 to 1988 and was the vice-captain of the First XI cricket team in the 1986/87 season.



Fazal Burah

After leaving school he played for CH and FC for 15 years before representing Havelocks for a season and was in the junior National squads.

He worked at the Maharaja Organization as its Marketing and Administration Manager and starred in a few television dramas and big screen movies.

He sadly passed away on August 8, 2009 at a young age of 42 during a family outing in Kalutara. Namiz joined Zahira from Grade Five after an early education in Trincomalee and Beruwela.

He was outstanding sportsman at Zahira representing the school's cricket, rugby, soccer and athletic teams while leading them to win several titles. (AN)

HSBC marks Silver Year of Golf

Celebrating 25 years since sponsoring the first Stableford Golf Tournament, HSBC is ready to sponsor a weekend full of competitive golf with two back to back tournaments, the HSBC 5 Stabelford and HSBC Premier scheduled in Colombo at the RCGC from September 25 to 27.

Media Relations and Communications manager of HSBC Priscilla Labrooy said this year's tournaments are tipped to be more colourful, with an increasing number of golfers expected to participate in the Men's A, B and C divisions as well as the Ladies and Seniors categories for the prestigious HSBC Premier Challenge Trophy.

Sri Lanka awaits Bangladesh response to new tour proposals

BY ALTHAF NAWAZ

Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) is awaiting a response from the Bangladesh Cricket Board over a set of health guidelines it sent them before the three-Test series between the two countries can commence in October.

Ashley de Silva, the Chief Operating Officer of SLC, speaking to the Sunday Observer confirmed they received the stipulated health guidelines from the local health authorities which was communicated to the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) yesterday.

"We have got the guidelines from the Health Ministry that has been sent to the BCB today (yesterday). They have to study it thoroughly and give us their feedback as to how they will prepare themselves to embark on this tour," said De Silva.

One of the mandatory health re-



quirements is a 14-day quarantine period while the players will also have to undergo PCR tests and remain in their hotel to ensure the tour party is not affected by the virus.

Earlier the BCB had made a request for a 65-member contingent to arrive in the island which SLC rejected and granted permission for only its National team and officials comprising 30 members.

"We want to make sure that we eliminate the virus threat and support the government in a national cause. We will wait until we receive a feedback from BCB and then pursue the rest of the arrangements," said De Silva.

The Bangladesh team is scheduled to arrive on September 28 before the commencement of the series on October 23 at Pallekelle where all three Tests will be played.

Joint champs at T10 cricket

Sri Lanka Telecom CC and School of Cricket Panadura emerged Joint champions of the inaugural T10 Super League Cricket Tournament last Sunday. As many as 28 teams participated in this tournament.

School of Cricket Panadura beat SAGA Police SC by 8 wickets and Sri Lanka Telecom CC beat SAGA SC by 27 runs in the quarter finals.

School of Cricket Panadura beat Galle CC by 7 wickets and Sri Lanka Telecom CC beat United Brothers SC Balapitiya by 135 runs in the semi finals.

The Final ended with no-result due to heavy rain.

Nimanda Subasinghe right hand opener of Telecom CC made an unbeaten 123 in 35 balls with nine boundaries and 10 sixes against United Brothers SC in this tournament. (YK)

Sri Lanka tennis in danger of losing office and 17 courts

BY KASUN IRUGALBANDARA

The land leased out to the Sri Lanka Tennis Association (SLTA) for its headquarters and courts at Sir Marcus Fernando Mawatha, Colombo 7 is under threat of being reclaimed by the Colombo Municipal Council, the Sunday Observer learns.

The land was leased out on a tax basis for a few decades.

The SLTA headquarters is spread over nearly five acres of land which has a very high value and the CMC had attempted to take it back on a few previous occasions and failed.

Tennis was introduced to Sri Lanka over a hundred years ago by the Englishmen and established as an Association in 1915. It was first situated in Nuwara Eliya and then shifted to the present Sir Marcus Fernando Mawatha in Colombo 7.

A tennis official who did not want his identity revealed for obvious reasons said that big time businessmen are trying to strike a deal with the CMC to take over the land again.

"One deputy Mayor had tried to even demolish our premises several times but could not do so as we had a lease." This is not a fair and legitimate attempt. We will discuss this matter with the Sports Minister and

reach a solution," he said.

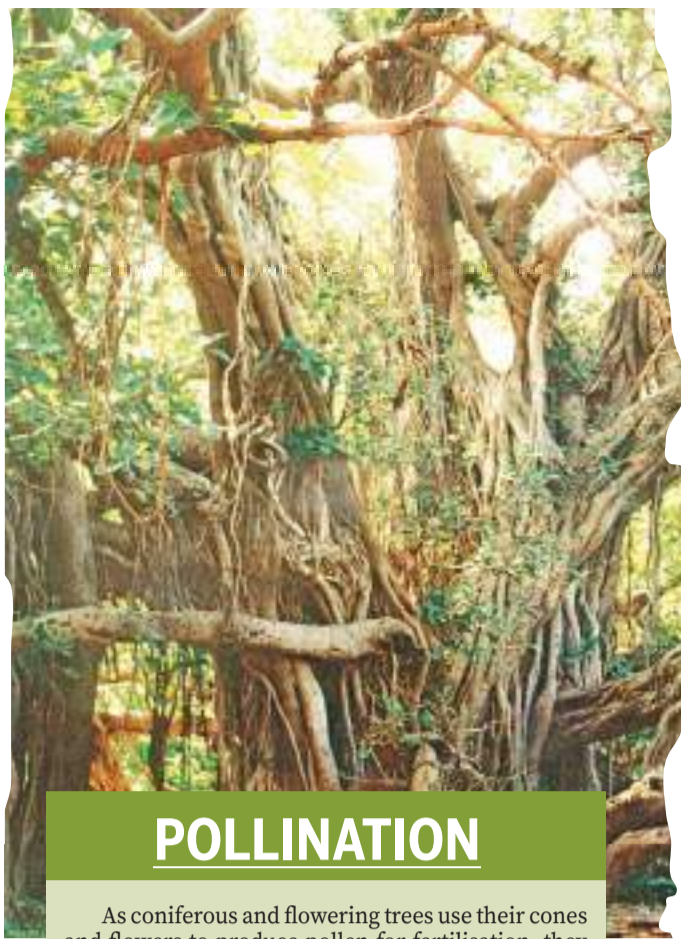
The CMC had also decided to increase the monthly rental of the venue from Rs.130,000 to more than double the amount.

"We maintain more than 17 courts here and to make each new court it cost us a minimum Rs.10 million. We have to spend Rs. 30 million to build new courts again. Do you think this is a fair decision at this moment", the official asked.

IMPACT

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SEPTEMBER 13, 2020



POLLINATION

As coniferous and flowering trees use their cones and flowers to produce pollen for fertilisation, they rely on wind, insects, birds and animals to spread their pollen. Trees pollinated by insects tend to produce large-grained, sticky pollen that will stick to the insects. Birds are attracted by brightly coloured flowers.

GERMINATION

Tree seed contains a plant embryo together with food store. When a seed finds a suitable location and if the conditions are right, it will germinate at once, by sending out a root which will instinctively grow downwards.

SEED DISPERSAL

Water is a great carrier of seeds and they have adopted different strategies to spread seeds. Certain trees wrap their seeds inside an appetising fruit so that animals will take away and eat the fruit and spit out the seeds, or so that both seed and fruit will be eaten and passed through the animal's digestive system. The same applies to birds when small berries or seeds inside palatable fruits such as papaya attract them.

I have always been attracted by trees from my childhood, wading through them, pausing to marvel at their majesty whether in Sri Lanka or abroad getting lost in the woods, and watching the sun peep through them has left a lasting impression in my life. As I grew up, I honoured them lyrically in hundreds of published poems as no other and went on to write and publish a book titled THE SPLENDOR OF TREES, in all about Sri Lankan trees, well received

by critics. Today, I have turned around to pay homage to four selected trees from around the world that have fascinated me. They are gorgeous and enchanting as you can see.

A SLOW-GROWING TREE, THE COAST REDWOOD CAN REACH NOT ONLY GREAT HEIGHT BUT ALSO GREAT AGE, BEING ABLE TO LIVE FOR OVER 2,000 YEARS

COAST REDWOOD

The world's tallest living tree, nicknamed the 'Stratosphere Giant' is a majestic coast redwood growing in California, which in 2004 measured 112.8m (370ft). Its precise location remains a secret in order to protect the tree. A slow-growing tree, the coast redwood can reach not only great height but also great age, being able to live for over 2,000 years. The thick, tannin-rich bark protects the coastal redwoods from insects and also makes them resistant to forest fire. Coastal redwood timber, however, was valued for its lightness and beauty and intensive logging during the nineteenth century saw the destruction of many old-growth redwoods. Today these long-lived giants of the natural world are found only on a narrow strip of land in America, restricted to 72 groves on the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada, California.

SUGAR MAPLE

North America's largest maple is famous as the source of maple syrup, which is made from the sap of this large, attractive tree. It is Canada's national tree, with a bright red maple leaf adorning the country's flag. Tapping the maple for its sap was a process known to the Native Americans and subsequently the North American settlers. The maple tree can withstand the process of tapping, in which gallons of its sap are drained away. The tapping process takes place during late winter to early spring and one tree can produce several gallons. However, 182 litres (40 gallons) of sap are needed to produce 4.5 litres (1 gallon) of maple syrup, hence its high cost. In addition to its valuable sap, the sugar maple is prized for its fine timber. With its striking autumn colours, it is also planted in parks and gardens for ornamental reasons.



THE WONDER OF TREES

By
Gwen Herat



There would never be a world without trees nor human beings without them; perhaps deserts with their sand dunes unkind to man and environment. Ever since Eve ate the forbidden fruit of a tree, we are known to have had trees by pollination, self-propagation, seed-dispersal, germination, and some trees being able to reproduce through suckering which is a process that surface roots send up sprouts that eventually grow into new trees.

All these trees are untouched by man in their growth and reproduction. We know that a tree's primary function is to grow and reproduce. Central to tree production are cones and flowers. Cones are the reproductive systems of conifer trees and are gymnosperms or seed plants whose seed is not fully enclosed within an ovary. Angiosperms technically mean plants whose seeds are completely enclosed within the angiosperm's reproductive system. In the plant kingdom, angiosperms are far more prevalent than gymnosperms; there are over 50 more species of flowering trees than of coniferous trees.

BANYAN

Native to India and South East Asia, the distinctive-looking, long-lived banyan tree is a sacred tree in both Hinduism and Buddhism and is India's national tree. The banyan tree starts life as an epiphyte, developing aerial roots that become accessory trunks, and often reaching a great size and covering large areas of ground. The world's largest banyan tree, in Calcutta's Botanical Gardens, covers some 1.6 hectares (4 acres) of land. Because of its characteristic, expanding branches, it is a symbol of eternal life. In South Asian villages, large banyan trees, providing much needed shade, were often a meeting place for villagers. The popular name comes about because of the 'banian', the Hindu traders wore, who set up their stalls in the shelter of these shady trees.



ALL THESE TREES ARE UNTOUCHED BY MAN IN THEIR GROWTH AND REPRODUCTION

THE WORLD'S LARGEST BANYAN TREE, IN CALCUTTA'S BOTANICAL GARDENS, COVERS SOME 1.6 HECTARES (4 ACRES) OF LAND. BECAUSE OF ITS CHARACTERISTIC, EXPANDING BRANCHES, IT IS A SYMBOL OF ETERNAL LIFE. IN SOUTH ASIAN VILLAGES, LARGE BANYAN TREES, PROVIDING MUCH NEEDED SHADE, WERE OFTEN A MEETING PLACE FOR VILLAGERS

PECAN

A member of the of the hickory family native to North America's southern states, the pecan tree is USA's best-known native nut. The name pecan comes from the Algonquin Indian paccan. The kernel of the nut, housed in a characteristic smooth, red-brown, thin shell, resembles that of a walnut, but has a sweeter, milder, buttery flavour. A significant breakthrough in cultivating pecans came about in 1845 when Antoine, an African-American slave gardener, successfully grafted wild pecans onto cultivated stock, increasing productivity.

The commercial cultivation of pecans began in North America in the 1880s and there are now hundreds of varieties. Today, the USA produces between 80-95 percent of the world's pecan crop, though it is also cultivated in other countries, including Australia and South Africa. The nuts are much used in confectionery and desserts, most famously in pecan pie.

BASL Chief on procedure to arrest and remand suspects

By
Aanya
Wipulasena



“The media has a huge responsibility in educating the public of a nation. Accurate reporting and information relating to factual incidents must be done correctly by the media,” said President of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka PC Kalinga Indatissa.

He said that even at this age of technology, people place a lot of reliance on what is reported in the media. Therefore, it is essential that all media personnel are properly trained in the reporting of legal matters.

Q. In your experience what are the key issues you have seen in media reportage of legal matters?

A. There is no proper and adequate training provided to journalists in this field. Often, they would pick up the facts of a case from a lawyer representing one of the parties in a case and report it as indicated. This practice has to stop. First, the ethical rules pertaining to the legal profession indicate that lawyers cannot advertise themselves.

In my opinion, giving a voice cut in respect of a case where a lawyer represents a particular party raises ethical concerns. On the other hand, lawyers and journalists have to be extremely careful on matters pending before a court.

The ‘sub judge rule’ mandates that nobody can speak about a matter pending in court. Of course, journalists are free to report the facts of a case without expressing opinions in respect of judicial orders. Lawyers representing a party are precluded from com-



menting upon or expressing opinions on the matter before court.

Sometimes, it is common to see headlines of certain articles containing words which are out of context. This leads to a problem as the contents of the article are not compatible with the headline.

Q. There seems to be a grey area when it comes to the arrest and the remand of a person. Can you shed some light on this subject?

A. One of the areas where the public are not informed of the correct legal position is the area relating to arrests and remanding of persons. When persons are arrested and granted bail, there have been instances where the general public debates whether the release of such person on bail is legal or not. The commencing point of the criminal justice system is when a complaint is

recorded at a police station. There are two types of complainants, in the first category, the alleged offenders may be known and may have been arrested by the police after recording the complaint. In the second category, the offender may be unknown or he may not have been arrested when the police reports the facts to court.

Whenever a complaint is received, a criminal investigation begins. When a suspect is arrested, the police are required to report the facts to court and produce the suspect in court. The arresting of a person involves the personal liberty of an individual. The personal freedom of every citizen is guaranteed by the Constitution and any deprivation of such personal liberty can take place only within the law. Article 13(1) specifies that ‘no person shall be arrested’ contrary to the procedure established by law.

Q. How can a person be arrested

as mentioned in the Legal system?

A. Arresting a person is discussed under the legal system in two ways. There are cognisable offences where a person may be arrested by a police officer without a warrant, whereas in non-cognisable offences a warrant is required for the arresting of the person.

In the case of offences where a police officer may arrest without a warrant a discretion is placed on the investigating police officer. Such an arrest may be made either on a credible information, a reasonable suspicion or a reasonable complaint. Wherever the concept of reasonable suspicion is involved, the arresting officer must form that suspicion in his mind. Hence, investigating police officers should bear this fact in mind at the point of arrest.

Q. What are the grounds on which a remand order can be given?

A. When a person is produced before court, the initial question the court has to answer is whether a suspect should be released on bail or whether he should be remanded. Bail and remand are governed by the Bail Act 1997. In terms of this law, the rule in the Bail Act is that suspects should be granted bail wherever possible.

This is a recognition of the constitutional provision relating to freedom of individuals and the presumption of innocence which is a hallmark under our legal system. Judges are guided by this principle which is contained in the Bail Act.

Accordingly, a person can be remanded only in certain circumstances, as spelled out in section 14 of the Bail Act. The primary purpose of bail is to ensure that the accused would stand the trial and attend court hearings. The grounds upon which a remand order may be made depend on:

- Whether the suspect would interfere with the witnesses
- Whether he would obstruct the course of justice
- Whether he would not appear to stand this inquiry or trial
- Whether he would commit further offences while on bail
- Whether there is public reaction in respect of the offence which would give rise to public disquiet

When you consider the above reasons, it is evident that the purpose of remanding is not to punish the offender but to facilitate the investigation. It is relevant to note that the previous conduct of the individual would matter a great deal in making an order for remand.

For example, if the suspect does not have a permanent place of residence or changes his residence from time to time, he could be remanded

on the first ground. Similarly, if the suspect has control over the witnesses or access to evidence and where investigations have not been concluded there is a likelihood that he could influence the witnesses or tamper with the evidence or in such circumstances remand order may be justifiable under the second law. Similarly, if the previous conduct of the suspect discloses that he has been a habitual offender he could be remanded under the fourth law.

The fifth ground of ‘public disquiet’ means the offence is grave and the public at large would react to the offence resulting in a public disquiet.

This would arise where the mechanism adopted to create the offence involves cruelty, unacceptable violence or similar ground. On many occasions, there have been instances where people stand close to a courthouse holding placards requesting the remand of persons.

In my view, this is not ‘public disquiet’ that the law speaks of. What is envisaged as public disquiet in this section would be a circumstance where there is an actual effect on the public. In other words, where the conscience of the public suffers a shock.

Q. What is your advice to journalists reporting legal issues in Sri Lanka?

A. Very often, some of the headlines in newspaper articles convey a wrong impression on orders made by learned Judges. It is an established rule that a remand order cannot be punitive or operate as a punishment as stated before, the only purpose of remanding a person is to facilitate an investigation. Hence, a complete understanding of the law is necessary in reporting matters pertaining to arrests.

Prof Prabath Weerasinghe’s team gets Japanese patent

BY BENJAMIN JEGANATHAN

Sri Lankan Professor Prabath Weerasinghe, a visiting Professor of the International University of Japan, hits a milestone with a landmark in computing through his Japanese patent for Build Angle-Automated Enterprise Resource Planning System based on the superconcrete mobile plant and concrete plant.

His innovation is based on language support, service area identification and faction alert that helped vehicle drivers in Japan to find roads free from snow in advance.

His computing publications since 2010 were the stepping stones



of his success and many were published in international journals in computing discipline. He is also a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) and

the Association of Computing Machinery (ACM).

Computer Systems Engineering, Software Engineering, Control Engineering, Information Systems,

Software Architecture, Computer Architecture, Human Computer Interaction, Machine Learning, Robotics and Artificial Intelligence include a few of his research areas.

Prof Weerasinghe said Japan as the country with the most efficient civil engineering operations prompted his innovations.

He said that there wasn’t a scientific mechanism to transport concrete mixes to the destinations on time in Japan.

“I have been contemplating on this and the result was the invention of the BuildAngle-Automated Enterprise Resource Planning System,” he said.

National Audit Office commends SP state bodies

MAHINDA P. LIYANAGE
(GALLE CENTRAL SPECIAL
CORRESPONDENT)

Financial statements for 2019 of seven state institutions of the Southern Provincial Council have been asserted with “Clear Opinion” in reviewing the account declarations by the National Audit Office.

A Clear Opinion or an Unmodified Opinion is an independent auditor’s judgment that an institution’s financial statements are properly and correctly presented, without any identified exceptions, and in compliance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

The seven provincial state institutions which were awarded the certification include Southern Province

Governor’s Secretariat, Provincial Council Secretariat, Provincial Fisheries Ministry, Provincial Planning Secretariat, Provincial Internal Audit Department, Welivitiya Divitura Pradeshiya Sabha and Cultural Fund of Provincial Cultural and Art Affairs Ministry.

The institutions were felicitated at a function at the Southern Province Chief Secretariat under the patronage of Southern Province Governor Dr. Willie Gamage.

The heads of the institutions and departments were awarded certificates of commendation.

Southern Province Chief Secretary R.C.De Zoysa, Assistant Auditor of National Audit Office M.K.D.Renuka Welivitiya and officials of the Provincial Council participated.

‘Working Together to Prevent Suicide’

BY GAMINI C. KUMARA

Not so long ago, I came across a gentleman living in my area, who is a teacher by profession. His wife is also a teacher. Unfortunately, she was afflicted with severe depression and had been under medical treatment for some time. Having suffered for a few months, she had finally decided to commit suicide leaving a short note, intended for her doctor. The gentleman was kind enough to show me the note, written in Sinhala.

It read - ‘Please doctor.. treat me soon, I do not know what is happening to me..I do not feel like doing anything.. My head is burning and hurting.. Sometimes, I feel like taking my own life..’

These were her final words, manifesting her suicidal behaviour. These are the suicidal thoughts of a depressed person. Having written the note, she made her final decision to depart this life, leaving her beloved husband and a little child. Indeed, they were a wealthy and happy family according to the information received.

The reason why I decided to write about this sad occurrence is that ‘World Suicide Prevention Day’ (WSPD) falls in September. Every year, this day is observed on September 10 with a different theme.

This year (2020) the theme was the same as last year - ‘Working Together to Prevent Suicide’. The purpose of declaring a separate day for Suicide Pre-

vention is to make global awareness on the prevention of suicide which has today become the number one cause for deaths in the world.

The cause for the ill-fated, untimely death of the young woman was ‘depression’. A person suffering from this grave mental condition would find it hard to escape death if left untreated, but in modern medical science, there are effective treatments for depressive conditions. Hence, there’s no need to end precious life. If a depressed person follows proper medication and psychological counselling that person would be able to lead a happy life without resorting to the only final alternative - death. Suicide is an intentional act of killing oneself. If a person says he is fed up with living any more or feels like killing himself that person would surely attempt suicide. People tend to do so due to various reasons or perhaps, for no apparent reason - either psychological or psycho-social.

However, according to psychologists, most people who attempt to kill themselves are thought to be afflicted with some kind of acute mental disorder, and those who are highly depressed attempt suicide.

Depression is considered as one of the main causes that lead to an act of suicide.

It is a serious mental disorder which might force to end one’s life. Many are the depressed who have thus far ended or are continuing to end their lives or are living with it. In Sri Lanka, there has been a sharp rise in



the number of suicides over the past few years. Sri Lanka is ranked one of the countries in the world with a high rate of suicide, apart from countries such as Guyana, North and South Korea, Lithuania, Mozambique, India, Nepal, Tanzania, Burundi and South Sudan where the rates of suicide are much higher. In view of WHO’s statistics, it is indeed regrettable as suicides are on the increase as never before.

There have been a series of suicidal incidents in the country. Among them are a few students who got higher grades at the exams while there were some who had failed their exams. The death of a female student who got 9 As

at the GCE O/Level exam still remains a mystery. Her dead body was found on the rail track. Nobody knows the exact cause of her unfortunate death.

Those unable to succeed in achieving the desired, expected results may get depressed, and attempt suicide. It was reported some time back that a boy who failed in Mathematics at the G.C.E. Ordinary Level exam killed himself by hanging.

Sri Lanka is still a developing country where a majority of the people live below the poverty line. Although the country has made vast strides in some sectors, it is burdened with a heavy debt. Successive governments that

came to power have done little to eradicate poverty.

The cost-of-living is skyrocketing and the wage one earns may not be sufficient to support a family. It has not been possible for a person to live without borrowing money from another, for which interest too has to be paid.

A man who had thus borrowed a large amount of money to support his family of three children committed suicide as he was unable to pay off his debt. It was an unfortunate incident reported recently.

While poverty plays a key role in increasing suicide, domestic violence is another contributory factor. According to studies, in Sri Lanka there is a considerable increase in domestic violence.

Some of these violent incidents get reported while many go unreported. Around 75% of suicides are reported from rural communities and 85% of them involve pesticides. Consuming poison, hanging, shooting, jumping in the path of a moving train or jumping into a well and immolation are the common methods in suicide.

A woman who was unable to bear untold suffering at the hands of her drunken husband killed herself by hanging along with her two children. Similarly, a mother attempted suicide along with her two children by jumping off a bridge into a river infested with crocodiles, but her attempt was foiled by the people in the vicinity and the lives saved. The reason for her attempted suicide, as revealed later was

her husband’s drunkenness and not caring for the family. Thus, alcoholism has become a problem in the country even if the Government is doing its best to tackle this issue.

Family feuds, excessive alcohol use or substance abuse could be regarded as three major factors that contribute to the increase in suicides in the country. Likewise, work related issues, loss of jobs, break-up of marriages or love affairs and divorce are also some of the causes.

When sadness, feeling low, loss of interest or pleasure in daily activities persist over a long period they can be symptoms of depressive disorder, a common illness worldwide, according to the WHO. The cause of depression is not fully understood, and is a combination of factors such as genetics, biological, environmental, psychological and social (psychosocial).

A depressive might sometimes say he/she is fed up with his/her life, which can largely be an indication of his/her suicidal behaviour.

That person should be identified immediately and directed for proper medical treatment. When one gets recurrent suicidal thoughts the best thing is to consult a psychiatrist or visit Sri Lanka Sumithrayo, a government approved charity where well-trained volunteer counsellors are ready to listen to psychological issues and provide possible solutions.

We should remember that life is precious and living is better than taking one’s own life.

By Frances Bulathsinghala



PRESERVING Visa Wedakam

People co-habit with diverse other creatures in the world; the poisonous and the non-poisonous; the ferocious and the meek.

In current times of human arrogance reaching its peak in ruining the planet and modernity costing the forests its green garments, animals its freedom and man his breadth, we have eliminated from our collective consciousness the memory of life lived differently; when animals, including the poisonous were accepted by us as an integral weaving of the tapestry of life.

This acceptance is recognised in our *Deshiya Chikitsa (Sinhala Wedakam/ Hela Wedakam)* medicinal tradition that pre-dates Ayurveda, which has a branch of treatment known as *Visa Wedakama* which we have used for thousands of years to heal people bitten by poisonous creatures.

Yet we have to do much more as a nation to actively preserve, conserve and promote this kind of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) knowledge that secures the wellbeing of the people and the eco-system. *Visa Wedakama* while being a curative science (as in how the word science was interpreted by our ancestors), it is also a seamless interweaving of the human and universal mind integrated in a deep traditional philosophy that goes beyond the mere use of medicinal plants and herbs.

While we featured aspects of *Visa Wedakama* through the narration of a Kandy based practitioner a few months ago, we now portray another narrative of a Matale based 73-year-old veteran in the art of dealing with the world of snakes and other poisonous creatures, who had inherited this knowledge from his father who in turn had been bestowed with it from his father.

Upasaka Gedera U. G. Ariyadasa, a resident of Ariyapola, 23 kilometres from the Matale town, has practised his inherited skills of treating snake/insect bites.

He said that no one has died under his care, even those who have been bitten by venomous reptiles and other creatures and brought to him in critical condition.

"I learned this vocation from my father, Upasaka Gedera U. G. Kekira, who learned it from his father, Upasaka Gedera Boda. There are legends associated with

them how they removed venom from the bodies of those who had been believed to be dead and even those about to be buried after being bitten by reptiles. You see me now as a gardener. A gentleman of the area has employed me for the past five years to care for his estate. This is how I ensure to get an income. However, there are many people who know me as a native physician specialising in treating snake

bites. At times, vehicles are sent for me to go to those stung by bees, wasps and hornets. I am practising this just as my father and grandparents did, although they had more facilities, including *Beheth Oru* (kind of medicinal boat like structures made out of *Rukattana* wood known to be a powerful antidote). This contraption is filled with

herbs and the patient is immersed in it," Ariyadasa said.

This treatment is done to remove venom from the body. First, we wash the spot of the sting well with soap and water and the snake treating stone (*Nai Gal*) is kept on it. Now I have only two of them.

These are precious as those who make them with animal bone are rare now. We used to get it from the wandering communities of Rodi snake charmers who had the skills of

THIS TREATMENT IS DONE TO REMOVE VENOM FROM THE BODY. FIRST, WE WASH THE SPOT OF THE STING WELL WITH SOAP AND WATER AND THE SNAKE TREATING STONE (NAI GAL) IS KEPT ON IT. NOW I HAVE ONLY TWO OF THEM. THESE ARE PRECIOUS AS THOSE WHO MAKE THEM WITH ANIMAL BONE ARE RARE NOW. WE USED TO GET IT FROM THE WANDERING COMMUNITIES OF RODHI SNAKE CHARMERS WHO HAD THE SKILLS OF MAKING THEM," HE SAID.

as *Murunga pothu* (tree bark), *Dehi pothu* (lime tree bark), *Amu kaha* (Turmeric), are often used, but there are other varieties as well. The physician will decide what is to be administered on the spot of the sting and what herbs to be given as *Kasaya* (boiled herbs). The standard basic herbs we use as *Kasaya* are *Karap-incha* leaves and *Murunga* tree bark which have to be boiled and drunk separately," Ariyadasa said.

"We also recite *mantras* we have inherited from our ancestors who used them for the identification of the kind of venomous reptile which had stung the patient and other related details, such as the time of the sting.

Basically in the *Nai Weda* tradition, we consider the whole universe as an interconnected entity and the snake or insect which has bitten the patient as part of this interconnectedness. There is a subtle communication with these creatures which is how the *mantras* work to cure the patients. We discourage people from killing the snake and bringing it to us with the patient as this would curtail the release of the poison from the body," he said.

"These *mantras* are powerful. There is one practice where in the instance of a messenger coming to convey the news about the person who has been bitten by a snake, the physician, as an immediate measure of reducing the suffering of the victim, until he meets the victim, would utter a *mantra* seven times to the palm of his hand and hit the head or ear of the messenger," he said. "We believe that the severity of the sting would depend on the day that it has

occurred because the cosmic energy would differ accordingly. This is part of astrology and would influence the duration of the treatment.

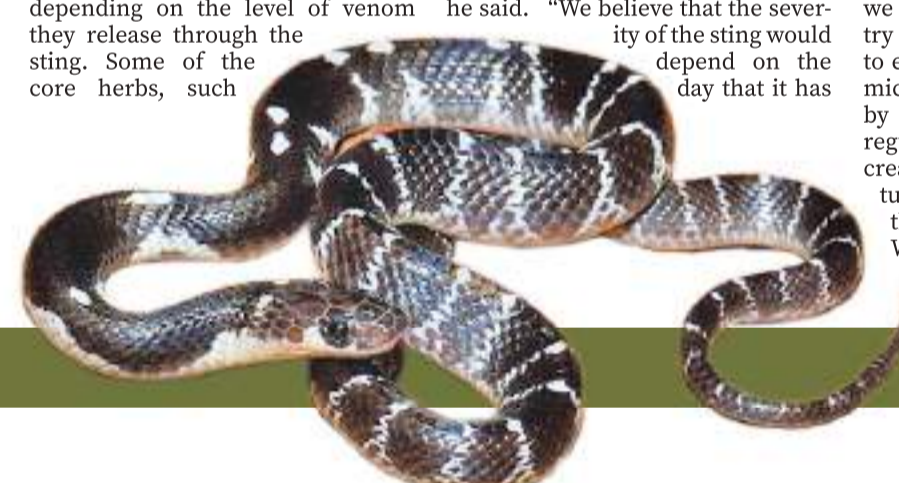
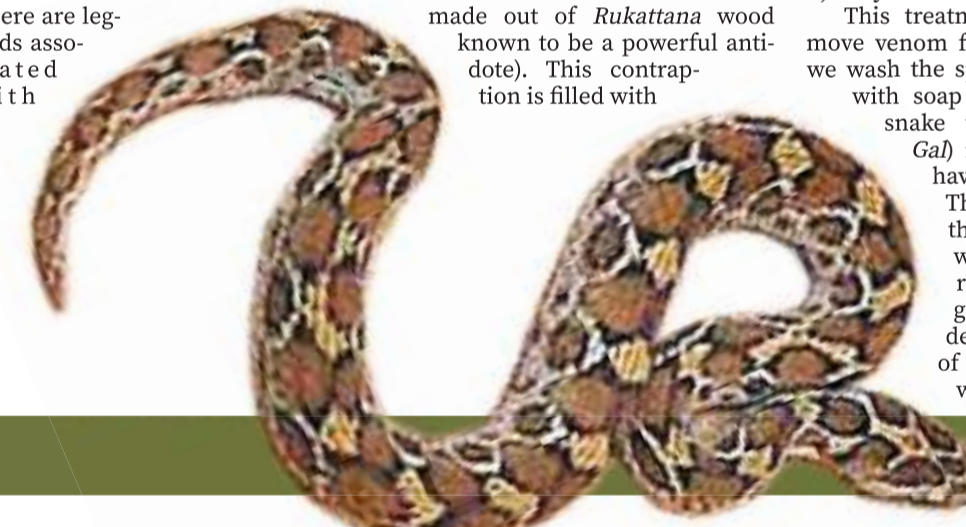
For each day, there are kinds of reptiles designated as being prone to sting. The indigenous treatment system for snake bites and venom-removing, considers this as a core of its knowledge. For example, Sunday is considered a day for *Geta Polanga* to sting. We treat in the manner prescribed for the snake," Ariyadasa said.

"Physicians treating snake bites are skilled in knowing how to identify which kind of reptile has bitten the patient by the body language, such as how the person would wring his hands or walk, and their eyesight getting dim or not.

The effect of the venom triggers these changes. A snake physician can identify the reptile/insect even by the manner a messenger who has come to communicate the snake bite walks and talks," he said.

"My children did not study this *Wedakama*. The only person in my family, who developed an interest in it, is my daughter-in-law. The transference of this knowledge cannot just be given even if it is from one generation to another. The person should harness this skill and use it in accordance to cosmic principles," he said.

"I have manuscripts and books that my grandfather used. Neither my grandfather nor my father nor I could be described as educated in a modern sense. However, we know we have done a service to our country in saving lives. We do not do this to earn money. We do this as a Karmic duty. I have never been bitten by a snake although I walk across regularly in thick forest. Snakes are creatures of the wild. It is their nature to sting. But most of the time they listen to what is told to them. When they are asked to leave they leave," Ariyadasa said.



Unrequited Love voices its love for poetry lovers

By Indusara Pathirana



Although she is renowned for enrapturing audiences both young and old with her words, it was after hearing the voices of her audience that I figured out how words can be of immeasurable value and how they can reach out and touch someone, so that the person can relive the moment created with words over and over again throughout his/her lifetime.

This is September, the literary month, the month of bibliophiles. Thilini N. Liyanarachchi's *අප්‍රකාශිත ප්‍රේමය*, *Unrequited Love* has been counting the days for several months to embrace its enthusiasts.

After enduring many tight spots, *Unrequited Love* landed on the palms of its fans on September 5, 2020 during the perfect time of the year, at the Mahaweli Centre, Colombo. If you're a good cybernaut, soon after you read Thilini's name, you will find your thoughts slowly escaping into one or some of your favourites among her poetry.

Born in Colombo, yet brought up in a beautiful pastoral village in Mankandura, Matara, Thilini has acquired much of the elements for her creativity

through the heartstrings of her family who constantly stuck around her, aided and encouraged her.

At some point, on a thankful note she says with a beam on her face, "I was blessed to grow up in the bosom of my family and nature as well".

Even the dedication of her book reads, "...everything started in that home, amidst the mountains..."

Titled *Unwritten Poem*, her Facebook page has won more than 100,000 hearts thus far.

It's all about how she lets herself burst out freely, make witchcraft out of her words and captivate thousands of admirers.

Kaushalya Madhawa Pathirana, a true admirer of Thilini's poetry says, "I love her poem 'අප්‍රකාශිත ප්‍රේමය'...Because it depicts the perfect view a man has of a woman which I have felt personally.

I don't know how she puts herself in the shoes of a man and sees a woman from that perspective".

Being on the same wavelength as one from the opposite sex, she creates a perfect blend of romance while maintaining a flow that provokes a lot of visual imagery till the end of the



poem. What she imagines is a celebration of love, that a man celebrates his love, his woman just for the way she (the girlfriend) makes him feel.

"Though I had no lovers when I was at school, many of the last pages of my books had love poems written on them, and many of my friends quoted my love poems in their love letters" said Thilini.

Most of her fanatics have got to know her from her poem, *Unrequited Love* that has been capable of bringing life to thousands of one-sided love stories.

අප්‍රකාශිත ප්‍රේමය
ප්‍රකාශිත ප්‍රේමයට වඩාත්
පරිනතත කල ප්‍රේමය
අයිතිකරගත් ප්‍රේමයට වඩාත්
බලවත්ය
සංසාරය දිගු බැවින්
නිතරම වෙමි
අයිතිවැසීමේ නොකිසිමි

Recalling the first instance that could make her teary-eyed, Vishaaradha Abhisheka Wimalaweera read out an extremely emotional poem by Thilini written to appreciate paternal love on the death of her (Abhisheka's) father. Abhisheka was grateful to Thilini for her creativity and for their friendship.

On behalf of the *Women In Translation Month* celebration, the Pen America Translation Committee had organised a virtual bilingual reading and some of Thilini's poems were among the collection to be read.

Enemy in Sri Lanka

Moving across on board Landed mute on Sri Lanka It was behind the few but Little could do it in English	plane plain slain plain
President Gotabaya formed a force No stone unturned to halt its long Then made compulsory wearing a All the people followed suit	task last mask fast
We must obey the rules Fight to the end this enemy All must unite without The fact remains that this is a	thus lust fuss must
Commander Shavendra spear headed the Director Jasinghe health properly guided his This one couldn't last long its Both Commander and the Director handled it	case phase race safe
Doctors, nurses and inspectors of In the given situation they did the C.O. D.O.G.S were at the The Triffle forces did the	health best test rest
All masses adhere to the prescribed That did make the death rate It is a matter praise worthy Else the deaths would have been	law law for more
World leaders did commend the Why not surely the able Three hearty cheers for his actions President Gota is brave in	act tact apt fact
Saving the masses from this terrible One might tend to offer him an intimate Age is the barrier mind you A bouquet of lotus buds for President the	fate date mate great

Sunil Fernando

Feature

In the face of climate, health and food security changes

CHALLENGES TO AGRICULTURE

GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE WILL HAVE SIGNIFICANT LONG LASTING EFFECTS ON LOCAL PRODUCTION AND IMPORTATION OF FOOD ITEMS

BY ABHAYA KENDARAGAMA

A dominant agrarian economy has existed in Sri Lanka since ancient times and has played a significant role in national food security, employment among rural people, village household economy, social and cultural linkages among farmers and landscape health in farming lands.

However, some recent risk factors, such as changing weather patterns have emerged in the agriculture sector during the past few decades and the changing weather patterns, commonly known as climate change, have been ranked first among the risks. This reveals a prompt need for drawing a national level attention to address local issues in agriculture originating from global climate change. In the past few years, several additional risk factors in human health, such as Covid-19 virus and crop damages by insect pest, such as fall armyworm attack have been identified in food crop sector. All above factors have collectively aggravated the problems related to uncertainty in local food production.

Global climate change will have significant long lasting effects on local production and importation of food items. It is a timely need to initiate a gradual shift from conventional farming to climate smart agriculture. This shift may face many big challenges, including education, agronomic, financial and administrative.

In contrast, the impact of health issues and pest outbreaks on food security directly and indirectly may be short lasting. Risk-sensitive agriculture provides the way for addressing farmer health and pest outbreak related problems. Hence, it is suggested to develop short term strategies in the form of risk-sensitive agriculture to address case by case issues in farmer health and pest outbreak related problems. Hence, it is suggested to develop short term strategies in the form of risk-sensitive agriculture to address case by case issues in farmer health and pest outbreak related problems. Hence, it is suggested to develop short term strategies in the form of risk-sensitive agriculture to address case by case issues in farmer health and pest outbreak related problems.

Major risks

A dominant agrarian economy has existed in Sri Lanka since ancient times and thereby it has played a significant role in ensuring national food security, creating employment particularly for rural people, mitigating household economic stresses in village communities, strengthening social and cultural linkages among farmers and maintaining landscape health in agricultural ecosystems.

However, according to recent re-

views in the country, some risk factors have emerged in the agriculture sector during the past few decades which include changing weather patterns, increasing reluctance of the youth to engage in agriculture resulting in labour shortages, fragmentation of land holdings with associated issues and continuing land degradation.

Weather patterns

Changing weather patterns, commonly known as climate change, have been ranked first among the risks. This reveals a prompt need for drawing a national level attention to address local issues in agriculture originating from global climate change. It has been recognised as a long lasting environmental concern in the world.

In this context, this country has been a negligible contributor to global climate change. However, it is highly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of this issue. The major adverse impacts related to climate change include an increase in frequency and intensity of disasters, such as droughts, floods and landslides, increased variability and unpredictability of rainfall resulting in frequent crop failures particularly in rain-fed farming systems, an increase in atmospheric temperature creating multiple adverse environmental effects and an impending rise in sea level impacting land related issues in coastal, agricultural and other ecosystems.

In the past few years, several additional risk factors have been identified related to farmers' health and food security. The health issues include: chronic kidney disease of unknown etiology (CKDu) particularly in farming communities in the dry zone areas, seasonal occurrence of dengue fever particularly among householders in the wet zone areas, the spreading risk of a bacterial disease called rat fever (Leptospirosis) among farmers during the accelerated rehabilitation of abandoned paddy lands particularly at lower elevations in the wet zone areas and most recently the rapid spread of the Covid-19 virus.

In addition, food security has been impacted by the increasing spread of

fall armyworm (*Spodoptera frugiperda*) insect pest problems particularly in maize cultivation systems during 2019/20 Maha season. These recently emerging risks highlight the growing urgent need to develop strategies to mitigate their adverse effects on local agriculture.

This article will discuss the need for introducing a climate smart system of agriculture as an alternative kept ready for operation whenever the conventional farming systems fail due to the various impacts of climate change.

It will explain how to sustain local agriculture at a satisfactory level under the challenging situations created by changing climatic conditions. It will also discuss the need for introducing risk-sensitive agriculture for addressing health and pest outbreak related problems. The goals of this discussion are to help ensure national food security in a sustainable manner. Agriculture includes raising food crops and rearing food animals, but both sectors have not been considered as a consolidated political subject in the country.

Climate smart agriculture

This article will discuss some of the adverse changes that have emerged, new challenges based on the changes and possible strategies for a speedy recovery from these adversities considering examples from crop husbandry, the dominant agriculture sector.

Since ancient times in the country, the three systems of farming which provided food mainly for domestic

consumption, included eco-farming in home gardens, slash and burn seasonal cropping in rain-fed uplands locally known as chena cultivation and rice farming in paddy lands. Each of these farming systems received environmentally friendly inputs during the crop production process.

Science based inputs

Since the 1950s, science based inputs including fertiliser, pesticides and herbicides, new farming technologies and improved management practices have been applied to these conventional farming sectors at an increasing scale to enhance crop yields and thereby ensure national food security.

As a result, near self-sufficiency has been achieved with respect to the production of many major food crops. However, the global climate change during the past few decades has adversely affected local crop production. It has highlighted the need for these farming systems to adopt appropriate climate smart land and crop management strategies and practices.

According to literature, climate change can be described briefly as a change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods.

Based on climate related information generated locally before the occurrence of global climate change, this country was divided into three cli-

matic regions: wet, intermediate (semi dry and semi wet areas) and dry zones depending on the total annual rainfall.

The wet zone is the area which receives mean annual rainfall of above 2,500 mm.

The intermediate zone receives a mean annual rainfall of 1,750 – 2,500 mm. In contrast, the mean annual rainfall of the dry zone remains below 1,750 mm. The temporal variation of the rainfall in the country shows two distinct rainfall patterns: bi-modal and uni-modal distributions. Most areas dominated by food crop agriculture show a bimodal pattern.

The bimodal distribution pattern shows two rainy periods and two dry spells within a year. One dry spell falls during late January to early March, while the other occurs during late July to early September.

In contrast, late September to early January referred to as the wet period of the Maha season and late March to early July referred to as the wet period of the Yala season.

Over the past few decades, this distinct annual rainfall pattern has changed significantly possibly due to the adverse effects of global climate change.

Conventional practices

For example, an increase in extreme events in annual rainfall has created difficulties for the conventional practices of farming in rain-fed as well as modern irrigated agriculture. In addition to the changing rainfall pattern, according to literature, global surface temperature has increased by more than 1.5 oC (relatively to 1850 – 1900) for most agricultural regions in the world. This has adversely affected temperature sensitive crops grown locally.

Higher temperature can lead to increased rates of glacier melt particularly in the polar climate regions and thereby a rise in sea water level affecting all countries having a coastal belt. According to recent assessments in some other countries, every 100 GT per year of ice loss contributes to an estimated 0.28 mm/year of global mean sea level rise.

It poses a threat to agricultural and other lands in the coastal areas. All of these changes in the global climate collectively reveal the need of introducing a climate smart system of agriculture for farming systems in affected countries.

According to literature, climate smart agriculture can be described briefly as agriculture that sustainably increases productivity, enhances adaptation to climate change and re-

duces greenhouse gas emission, while enhancing achievements in national food security and development goals. In this regard, adaptations to climate change and mitigation of greenhouse gas emission have been major topics lacking awareness among the majority of the people.

Adaptation to climate change can be described briefly as adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities. Adopting new climate adaptation strategies and practices can have significant impacts on addressing local climate change effects in areas, such as biodiversity conservation, water resources use, agriculture productivity, human health and coastal resources management. In agriculture, adaptation strategies and practices can help build up the resilience in farming to unexpected adverse changes in local climate particularly in rain-fed systems.

Mitigation strategies can be described briefly as anthropogenic interventions to reduce the sources or enhance the sinks of greenhouse gases. The major greenhouse gases emitted from farming systems include carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide. Implementation of mitigation strategies in agriculture helps control global warming.

However, as discussed above, this country is a negligible contributor of greenhouse gas emission from the agriculture sector. Hence, making a serious effort at the local country level combined with an effective lobbying at global scale will help create increased pressure on the major greenhouse gas emitters.

Adoption of mitigation strategies and practices has been more effective in management fields, such as energy resources use, modern industries, fossil fuel energy based transport services and urban waste management. In case of local agriculture, more attention should be focused on adaptation strategies and practices for sustainable solutions for present long lasting issues of production.

In addition, identification of support services to build resilience to climate change is another important aspect to be considered in the establishment of climate smart systems for local agriculture. Climate smart agriculture is not only an effective operational alternative for application only when conventional farming fails, but could also be implemented gradually now to ensure agriculture performs at a satisfactory level particularly under current climatic adversity.

To be continued

SOME RISK FACTORS HAVE EMERGED IN THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR DURING THE PAST FEW DECADES WHICH INCLUDE CHANGING WEATHER PATTERNS, INCREASING RELUCTANCE OF THE YOUTH TO ENGAGE IN AGRICULTURE RESULTING IN LABOUR SHORTAGES, FRAGMENTATION OF LAND HOLDINGS WITH ASSOCIATED ISSUES AND CONTINUING LAND DEGRADATION CHANGING WEATHER PATTERNS, COMMONLY KNOWN AS CLIMATE CHANGE, HAVE BEEN RANKED FIRST AMONG THE RISKS. THIS REVEALS A PROMPT NEED FOR DRAWING A NATIONAL LEVEL ATTENTION TO ADDRESS LOCAL ISSUES IN AGRICULTURE ORIGINATING FROM GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE. IT HAS BEEN RECOGNISED AS A LONG LASTING ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN IN THE WORLD

MAHINDA RAJAPAKSA: SPORTSMAN AND PAST PRESIDENT OF ATHLETICS

He wanted sports officials to go after the athletes and not the other way around

BY PREMA PINNEWALE

Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa is a very unique leader, a politician and a gentleman whose endearing humane qualities and values are adored by Sri Lankans from all walks of life. His multifaceted personality could be traced to him being a sportsman. His association with sportsmen, sportswomen and sports administrators has not diminished despite being the Prime Minister of the country as well as the President.

His commitment to athletics in particular came as a beacon of light. A former Public Schools athlete, he left an indelible mark in the sport when he became President of the Athletic Association of Sri Lanka (AASL).

A past President of the Elle Federation, his interest in athletics and rugby is valued. The sport of rugby is closer to his heart as all three of his sons played.

When the head of the world athletics body (IAAF) Lamine Diack made a three-day official visit to Sri Lanka, the first such official to honour us, he commended the positive role played by then President Mahinda Rajapaksa to promote sports, particularly athletics.

Diack discussed the proposed development work of the Mahinda Rajapaksa International Sports Complex at Diyagama.

Mahinda Rajapaksa makes it a point to personally meet and honour medallists such as after the 13th South Asian Games. It is an inspiration and motivation for medallists.

He is convinced that Sri Lanka will produce more medal winners at Olympics, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games in future.

He stressed the need for sports authorities and sports federation officials to change their attitude towards athletes by changing the present practice where talented athletes run after officials in desperation rather than officials going in the hunt for talented athletes.



The Mahinda Rajapaksa International Cricket Stadium in Hambantota

Prime Minister Rajapaksa has personal experience on matters which directly affect our young schoolboys or schoolgirls. He knows what is ticking inside a young athlete's mind and stresses on the need for officials to take the initiative to show love and guidance. Although it is the individual energy that drives an athlete to perform, it is also necessary to ensure an effective management system to support them.

As President of the AASL he inspired others by his commitment and dynamic leadership. When he headed the Sri Lanka athletics team at the World Athletic Championships in Athens in 1997, he engaged the young athletes to bring glory to their Motherland. Medals are the symbolic indication of the prowess of an athlete. What is more



File photo of Mahinda Rajapaksa meeting Lamine Diack in the presence of Prema Pinnewale

important is the commitment to achieve and trying to be better than other competitors.

A great milestone in the annals of Sri Lanka's sports history was when Susanthika Jayasinghe won the Silver Medal in the 200m at the World Athletic Championships,

carving a name for Sri Lanka and Mahinda Rajapaksa himself as the President and Manager of the Sri Lanka athletics team.

He could have prevailed as any other political leader by being only a passive witness to achievements. That was the difference. He is very

serious about the need to win and at the same time to honour the winners.

One thing Mahinda Rajapaksa always said was the fact that the participants have to be strong not only physically but also mentally. The participants representing the country will have to be very healthy individuals with high intelligence who can control his or her body only. The body depends on the reflexes and they in turn depend on the mental conditions.

Thinking about the positive attitude of Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, what is readily visible is his attitude to challenges. It is interesting to note that he has always been a 'ball of energy' which was just the opposite of a 'weaking' who is not sure of himself. He started his

schooling in the lower kindergarten at Richmond College, Galle where some of his contemporaries remember him very affectionately for his boldness. He led in all the small contests easily and a very interesting aspect was his fearlessness which pushed him forward. By the time he was in the Second Standard, as it was known then, he had made a name as the 'best fighter'.

A fact to be remembered is that he sustains this fighting spirit in his political life as a successful leader and statesman, albeit never to bully his opponents, but always winning fair and square.

This trait has made him a person, who believes in being fit all the time, faithfully going for a workout in the gym even today before immersing himself in his daily work.

From his teenage days, his pugna-cious qualities has been the cornerstone of his character which makes him different from others as well as portrays him as an icon.

Today as the Prime Minister he continues to let his psychological energy out through politics while always making use of the skills he had gained in sports to make him a more balanced person who believes in being physically fit and mentally alert.

Mahinda Rajapaksa as a politician is also concerned about the welfare of the Tamil population and their needs. He is also one of the few leaders from the south to encourage sports in the north which resulted in some programmes activated by the AASL where action was taken to send a key IAAF Official Byong Wangaman to the north.

The encouragement to organize a marathon after 27 years where 7,000 participated was accomplished by the AASL with the sponsorship of Nestle. This landmark event is still spoken about today.

(The writer is Secretary Gen. Sri Lanka Athletics, Life Member National Olympic Committee, Recipient of the Kreedha Bushana and past Sports Consultant Mahinda Rajapaksa)

Badminton on the move forward

By Hafiz Marikar



Following the dissolution of the Interim Committee in June last year, Sri Lanka Badminton (SLB) that has completed the first term amid the pandemic outbreak is looking forward to growing stronger.

With a robust Executive Committee led by the sports loving top corporate leader in Rohan de Silva, it will be focusing to keep badminton rolling once again as it was before.

Being the Chairman of McLaren's Group of Companies Rohan de Silva is set to focus on reinforcing the administration and returning to local and international competitions. This will give the leading Sri Lankan players the opportunity to compete at the highest level that had eluded them for some time now. Many other countries had made good progress during this interim period.

De Silva has installed Trevor Reckerman as the CEO of SLB and together with an efficient team will deliver a strategic long term plan that quickly got into its stride.

Rohan de Silva's own companies came in to sponsor the refurbishing work on the SLB headquarters at Maitland Place.

The premises now harbor a small Auditorium, three courts, a dormitory for overnight stay and a small cafeteria where the athletes can take their refreshments and meals. Physical training and medical support is extended by the Ministry of Sports.

Right from the word go, the senior and junior teams embarked on much needed overseas tours. As much as fifteen international tournaments were represented by top ranked national players led by



Rohan de Silva

Niluka Karunaratne, Sri Lanka's most ranked international player seeking qualification to the Tokyo Olympics.

The Juniors participated in the World Junior Tournament in Russia while the Seniors gave a splendid performance at the SAG in Nepal, with the top women's doubles pair, Thilini Hendahewa and Kavidi Sirimanna bringing back a historic Gold medal in addition to the several Silver and Bronze medals.

The local competitions also stepped up with SLB imposing higher standards of organization

and performance. The Nationalized Services, the SSC Open, Western Province and National Tournaments drew an avalanche of entries and great spectator interest while SLB also ran an International Seniors Competition that drew participants from many countries.

Even when COVID-19 took its toll, SLB moved to revise its Constitution aimed at a broader national involvement in the sport. The transformation from a Provincial to a District structure is ably pursued by SLB Secretary General Mohan Wijesinghe who has done most of the hard work that should make this long awaited move a reality.

To cater to the growing numbers, SLB is also actively looking to develop a Centre of Excellence outside of Colombo. Namal Rajapaksa, the youthful Minister of Sports, an ardent badminton player and fan has offered a few attractive locations which SLB will examine shortly and take the first steps in developing for the future. So, it looks like all augers well for badminton players and fans.

A popular sport played by young and old both indoor and outdoor, it is the game that matters. Fortunately, badminton is endowed with a good team who love the sport and are committed to take it forward.



The badminton headquarters at Maitland Crescent in Colombo 7

National Sports Festival events in Kataragama

Three events connected with the 46th National Sports Festival, race walking (men and women), cycling (men and women) and marathon (men and women) are to take place on October 10 and 11 in Kataragama.

On October 10 race walking and cycling events are scheduled to be worked off while the men's and women's Marathons are to be conducted on October 11 according to the schedule. Entries for these three events

will be accepted till September 30 and should be forwarded through the Provincial Sports Departments to reach the Sports Development Section of the Ministry of Sports on or before the above mentioned date.

Different cricket academy set up in Katunayake



Arjuna Ranatunga and Chaminda Vaas watch a young bowler at the nets

Different Discovery Indoor Cricket Academy (www.ddcricket.lk); a purpose-built high performance indoor-cricket centre located close to the Colombo International Airport, in the outskirts of Katunayake was commissioned and the first membership drive held on August 29.

It comprises up-to-date features and facilities that provide high-performance coaching for future Sri Lankan cricketers and coaches are qualified with ICC Global Levels to provide the finest coaching programs de-

signed for all-levels according to its directors.

A spacious garden, parking, dining area, coach room, gear room, viewing balcony, parents' lounge, power training and gym, hybrid mountain bikes and modern cricket training aids are available for new members.

Former cricket stars Arjuna Ranatunga and Chaminda Vaas boosted the inaugural membership drive and former first-class cricketer and a bowling coach Anusha Samaranyake was appointed as the head coach and consultant of the academy.

Athletes' nutritional allowance to be doubled

BY KASUN IRUGALBANDARA

Sri Lanka's elite athletic poolists are to receive the good news that their allowance for nutrition will be doubled soon.

This decision was arrived at after holding discussions with experts in nutrition. According to medical experts an athlete should be paid at least Rs.1000 per day.

"We provide the allowance so that the athlete can purchase the nutrition needed to build their physical strength, but without mental fitness

he or she cannot reach their maximum output. With the allowance being doubled they can look after their family members too and have sufficient finances to obtain the nutrition for themselves.

"This will give the athlete the mental peace to concentrate on their event without worry," said one official. The ministry has advised a few Associations to select their pools and these poolists will then be given the allowance.

Currently, the Department of Sports development provides Rs.

750 per day for each athlete. This is given on a monthly basis or for food in hostels.

"We discussed this matter with the Minister and he has agreed to increase this allowance. But not all athletes will be entitled to this allowance," said an official of the Ministry.

"We discussed this matter with the North Western University and will sign a Memorandum of Understanding soon. This university has the expertise about nutrition in Sri Lanka and we hope to get their maximum support to solve this problem."

Medical Institute of Sports seeks permission for new recruits

BY KASUN IRUGALBANDARA

The Medical Institute of Sports has sought permission from the Sports Minister to recruit more employees to expand their services to other parts of the country too.

This was confirmed by Dr. Lal Ekanayake the Director General of the Sports Medicine Unit.

"We have a few vacancies as the working officials are insufficient to meet the new challenges. We discussed expanding our services throughout the country and the new recruits with the Minister.

"The Ministry of Sports has decided to have national pools island-wide. In this case the Medical Institute must be expanded to serve the athletes and accord-

ingly more doctors and physiotherapists must be appointed. It takes about 45 minutes to administer therapy treatment to an athlete," said Dr. Ekanayake.

"The Minister wants to strengthen the athletes in every sport. Without help from the medical unit the skills of the athlete cannot be improved. The best way is to be close to the athletes in the villages."

SPORTS

USAIN BOLT: LIVING LEGEND, THE FASTEST, GREATEST ATHLETE EVER ON EARTH

BOLT'S BLINDING FEATS IN THE 100M, 200M AND 4X100M AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES IN BEIJING 2008, LONDON 2012 AND RIO 2016 MADE HIM THE GREATEST SPRINTER AND FIRST ATHLETE TO WIN TRIPLE-TRIPLE GOLD MEDALS AND SET WORLD RECORDS. HIS FIRST CHILD IS NAMED OLYMPIA LIGHTNING BOLT



By
Rear Admiral
Dr. Shemal
Fernando, PhD



The Hon. Usain Bolt, OJ, CD, OLY is considered the greatest athlete of all time who illuminated the track with his superhuman talent and stellar personality. His autobiography, "My Story: 9.58: Being the World's Fastest Man," was released in 2010.

The Associated Press published in 2012, "Bolt has helped track transform itself from a dying sport to one with a singular, smiling, worldwide star." A documentary on his life titled, "I Am Bolt," was released in 2016.

An eight-time Olympic gold medalist, Bolt is the only sprinter to win the Olympic 100m and 200m titles at three consecutive Olympics - Beijing 2008, London 2012 and Rio 2016. He also won two 4x100m relay gold medals. He gained worldwide fame for his double sprint victory in world record times at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games which made him the first athlete to hold both records since fully automatic time became mandatory.

An eleven-time World Champion, he won consecutive World Championship 100m, 200m and 4x100m relay golds from 2009 to 2015 with the exception of a 100m false start in 2011. He is the most successful athlete of the World Championships and the first to win four World Championship titles in the 200m and one of the most successful in the 100m with three titles. Bolt holds 19 Guinness World Records for his accomplishments and victories in the sport.

Bolt improved upon his second 100m world record of 9.69 with 9.58 sec in 2009 - the biggest improvement since the start of electronic timing. He has twice broken the 200m world record, setting 19.30 in 2008 and 19.19 in 2009. He has helped Jamaica to three 4x100m world records, with the current being 36.84 in 2012. Bolt's most successful event is the 200m with three Olympic and four World titles. He holds the world under-20 and under-18 records for the 200m. From 2005, Bolt was coached by Glen Mills.

Bolt expresses a love for dancing and his character is frequently described as laid-back and relaxed. He has the nickname "Lightning Bolt" due to his name and speed. He is a Catholic and known for making the Sign of the Cross before racing competitively and wears a Miraculous Medal during his races. His middle name is St. Leo. Bolt's longtime girlfriend Kasi Bennett gave birth on May 17, 2020, to their first child, a daughter named, Olympia Lightning Bolt.

Early Years, Competitions and Rise to Fame

Born August 21, 1986 to Wellesley and Jennifer Bolt in Sherwood Content, Jamaica, he has a brother, Sadiqi, and a sister, Sherine. Bolt spent his time playing cricket and attended Waldensia Primary. By twelve, he had become the schools fastest over the 100m. Upon his entry to William Knibb Memorial High School, Bolt's cricket coach noticed his speed and urged him to try athletics.

Bolt won his first high school championships medal in 2001; a silver in the 200m. Pablo McNeil soon became his primary coach and the two enjoyed a positive partnership. Bolt made his first appearance on the world stage at the 2001 IAAF World Youth in Debrecen, Hungary in the 200m. At the CARIFTA Games, Bolt set championship records in the 200m and 400m.

The 2002 World Junior Championships were held in Kingston and Bolt was given a chance to prove his credentials. He won the 200m and became the youngest world-junior gold medalist ever. The expectation from the home crowd had made him so nervous that he had put his shoes on the wrong feet.

It turned out to be a revelatory experience for Bolt, as he vowed never again to let himself be affected by pre-race nerves. The rush of medals continued as he won four golds at the CARIFTA Games 2003 and two golds in his final Jamaican High School Championships in 2003.

Personal Recollections of Bolt in 2003, 2004, 2012

The 2003 IAAF World Youth Championships in Sherbrooke was a coming-out party for Bolt. I was the Team Manager of Sri Lanka. On July 13, 2003, on the brand new stadium of the University of Sherbrooke in Quebec, nothing could stop him, not even the terrible weather. A few weeks shy of his 17th birthday, Bolt won the 200m with a surreal time of 20.40 and provided a glimpse into his iconic future.

The Bolt of 2003 was already getting faster with every race and only just beginning to exploit his immense potential. The 200m was already one of his specialties, but he wasn't yet a 100m runner. In fact, it would be another three years before Bolt would compete in track-and-field's crown jewel event. The public in Sherbrooke knew nothing about Bolt's early success, but in the world of athletics, he was already making waves.

Seeing it on the track was a revelation for me. I had never seen a young man with such compelling athletic qualities. I remember that he was fairly tapered with his long legs, but above all, I remember the speed at which he attacked his turns and the fluidity of his race. It seemed so easy and natural. He was already six-foot-five, but his muscle mass was not yet fully developed. Already at the time, he was a head above the others, literally and figuratively. I watched the 200m final from the sidelines. I was astonished by how comfortable he was with his size. He was at ease putting on a show.

Bolt turned professional in 2004. He became the first junior sprinter to run the 200m under 20 seconds. Bolt headed to the Athens 2004 Olympic Games and we met again and he was determined. However, a leg injury eliminated him in the first round of the 200m. In the London 2012 Olympic Games, I met the legendary world and Olympic champion Bolt along with his coach Mills on the track.

Year 2008 and Beijing Summer Olympics

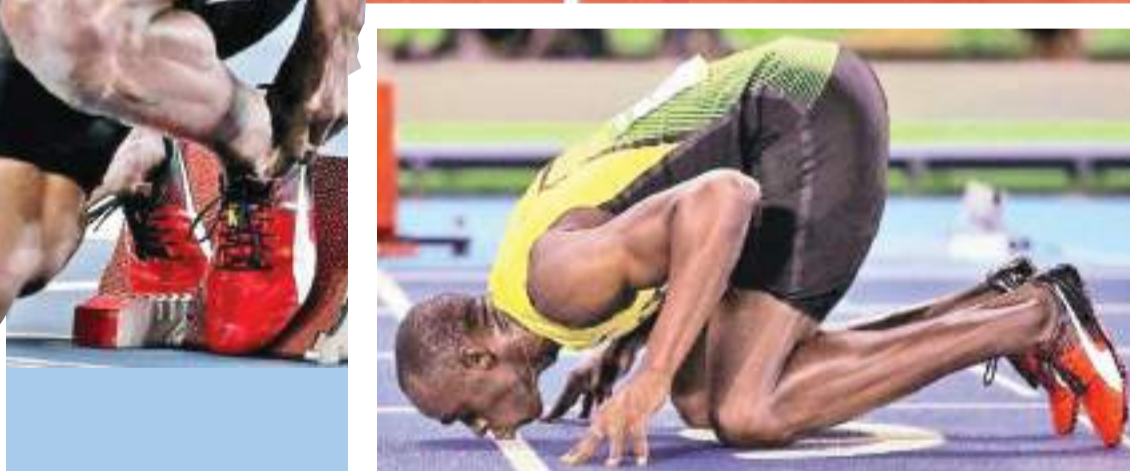
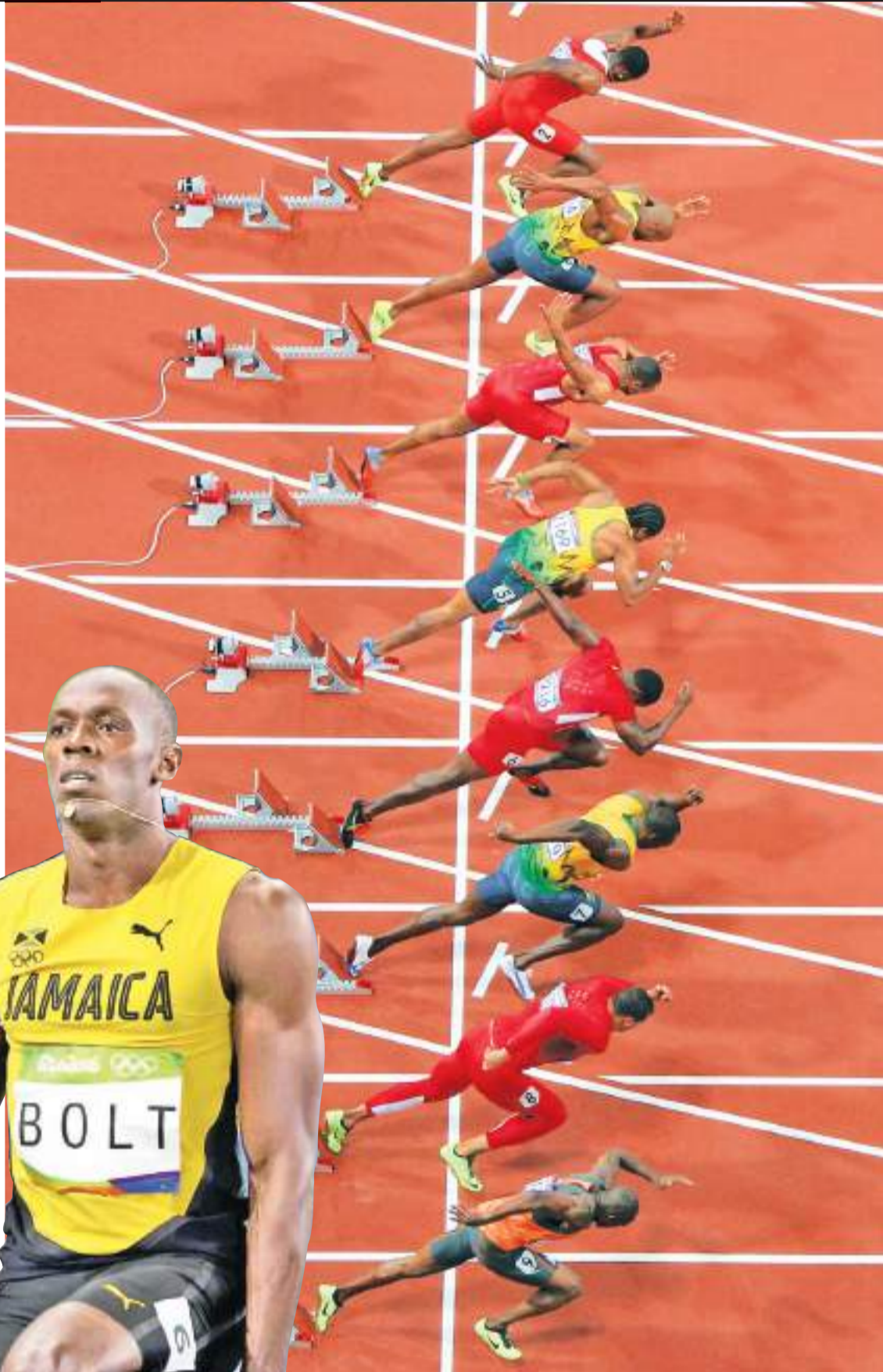
In Beijing, Bolt qualified for the 100m final with times of 9.92 and 9.85. In the final, he broke new ground, winning in 9.69. This was an improvement upon his own world record. Not only was the record set without a favourable wind but also visibly slowed down to celebrate before he finished and his shoe lace was untied.

Bolt stated that his goal was just to win the gold. Experts later predicted that the Jamaican would have ended in a textbook-defying 9.55 had he not slowed down at the finish to indulge in a session of showboating. "I wasn't bragging. When I saw I wasn't covered, I was just happy," he explained.

Bolt then focused on attaining a gold in the 200m. Bolt eased through the first and second rounds, jogging towards the end. At the final, he won setting a new world and Olympic record of 19.30. The feat made him the first sprinter to hold both records since the introduction of electronic timing. Furthermore, Bolt became the first sprinter to break both records at the same Olympics. Following the race, "Happy Birthday" was played over the stadium's sound system as his 22nd birthday would begin at midnight.

Two days later, Bolt ran as the third leg in the Jamaican 4x100m relay team, increasing his gold medal total to three. Along with teammates, Nesta Carter, Michael Frater, and Asafa Powell, he broke another world and Olympic record, 37.10. In 2017, the Jamaican relay team was stripped of their gold medals when a blood sample of Carter was found positive for a banned substance.

At the 2008 Golden League, Bolt despite having the slowest start in the 100m, still crossed the finishing line in 9.83. At the Super Grand Prix final in Lausanne, Bolt ran his second-fastest 200m with a time of 19.63. At the Golden League final in Brussels, Bolt won the 100m at 9.77. Bolt was honoured by Jamaica with an Order of Distinction in recognition of his achievements.



Year 2009 and Berlin World Championships

Bolt started the season competing in the 400m in order to improve his speed, winning two races in Kingston. He took the 100 and 200 titles at the Jamaican national championships. The 2009 World Championships were held during August in Berlin, which was coincidentally the same month and venue where Jesse Owens had achieved worldwide fame 73 years earlier. In the final of the 100m Bolt set a new world record - which stands to this day - with a time of 9.58 to win his first World Championship gold. This was the largest-ever margin of improvement in the 100m world record since the beginning of electronic timing.

Bolt once again produced a world record-breaking time in the 200m. He broke his own record finishing with 19.19. He won the 200m by the largest margin in the World Championships history. Bolt pointed out that an important factor was his improved start to the races: his reaction times in 100m (0.146) and 200m (0.133) were significantly faster than those he had produced in his world record runs at the Beijing Olympics.

On the last day of the Berlin Championships, the Governing Mayor of Berlin, Klaus Wowereit, presented Bolt with a 12-foot high section of the Berlin Wall in a small ceremony, say-

ing Bolt had shown that "one can tear down walls that had been considered as insurmountable." The nearly three-ton segment was delivered to the Military Museum in Kingston.

2010 Diamond League and 2011 World Championships

Early on in 2010, Bolt ran the 200m in 19.56 in Kingston. He took to the international circuit with wins in East Asia and then a comfortable win in his Diamond League debut at the Shanghai Golden Grand Prix. Bolt asserted himself with 100m wins in Lausanne and Paris. He went undefeated over 100m and 200m in the 2011 season.

He began with wins in Rome and Ostrava. He ran his first 200m in over a year in Oslo and his 19.86 was a world-leading one. Two further 200m wins came in Paris and Stockholm as did a 100m in Monaco.

At the 2011 World Championships in Daegu, Bolt was eliminated from the final, receiving a false start. This proved to be the highest profile disqualification for a false start since the IAAF changed the rules that previously allowed one false start per race. In the 200m, Bolt cruised to win in 19.40. This achievement made Bolt one of only two men to win consecutive 200m world titles. Bolt closed the championships with another gold in the 4x100. Nesta Carter and Michael Frater joined Bolt and Blake to set a world record time of 37.04.

2013, 2015 and 2017 World Championships

Prior to the 2013 World Championships, Bolt set world leading times in the sprints, with 9.85 for the 100m in London and 19.73 for the 200m in Paris.

Bolt regained the title as the world's fastest man by winning the World Championships 100m in Moscow and was less challenged in the 200m final. This performance made Bolt the first man in the history of the 200m at the World Championships to win three gold medals over the distance.

Bolt won a third consecutive world relay gold medal in the 4x100m final which made him the most successful athlete in the 30-year history of the world championships. The Jamaican team, featuring the top five from the 100m final were comfortable winners with Bolt reaching the finish line on his anchor leg. After the championships, Bolt took the 100m wins at the 2013 Diamond League circuit in Zurich and Brussels.

An injury to Bolt's hamstring in March 2014 caused him to miss nine weeks of training. Bolt competed in the 4x100m relay of the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. Not in peak form, Bolt said that he was attending the Games for the fans. Bolt and his teammates won the 4x100m relay in 37.58 sec - a Commonwealth Games record. In August 2014, Bolt set the indoor 100m world record in Warsaw with a time of 9.98 sec. Upon his return from injury, Bolt appeared a reduced figure and he ran only two 100m and three 200m before the major championship. He won the 200m in New York and Ostrava. Two 100m runs of 9.87 in London showed better form and he entered the World Championships to defend his sprint titles.

In the World Championships 100m, he improved through the rounds and won his semi-final in 9.96. Bolt in a narrow victory, leaned at the line to beat Gatlin 9.79 to 9.80 sec. Bolt joined Carl Lewis and Maurice Greene on a record three 100m world titles. A similar outcome followed in the 200m finals. Bolt delivered in the final with his fifth fastest run ever at 19.55. His four consecutive wins over the 200m at the World Championships was unprecedented and established him clearly as the best ever sprinter. There was also a fourth straight win in 4x100m relay.

At the 2017 World Athletics Championships, Bolt secured his last medal - a bronze in the 100m. As the anchor runner for Jamaica in the 4x100m he had a hamstring injury and collapsed on the track and opted to cross the finish line one last time and did so with the assistance of his teammates.

Rio 2016 Summer Olympics and Triple-Triple

Bolt competed sparingly in the 200m before the Olympics with a run of 19.89 sec to win at the London Grand Prix. He had four races over 100m, though only one was in Europe and his best of 9.88 sec in Kingston.

At Rio 2016, Bolt won the 100m gold medal with a time of 9.81 sec. With this win, Bolt became the first athlete to win the event three times at the Olympic Games. He followed it up with a gold medal in the 200m which also makes him the first athlete to win the 200m three times at the Olympic Games. After completing the 200m victory, Bolt celebrated in his usual style of bow-and-arrow pose and there was one more. This time around, he bowed down to kiss the track, the finish line. About kissing the finish line, he said: "I was just saying goodbye, this is my last individual event at the Olympics." It was his last Olympics and having ruled the tracks, it was his way of saying thank you.

Bolt ran the anchor leg in the final of the 4x100m relay and secured his third consecutive and last Olympic gold medal in the event. It marked the conclusion of one of the greatest, most storied careers in Olympic history. To watch him run was to witness something superhuman. Perhaps nothing sums up his career better than his wins in his final Olympics at Rio 2016. It was his third straight sweep, earning him the "triple-triple" for three consecutive gold medals in sprinting in three straight Olympics.

(The author possesses a PhD, MPhil and double MSc; his research interests encompasses Olympic Education, IOC and Sports; he is a recipient of National and Presidential Accolades for Academic and Sports pursuits)

SPORT

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Sports and Youth Affairs Minister Namal Rajapaksa and Education Minister GL Peiris meet heads of sports schools

HEAD HUNT FOR BUDDING SPORTS STUDENTS

Schoolboys and schoolgirls identified with sporting talents and living in less privileged regions in the country will have their cherished dream of enrolling at sporting schools in Colombo following a directive by Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa in association with Education Minister GL Peiris.

The budding sports-oriented students will be selected once they reach Grade Eight or 13 years and will be assured of showcasing their talents as one of the steps taken by Minister Rajapaksa to

create a sports culture that could snowball into professionalism.

A written ruling has already been issued to all heads of schools that indulge in sports throughout the country to identify and promote sporting talent as well as to absorb selected boys and girls into schools that possess facilities to improve their sporting prowess.

At a meeting held this week with principals of sports schools Minister Rajapaksa and Minister GL Peiris both called on heads of schools and sports masters to

implement the programme at grass root level which is the main theme.

Sporting students who reach specified qualifying standards will have to face interviews before they get the green light to enroll at their new sport schools.

Manpower for these sports schools, physical development, redevelopment of existing ground facilities, improving hostel facilities and other essential needs will be provided through the Ministry of Sports and the coordination of Education Ministry while the

Army too will extend its fullest support for this venture. A former Sri Lanka rugby forward, Minister Rajapaksa pledged a revolution in sports in the country in his first meeting with journalists soon after taking his oaths last month.

"All sports in the country will be given opportunities to develop and the welfare of all sportsmen and women will be taken into account," Minister Rajapaksa declared.

Last month he also launched out on a blueprint for national sports.

Nuwara Eliya golf Committee accused of dubious conduct

The general membership of the Nuwara Eliya Golf Club (NEGC) allege that their Committee has violated the Constitution during its Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on August 15.

They allege that the AGM was conducted contrary to the rules, regulations and traditions of the NEGC and its core values of integrity, ethics and morality.

They also claim that the AGM was abruptly adjourned prior to the election of office bearers and members of the General Committee for 2020/2021.

The minutes of the previous AGM held on May 25, 2019 also could not be passed as they were not in order. The main point that was brought up was how did the officials carry out construction work at the premises without having the approval of the membership at a Special General Meeting.

Several members are reported to have objected to the unsubstantiated statement, indicating that they never received notice of a Special General Meeting (SGM) at any time.

Further allegations point to accounts presented covering expenditure in the 2019 Annual Report been prepared without explicitly describing and without a break-down of the expenditure incurred in the Sewage Plant, the Office Building construction and the New Wing Construction which were effected without membership approval.

Speculation is that the Secretary, under the instructions of the President and Committee have called for an SGM on September 19 to pass in retrospect the expenditure incurred violating Clause 2E of the Constitution, attempting to collect Proxies once again from unsuspecting members.

But some members are now contemplating taking the Committee to courts and independent investigations to be conducted by relevant authorities.

Sri Lankan attains highest position in Italy sports

BY DHAMMIKA RATAWEERA

Kelum Perera, a 36-year old popular character in Italy has become the first Sri Lankan to function in what can be the highest profile sporting position overseas.

He is currently the Vice President of the Athletic Commission at the Italian Olympic Committee as well as the Chief Executive Officer of the Italy Cricket Federation.

Italy is a country which has produced thousands of Olympians over the years and they are highly involved in sports.

The Italian Olympic Committee known as 'Italian Coni' is the main

sports administrative body with over 9500 clubs actively involving in various kinds of sports.

Kelum Perera was born in Florence, Italy to Sri Lankan parents Kumaradasa and Asoka Perera and started off his sports career by playing soccer.

His father Kumaradasa Perera played cricket for Ananda College and later for Lake House in the Nationalized Services and Mercantile cricket tournaments.

Former Sri Lankan cricketers J.C. Gamage and Anusha Samaranyake and the late Niroshan Ramanayake were in Italy at the time and played a part in shaping Kelum's cricketing career that went up to a place in the national team of Italy after captaining junior teams. He was also the head coach of the Italy team.

"Entering the management of such an organization is not possible for everyone. And to see a Sri Lankan actively involved in the management of an organization of that nature is truly a rare feat," said Kelum Perera.

"My parents always backed me for success in my career. I am the youngest official at the Italian Olympic Committee and hope to continue my services to develop sports in Italy."



Kelum Perera

Morgan, Cummins available for KKR's IPL opener

NEW DELHI AFP: England captain Eoin Morgan and Australia quick Pat Cummins will both be available for Kolkata's IPL opener despite being involved in an ODI series just days earlier, the team's chief executive said.

The Knight Riders have negotiated a reduced, six-day quarantine in Abu Dhabi -- down from the usual 14 -- meaning Morgan, Cummins and England batsman Tom Banton can play the first game on September 23, Venky Mysore told ESPNcricinfo.com.

England and Australia's ODI series wraps up on September 16, three days before the Indian Premier League starts in the United Arab Emirates. The Knight Riders is the only IPL franchise with England and Australia players that is based in Abu Dhabi, which unlike the other Emirates has a quarantine period.

"While they are still negotiating with the authorities, we are reconciled to the fact that we may have to quarantine our three players," Mysore was quoted as saying.

"They arrive on September 17, but our first game is on September 23, by which time they would've finished their (six-day) quarantine. So it's worked out well, and it's good for the tournament."

F1 braced for white-knuckle at Tuscan Grand Prix

MUGELLO AFP: Formula One drivers are expecting this weekend's first Tuscan Grand Prix to be an exhaustive test of their physical condition - and probably the toughest challenge of the season.

The spectacular Mugello circuit is normally used for MotoGP and some junior categories of single-seat car racing - but has

never before hosted an F1 Grand Prix. Mugello, close to Florence, is set in flowing semi-mountainous parkland and is owned by Ferrarri, who this weekend celebrate their 100th Grand Prix entry.

"It's going to be an absolute killer physically," said George Russell of Williams. "I've raced here once before in 2014 when I was compet-

ing in Formula Renault and it's an incredible circuit - so fast and so flowing. Turns six, seven, eight and nine will be absolutely flat out, probably, or flat out in seventh gear anyway I think.

"I think Arrabiata will be quite easy flat, but it's the corners before - Casanova and Savelli. Those are the difficult ones."

New kid on the block can qualify for Olympics says coach

BY KASUN IRUGALBANDARA

Yupun Abeykoon became the new sensation in Sri Lanka athletics when he established a new Sri Lanka and South Asian record in the shortest version of the sport, the 100 metres with a timing of 10.16 seconds at an international meet held in Dessau, Germany last week.

He has now bettered the old record set by Imasha Eshan also of Sri Lanka who had finished the distance in 10.18 seconds.

With this achievement Sri Lanka athletics coach YK Kularatne told The Sunday Observer that Abeykoon can now hope to qualify for the forthcoming Olympic Games to be held in Tokyo, Japan next year. When asked whether Abeykoon's achievement is good enough to qualify for the

Olympic Games, Kularatne said that his timing was not enough for direct qualification which is 10.05 seconds.

"Abeykoon is in the elite pool of athletes and continues training in Italy closely monitored by Sri Lanka Athletics.

"He has a little more time to improve in his timing by more than 0.11 seconds. "The other option is for him to participate in more international meets and earn points to qualify that could give him a wild card entry," said Kularatne.

"We hope he can qualify from the 'A' grade. He is born with the talent of a sprinter from the area where sprinters came from. We know that Chilaw and Wennapuwa have produced the best sprinters in Sri Lanka like Sunil Gunawardana, Rohan Pradeep and Manura Lanka".



Yupun Abeykoon

Bryan Habana meets his HSBC rugby fans in Sri Lanka

World rugby legend, the former South African and Springbok superstar Bryan Habana for the first time made contact with the sport's followers in Sri Lanka as HSBC Premier kicked off its inaugural Lifestyle series with an exclusive webinar with the World Cup winner who is also their ambassador.

The webinar was moderated by renowned BBC Sports Commentator Andrew Cotter.

The one-hour webinar was aimed at giving HSBC's Premier customers the opportunity to connect and engage with Habana through question and answer as invitees had an insight into his unforgettable memories of winning the rugby World Cup final in Japan in 2007 and his take on sports in general.

"Rugby is a unifier of nations and promotes equality. I look at the role HSBC has played particularly in the game of rugby and not just at the high-

est level but across the world and I always had this goal that when I finish playing I wanted to be associated with HSBC and it's a privilege and honour to have been an ambassador for the last two years.

"HSBC played a big part in rugby 7s getting into the Olympics and a big part in seeing the women's 7s game particularly rise to some phenomenal heights within the game."

Unaware of the popularity of the game in Sri Lanka, Habana recalled some of his fondest memories meeting Sri Lankan cricketing legend, Mahela Jayawardane during a game of golf two years ago, where he got to know about the popularity of schools rugby in the island.

"To hear this (about Sri Lanka) for a country like South Africa which has a huge rugby community and had no clue about, was brilliant," said Habana.

Habana with 124 caps is widely regarded as one of the most powerful wingers of his generation, having scored 67 Test tries for the Springboks.

At the 2007 Rugby World Cup he was one of the stars of the tournament scoring eight tries equalling the single-tournament try record set by the great and late Jonah Lomu in 1999.

HSBC's Media Relations and Communications manager Priscilla Labrooy said the bank plans to host similar webinars with international sporting personalities covering rugby, golf, tennis and athletics with Henrik Stenson the 2016 Champion Golfer of the Year scheduled for September 22.



Bryan Habana



BUSINESS

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SEPTEMBER 13, 2020



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LankaQR kicks-off in Matale



The Central Bank named this year as the 'Year of Digital Transactions' with the aim of popularising digital transactions among people and businesses. Parallel to the initiative the Payment and Settlement Department of the Bank has launched an islandwide awareness campaign on 'LankaQR' in collaboration with the Regional Development Department of the Central Bank.

As the first step the Matale 'LankaQR' campaign kicked off yesterday at the Central Bank Regional Office, Matale to educate customers of the area chaired by the Central Bank Governor Prof. W.D. Lakshman.

The event was attended by CEOs of commercial banks, licensed specialised banks and licensed finance companies and government and law enforcement authorities.

Seminar on annual reports

A presentation on the challenges that organisations face in preparing their



Raja Senanayake

Annual Report 2020 in the wake of Covid-19 and related socio-economic changes will be held at 9.30 am on Wednesday, September 16 at the BMICH.

Conducted by Chartered Accountant and Chief Officer, Smart Academy, Raja Senanayake, the event will cover challenges in the context of: The organisation's symbiotic relationship with stakeholders, the need to demonstrate vitality and resilience, Articulating the response to the challenges posed by the pandemic, Demonstrating the prospects of returning to viability, Demonstrating the robustness of the business model and Describing the true value of the business.

Asia-Pacific markets mixed as investors watch tech stocks



SINGAPORE — Stocks in Asia-Pacific were mixed in Friday morning trade as investors watched regional technology stock movements following a decline in the sector stateside overnight.

Mainland Chinese stocks were mixed, with the Shanghai composite down slightly while the Shenzhen component rose 0.349%. Hong Kong's Hang Seng index advanced 0.33%.

Meanwhile, Australia's S&P/ASX 200 fell 0.96%. Shares of major miner Rio Tinto dipped around 0.2% after the firm announced its chief executive will be stepping down "by mutual agreement." - CNBC

Economy: Faster recovery expected in 4Q

2Q figures likely this month

By Lalin Fernandopulle



The report on the second quarter performance of the GDP is likely to be released by the end of this month, a senior official of the Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) told *Sunday Observer Business* on Friday.

The data on the quarterly performance of the GDP is released 75 days after the issuance of the last quarter results.

"We are in the process of finalising the data obtained from various institutions and most likely the final figures will be released by the end of this month," said DCS Director General Dr. Indu Bandara.

The quarterly performance of the economy is presented through the DCS website while the annual performance is issued through hard copies to institutions. Data for the compilation of the reports are obtained from over 250 organisations that contribute to the GDP of the country. The release of the first quarter results was delayed due to the situation that prevailed in the country following the outbreak of the pandemic in March.

It was speculated that the reason



for the delay was due to the negative growth rate during the first quarter.

The economy contracted by 1.6 percent in the first quarter this year contrary to the expectations of the Central Bank which speculated a higher growth rate.

The blame for the unsatisfactory performance of the GDP was put on the global pandemic while economists and think tanks said it was not fair to pass the buck on the pandemic and wash the hands as barely 10 days of the virus had affected the country during the first quarter.

Central Bank officials at the last monetary policy review media briefing said the bank would hold discussions with DCS before the release of

the quarterly results of the GDP. However, clear indications are that GDP growth during the second quarter will be negative due to the impact of the pandemic. On the growth forecast for the year, Central Bank officials said it was too early to predict the overall GDP growth for the year as much depended on the third and fourth quarter performance which is likely to improve with imports declining, an up-tick in exports and an improvement in foreign remittances.

The Central Bank said that it expects a faster recovery of the economy during the fourth quarter due to the political stability in the country and growth stimulation measures of the Government. The GDP of most

economies including those of advanced countries had contracted sharply recording negative growth in the first two quarters of this year.

Global think tanks have warned things would get worse before it could get better for the global economy as most advanced economies are not yet out of the woods. Meanwhile, the regulator said that it will expedite work on consolidation of weak financial institutions to restore stability in the financial sector.

"We have identified institutions that need support and we hope to merge them with stronger institutions soon," said Central Bank Governor Prof. W.D. Lakshman who was in the North over the weekend to discuss issues pertaining to micro lending institutions and debt repayment of borrowers.

The regulator warned stern action against registered micro credit institutions who try to fleece on hapless borrowers and exert undue pressure on repayment of loans. Over 175 micro credit customers particularly in the North had committed suicide due to undue pressure exerted by micro lenders to repay loans.

Lanka, resilient against health emergencies - WHO

BY RAJITHA JAGODA ARACHCHI

Sri Lanka is a strong and resilient nation against global health emergencies, WHO Sri Lanka Public Health Administrator Dr. Olivia Nieveras told a webinar organised last week to mark the 75th anniversary of the signing the UN Charter in San Francisco.

She said that the WHO is confident that Sri Lanka is well prepared to face a future pandemic similar to Covid-19.

"During the past decade Sri Lanka faced many challenges such as natural disasters and health emergencies. I am quite confident that Sri Lanka is ready to face another pandemic. During a global pandemic, the behaviour of people is the key to overcome challenges. Sri Lankans showed their abilities during the pandemic," she said. Nieveras said Sri Lanka has an excellent human resources capacity compared to countries of the region. "For every 1,000 people there is a doctor and two nurses in Sri Lanka which is in par with global healthcare standards," she said.

Project Manager at the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), Gayan Manorathna said Sri Lanka needs sustainable infrastructure facilities to develop its health sector.

"e-commerce in the health procurement sector could improve healthcare infrastructure in Sri Lanka. We strongly believe that Sri Lanka's health sector should invest more in sustainable infrastructure and sustainable procurement," he said.

Banking: Siloed risk management leading to fraud - Survey

Siloed risk management approaches across banking operations, customer due diligence, sanctions screening and trade-based transactions are the root cause for systemic inefficiencies leading to fraud, a survey report on 'South Asia Anti Money Laundering Preparedness 2020' by Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India LLP (DTTILLP) released last week stated.

According to the survey, meeting increased regulatory expectations and enforcing Anti Money Laundering (AML) compliance pose operational challenges to banks, even as 81 percent of respondents indicated that their AML program was compliant with all regulatory requirements. These challenges range from reliance on manual processes, inadequate data, and the inability to recruit or retain skilled staff.

"Historically, AML programs have been incident-driven with lean teams to manage response to events, or changes in regulatory developments. But that is no longer adequate today. With increased regulatory scrutiny, and expectations being "If you could have known,



then you should have known", banks need to move to a proactive approach to demonstrate their compliance to avoid fines, rather than rely on the traditional reactive approach.

This calls for investments in an integrated enterprise-wide approach to manage compliance and prevent failures. Such an approach that provides a comprehensive view of customers and transactions can make it difficult for criminals to exploit gaps between business systems, databases and countries," said Partner, Forensic, Financial Advisory, DTTILLP, K.V. Karthik. Overall, survey respondents also highlighted technology-related challenges such as high false positives, data accuracy and unstructured data,...

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GBCSL to launch 'Greening Sri Lanka' campaign

The Green Building Council of Sri Lanka (GBCSL) plans to launch the 'Greening Sri Lanka 2030' campaign shortly with the help of professional institutions, the public and the corporate sector to implement key principles of environmental sustainability and green building practices throughout the country, a senior official of the Council said on Friday.

Alumni of Certified Green Professionals of GBCSL President Dr. Kasun Nandapala said the endeavours of the



Mahen Hewawasam, Dr. Kasun Nandapala

Council are directed to inform the construction industry in Sri Lanka

with green building practices and to fully adopt sustainability as the means by which our environment flourishes, economy prospers, and society grows to ensure the future wellbeing of the country.

The Alumni of Certified Green Professionals of GBCSL is working hand-in-hand with industry experts to provide peace of mind to CEOs and principals seeking solution on how to safely re-open offices, hospitality, ...

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Call to expedite 'Disability Rights Bill' enactment

BY LALIN FERNANDOPULLE

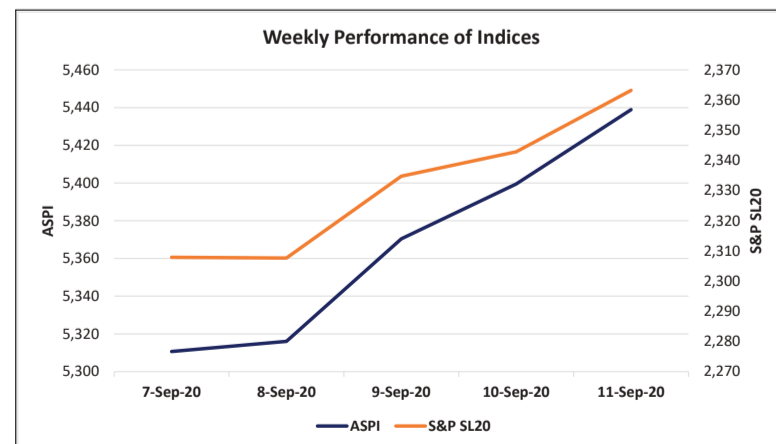
Persons with disabilities and organisations supporting them call upon the Government to expedite the enactment of legislation to uplift and recognise differently-abled people to enhance their contribution to the economy. Organisations looking into

the welfare and rights of persons with disabilities also urge the authorities to set up a task force under the supervision of the President to ensure that they are treated with dignity and are not denied rights and privileges enjoyed by others.

"As persons with disabilities we call on the new Government to pass

the Disability Rights Bill in Parliament including the recommendations made by people with disabilities and to ratify the optional protocol of the United Nations Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCPRD) to uplift and recognise people with disabilities to boost...

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Courtesy: The Colombo Stock Exchange

EXCHANGE RATES		US Dollar	Euro	Japanese yen	Pound sterling	Chinese Yuan
Sep 7 - Sep 11		\$	€	¥	£	¥
Monday	187.30	222.90	1.7811	249.24	27.885	
Tuesday	186.84	221.86	1.7756	246.88	27.819	
Wednesday	186.50	220.92	1.7783	242.95	27.700	
Thursday	186.56	221.81	1.7754	243.61	27.766	
Friday	186.82	222.38	1.7774	240.66	27.809	

Business

Smartphones reinforce the new normal

The rise of technological innovations has sparked the age of digital transformation in Sri Lanka, and smartphones are enabling netizens to explore the endless possibilities of the online world. The nation recorded a 245% increase in the e-commerce base as the basket went from \$11 to \$38 which was primarily driven by e-payment, e-banking, online medical consultation and e-sports, the latest segment on e-platforms.

Smartphones are also galvanising day-to-day activities with 43% people accepting to have tried newer things online. It is definite that the inertia has been broken and an increasing number of consumers would be inclined to adopt digital mechanisms.

Sri Lanka has recorded a 200% growth in Facebook and 50% growth in YouTube users. Thus, the digital landscape of the country is on the verge of blossoming and smartphones are aiding its augmentation.

The use of mobile phones has become a common feature among the people. At present, with over 10.10 million internet users and an internet penetration of over 47%, the Sri Lankan smartphone market stands at an 11% YoY growth.

Smartphone manufacturers are eyeing this opportunity of impending demand for smartphones. Deeper insights into the market reveal that 48% of the people would be interested in buying products that are manufactured locally. Thus, the vision of 'Make in Sri Lanka' and 'Digital Sri Lanka' can go hand in hand in reforming the smartphone industry in the coming years.

Driving customer-centric innovations

A zest for technology has paved the way for smartphone manufacturers to innovate gadgets that provide a personal, customized, and revolutionary experience to the users. In the foreseeable future, the smartphone industry will see an advancement towards 'customer-centric' innovations.



Rethinking smartphones in the 'New Normal' era

Smartphones are now becoming multitasking devices and are impacting every single aspect of our lives. They are now our workstations, binging portals and are replacing all other gadgets that help us in day-to-day activities. The needs of consumers are also evolving ranging from high definition displays for binging content, to a mammoth battery for work or a sturdy processor for gaming and minimum lag for a seamless experience. Feature-rich smartphones are sure to emerge as the game changers in the smartphone industry.

As a youth-centric brand, vivo is tapping into this wave of digital transformation and is manufacturing smartphones that cater to all the digital needs of the users. It is also exploring to tap the 5G wave that is bound to take the nation by the storm.

vivo plans to help in developing the digital fibre of the country and take it from 'New Normal' to 'Beyond the new normal' through its innovative smartphone technology, a company spokesman said.

Cost optimisation to survive and thrive

The common reaction to the economic downturn is reducing costs across the board. However, cutting costs without clear segmentation during an economic downturn is not the recipe for success.

Cost adjustments do need to be made, but the goal should be to strike the right balance between targeted, sustainable and smart spending to fuel your organisation for growth. Initiate cost adjustments to streamline and simplify business operations.

Concentrate your spending on areas of the business that drives the greatest value and differentiation. Think of your organisation as a living organism.

You can trim the extra fat, but if you cut away at the essential parts of the business, performance will start to drop off. Having to make cost adjustments is not easy, but it may be necessary for your business to survive and thrive amidst and post-Covid-19.

Is it ok to ignore costs when your business is riding high? Or should you wait until the signals are clear that demand has fallen and costs have escalated before you begin the necessary cost-optimisation initiatives to sustain performance?

While cost optimisation should be a priority for all companies regardless of the economic cycle and should be a daily activity, the reality is that when times are good, it's on the back burner, and during a downturn, it becomes critical.

Cyclical

The other side of the story is that very same companies that had cut costs previously for various reasons allow fat to build in when the volume and profits grow. Basically, cost cutting in Sri Lankan companies has been cyclical. This is a major weakness of these companies. Should you



Only managers who take the time to examine the cost structure throughout their business and embed cost discipline within their organisation's culture will see gains that can be sustained over the long term

wait until the ship is sinking before plugging your profit leaks?

One of the first things that managers need to change when approaching cost optimisation is their mindset. It helps to think of cost-cutting in terms of a weight-loss program.

You may temporarily lose weight on a crash diet and an aggressive workout schedule, but to maintain the right BMI overtime, you need to adopt a healthy lifestyle and diet over the long term - it should be a daily commitment.

Similarly, only managers who take the time to examine the cost structure throughout their business and embed cost discipline within their organisation's culture will see gains that can be sustained over the long term.

It is not easy to compete in the market today. Sometimes it seems that a company gets one set of expenses under control, and in the meantime, another area of the company begins experiencing cost overruns. It is a never-ending battle to maintain company profitability.

Easy options

Companies need more insight into what drives costs in their business to ensure that cost-cutting is targeted at the right places and that the success of cost management initiatives is properly measured.

Companies often pick the easy options for cost initiatives, rather than the ones that will yield the most savings. While budget and headcount reductions provide short-term cost savings, reducing complexity and improving process efficiency can yield significant and lasting benefits, but only if they are conducted rigorously and continuously. Companies must also be prepared to adopt major changes to their business model to remain competitive.

Every person in a company has a role in cost management regardless of the job level but these responsibilities are typically unclear in many organizations.

A clear strategy and open communication are vital to the success of any corporate project, but even more so



BIZ TALK with Kishu Gomes

around cost-cutting initiatives, where employees understandably can feel threatened by change. As part of this holistic view of costs, managers need to take responsibility for change beyond their own department and employee rewards around cost incentives must align with the business strategy.

At the end of the day, it is very important to understand the relationship between cost and value. The decisions that you make should take cost and value into consideration. If the value created by engaging in a specific activity is higher than the costs caused by that activity, it is advisable to engage in that activity. It is, however, never recommended to engage in an activity whose costs are higher than the value that will be created by that activity. It is a principle that should always be considered in all cost management decisions.

Ocean Lanka fetes long-serving employees



Ocean Lanka Managing Director, Dr. Austin Au and the senior management team with a group of gold coin recipients.

Ocean Lanka (Pvt) Ltd, a weft knitted fabric manufacturer, recognised and rewarded a large cohort of long-serving employees at the *Sewa Abhiman 2020 Loyalty Awards*, where gold coins were presented to 63 employees, who completed 10 years of service at the company. Managing Director of Ocean Lanka, Dr. Austin Au, described

the awardees as 'pioneers' whose loyalty and commitment have shaped and contributed towards the company's success.

"For the past 25 years, the company has thrived on the passion, perseverance and dedication of our staff. We continue to nurture a reliable and trustworthy environment, by main-

taining a policy of honesty and transparency, and placing high value and respect upon each individual. This is our DNA and the long years of service are ample proof of those values being vibrantly lived, every day," he said.

The *Sewa Abhiman 2020 Loyalty Awards* is a culminating activity of Ocean Lanka's anniversary celebra-

tions and is considered as one of the most important employee recognition events. The company remains committed on the professional development of staff and the allocation of various incentives and employee engagement activities to further motivate them to deliver the best of their ability.

Huawei 5G Microwave Asia-Pacific conference Innovative microwave solutions proposed

The Huawei 5G Microwave Asia-Pacific Conference was held online recently, bringing together over 130 guests to share insights into 5G microwave applications and to discuss how microwave solutions contribute to accelerating 5G development in the Asia-Pacific region.

Huawei proposed an innovative solution to solve transmission capacity and distance bottlenecks that traditional microwave solutions encounter in the parts of the Asia-Pacific region that experience heavy rain.

Huawei's 5G microwave solutions have simplified architecture and support ultra-high bandwidth and low latency.

The solutions allow carriers to quickly launch networks, helping them acquire subscribers from high-end markets, as demonstrated in the first wave of 5G construction in the Middle East. As they feature a shorter time to market and return on investment period, microwave solutions are hailed as the optimal transport solution to scale up 5G development.

Huawei's 20 Gbps e-band microwave solution has played a crucial role in ensuring the transport capacity for large-scale 5G commercial networks. However, the E-band spectrum is prone to high rain attenuation, limiting the coverage distance in heavy-rain regions. Large-diameter antennas are featured with small beam angles, placing high requirements on tower stability.

Huawei Fellow and Chairman of the ETSI Industry Study Group mWT, Renato Lombardi proposed an innovative solution based on intelligent beam tracing (IBT) antenna for long-reach E-band and super dual band (SDB) approaches to increase the coverage distance and simplify deployment. The combination aims to significantly increase the coverage distance of microwave solutions in heavy-rain regions.

Increasing antenna diameter is the most effective approach to increasing the coverage distance of microwave signals. However, a larger diameter leads to a smaller beam angle and requires greater tower stability.

Therefore, for current E-band deployments, 0.3 m antennas are mostly adopted for ultra-short-dis-



Renato Lombardi

Increasing antenna diameter is the most effective approach to increasing the coverage distance of microwave signals. However, a larger diameter leads to a smaller beam angle and requires greater tower stability.

stance links. In contrast, the 0.6 m antenna applications are limited due to demanding deployment requirements.

Early this year, Huawei released one of the industry's first 0.6 m IBT antennas. Detecting that signal towers shake or shift within a certain degree due to environmental factors, the antenna will enable beams to automatically maintain their orientation, addressing strict requirements placed on tower stability. The antennas support on-pole deployment, providing an extra advantage to promote scaled deployment. Compared with 0.3 m antennas, the 0.6 m IBT antenna increases the coverage distance by up to 40%.

While this new solution is now beginning to see scaled deployment, an IBT antenna with an even larger diameter is being planned to further increase the coverage distance of E-band microwave solutions.

If the long-reach E-band solution cannot meet the coverage distance requirement in high-capacity use cases, Lombardi recommended the SDB solution. Combined with 0.6 m IBT antennas, the SDB solution provides a multifold transmission distance as compared to the E-band solution, while also easing site deployment.

"EVERYONE KNOWS HR"

A CV can contain factual and nonfactual information and HR professionals try to validate them as much as possible through interviews, tests and reference checking.



By Janaka Kumarasinghe

Management research: Towards prosperity for posterity

The post-Covid-19 pandemic presents multiple challenges that need managerial responses. Management is more a practice that cuts across many professions, and increasingly crucial in ensuring survival and success in all fronts.

Management research, sadly, is not as vibrant as research in other disciplines due to multiple reasons. We have a dearth of management scholars in Sri Lanka. The demise of Prof. Sisira Jayakody, Head of the research centre of the Postgraduate Institute of Management (PIM), and also the Director of the Institute of Human Resource Advancement (IHRA), University of Colombo, prompted me to reflect on the richness of management research with its associated relations.

Overview

"Research is to see what everybody else has seen, and to think what nobody else has thought," said Albert Szent-Gyorgyi, a Nobel Prize winning Hungarian psychologist. It is, in fact, developing a third eye to see beyond what is obvious. The field of management in Sri Lanka, private and public sectors alike can immensely benefit if more insight beyond mere information is the norm in making policy decisions. Management research is of utmost importance, in this sense, globally and locally alike.

Management research is a part of the wider array of social research. Management research is viewed as "a systematic, data-based, critical, objective, scientific investigation into a specific problem, undertaken with the purpose of finding answers or solutions to it" (Sekaran & Bougie, 2013:2).

While positive initiatives are being taken, the present situation with respect to research in Sri Lanka is far from satisfactory. Pinikahana (2013) highlighted the need to focus on the private sector to collaborate in university research, where he stated, "Sri Lanka contributes only 0.17% from GDP whereas Singapore contributes 2.3%, South Korea, 2.9% and China, 1.3% from their GDP for research".

"It is time to deviate from the traditional concept of university research and establish some links



STRATEGIC STRIDES
by

Prof. Ajantha Dharmasiri

with the industry, public and private for collaborative research", he said. This highlights the need to "reach the unreached" in conducting management research, aptly justifying the theme. In fact, it has a global and local relevance. Bennis and O'Toole (2005) lamented that "too focused on 'scientific' research, business schools are hiring professors with limited real-world experience and graduating students who are ill-equipped to wrangle with complex, unquantifiable issues in other words, the stuff of management." It clearly points to the need to have rigor, relevance and reach.

Strengthening research

In such a context, any move to strengthen the research rigour, particularly among the University community is commendable. There is a clear need to create better awareness on the importance of research. Academics can play a pivotal role here. Academics engage in scholarly activities. They deal with knowledge in playing multiple roles.

They have to think and act as knowledge creators and knowledge sharers. Academics influence the attitudes and aptitudes of the student community. Superiority in scientific thinking, blended with socio-cultural realities is what an academic should smartly possess. Academics should shift from their perennial plight of "publishing or perishing" to a new

paradigm of "thought leadership". Such a transformation requires vision and passion. Overcoming socio-economic as well as religio-cultural barriers in moving ahead with a strong intrinsically-driven motivation is the need of the hour.

The starting point is the role of knowledge capturer. This includes the learning dimension of an academic. We learn from the womb to the tomb, as life-long learners. I prefer to be called a management learner than an 'expert'. This is more relevant in the context of change, where knowledge is rapidly becoming obsolete. Particularly, in the areas of Information, Communication and Technology (ICT), the rate of knowledge updating seems more rapid.

This is where the academics have to explore new knowledge. They should have the mindset of exploration. It reminds me of a story that I heard about an elderly professor. He was serving in a residential campus in a European city, staying in the uppermost floor of the building complex. His room was well lit early morning and the students could see him reading. The students wondered why this veteran still suffers in getting up so early to read. One student had the guts to go and ask him, as to why he is doing so. The professor gave a profound answer. "I would rather drink from a flowing fountain than from a stale pond".

Upon reflecting, I was wondering whether we Sri Lankan academics are more "flowing fountains" or "stale ponds". We might be hurriedly offering re-cycled knowledge over and again to cater to ever-increasing lecture demand. Hence, the knowledge capturing dimension suffers and opportunity to review and renew oneself is neglected.

Tell, ask, show and do

The second state is where academics perform as knowledge communicators. It highlights the traditional role of teaching. Communicating knowledge does not necessarily mean lecturing. We at the Postgraduate Institute of Management (PIM), have been practising, what we call four modes of teaching. They refer to "tell, ask, show and do".

Telling means the typical lecturing. Asking means to engage the



Prof. Sisira Jayakody addresses a research session at PIM. Dr. Trevor Mendis (left), Prof. P.S.M. Gunaratne and Prof. Ajantha Dharmasiri at the head table - File pic

This is more relevant in the context of change, where knowledge is rapidly becoming obsolete. Particularly, in the areas of ICT, the rate of knowledge updating seems more rapid. This is where the academics have to explore new knowledge. They should have the mindset of exploration

learning community by raising questions expecting answers from them. Showing refers to audio-visual interventions such as documentaries, movie extracts, video recordings, internet-based resources such as YouTube etc. Doing means to get the student community to engage in group discussions. In a typical three-hour 'session' (we prefer this as opposed to a lecture), roughly one-third would be telling.

I see clear issues among Sri Lankan academics in this respect. Are we loading students with knowledge through one-way communication in making them mere receivers? They would easily resort to 'parrot technique' in memorising everything and reproducing at the exam with spelling and grammar errors. Are we being challenged by the student community sufficiently, in leading to a meaningful interactive discussion? I might be biased here basing on mostly post-graduate teaching experience. Yet, irrespective of what level an academic has to tackle, an appropriate adaption is always possible.

The pinnacle is where academics perform as knowledge creators. This

is where the research comes into the limelight. Sri Lankan academics should reach the pinnacle of knowledge pyramid in becoming knowledge creators. Relevant research with rigor and results is the need of the hour.

Bartunek et al (2001) highlight that there is a considerable gap between organisational research findings and management practices. As they observe:

"Although volumes have been written about the probable causes and consequences of this gap, surprisingly little empirical evidence exists concerning the various viewpoints. The articles in this forum provide data on the role of academic-practitioner relationships in both generating and disseminating knowledge across boundaries.

The contributions of each article are summarised in light of recent theories of knowledge creation, and suggestions are made for increasing the value and relevance of future research to both academics and practitioners". (Bartunek et al, 2001: 1)

In such a context, any move to strengthen the research rigor, particularly among the University community is commendable. As I observe, there is a clear need to create better awareness on the importance of research. This I see acutely in the field of management.

Demise of a rare researcher

I think this is the backdrop where the loss of late Prof. Sisira Jayakody is

much felt. He was a product of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce of the University of Sri Jayawardenepura with his MBA and Ph.D. from the Postgraduate Institute of Management (PIM).

He was a leading scholar in management research during our times in raising the bar of scholarly work with international accolades. As Prof. Nalin Abeysekera, one of his students, highlighted in a recent column, publishing in journals like International Journal of Bank Marketing, Journal of Management Development, The International Journal of Human Resource Management, Contemporary Management Research, Journal of Knowledge Management and Management Decision is a rare feat of an accomplished academic.

I recall with a deep sense of sadness how we intellectually interacted during our doctoral program at the PIM, where veterans such as Prof. Uditha Liyanage challenged us to be conceptually sharp. Prof. Jayakody had the innate humbleness of associating with the research community in a friendly and supportive manner.

He was a researcher with global reach and local roots. Raising the standards of research at PIM in becoming its first Head of the Research Centre, and contributing immensely for the success of our Doctoral program was very noteworthy. His contribution as an editorial member of the most longstanding management journal in Sri Lanka, viz. Sri Lankan Journal of Management (SLJM) is indeed commendable.

Way forward

Management research has a long way to go in ensuring the consistent, reaching the unreached, with needed insights for improvements. With awareness of the content, and familiarity of the contents, the committed conduct with clarity and coherence is what is required.

The way to fill the void created by the demise of veterans such as Prof. Jayakody is to take the baton and march forward in confidence as like-minded management researchers for the betterment of humanity. The management research community who were near and dear to him will definitely do so.

"Organisations with fair policies face the least disruption"

Former Employers Federation DG launches book on People Management

Organisations need proper governance and concern for people who serve them whether they have a profit orientation or not, said Former Director General of the Employers' Federation of Ceylon (EFC) and legal luminary Franklyn Amerasinghe at the launch of his book 'Business Oriented People Management' at the EFC last week.

Excerpts of the speech:

"The common perception is that business management is about profits and people are only a means to an end - the end being profit.

"My theme was to place People Managers within an organisational frame which is all the while grappling with a multitude of factors some of which are beyond the control of the enterprise and dictated by social and political forces.

"By acquiring awareness of factors which influence stakeholders, Human Resource Managers could make a more significant contribution to their organisations, and also benefit by better recognition of their own roles by demonstrating their ability to think holistically.

"The professionalism of a People Manager comes from an ability to understand the organisation and its people as completely as humanly possible.

"I have had a working life of over fifty years. I learnt industrial relations, and learnt to deal with its many social ramifications, from the master, Sriyan de Silva, to whom the book is dedicated.

"Governance and handling people I learnt by my participation in Boards in the public and private sector, and of course by managing the Federation and its services.

"People at work need to identify their accountability to the community and having socially well-adjusted employees is another key aspect of the People Manager's role. Overall sustainability is a people-driven activity.



Franklyn Amerasinghe

"People need to be the same whether they are at home or at the workplace. The pandemic and the locus of employment being shunted back and forth between the traditional workplace and the home, may have caused confusion in the lives of some.

"The history of managing people in Sri Lanka is attempted in the first chapter. Organisations react to situations rather than anticipate events.

"The EFC, for example, was formed as a reaction to the first national trade union of Goonesinghe. Managing people was reactive and based on dispute prevention and mitigation of damage through agreed processes.

"Companies sought refuge either under the labour laws or collective agreements, to ensure that they could do their business without interruption. One thing was always clear, the least disrupted organisations were those which had clear, transparent and fair policies.

"The Open Economy challenged management to be productive and

Decision makers in a company have paid little attention to accepting the value of Human Resource Services for anticipating and planning for the risks which beset them

efficient for their survival or growth. From the 1980s, sector wide bargaining was progressively dismantled and employers grasped the opportunity to introduce the carrot of personal incentives, and other individual carrots, which would make the employee think of his or her individual interests.

"HR Development seemed directly proportional to what the organisation wanted to extract from the employee and by and large paid scant attention to what the employee himself or herself wanted.

"When the markets are buoyant, when career paths can be opened, profits flow steadily, and there is largesse to distribute. History shows us that cyclical changes are inevitable in consumer markets, but our organisations are never ready for adverse situations. Employees are then seen as a burden, aggravated by the rigidity of local laws.

Bad times

"Organisations need to think of the ever present risk of bad times and cushion themselves against it. Decision makers in a company have paid little attention to accepting the value of Human Resource Services for anticipating and planning for the risks which beset them.

"The CEO has the primary responsibility for performance, and motivating employees to perform, by ensuring that they are treated fairly, equally and with empathy. He or she, in turn must see that the code which he lives by is adopted by all with People Management responsibilities.

"The HR Service would be a team of Managers and Executives who

form a core service of communicating policy, setting and administering processes, managing issues and settling them amicably, coaching and mentoring those responsible for teams, encouraging the aspirations of employees and planning their development. The bond between the CEO, sector managers, line managers and the HR services is a vital one.

"Governance issues are as distant from the realm of HR Services as could possibly be, right now. This needs to change so that the HR function is an integrated strategic function. The organisation has apart from the need to be responsible to shareholders, an overarching responsibility to a multitude of stakeholders. This includes the employees and their families, groups to which they belong whether religious or social, the community within which one does business, the political groups, consumers and value chains to name some obvious groups.

Dialogue

"The policy makers of a company need to have a dialogue with employees on an ongoing basis, and this can be best achieved by an HR Service which could be a channel for two-way communication.

"The need for a proper system of dialogue is strongly advocated by the book. But for such a dialogue to be possible, the HR function must have adequate competence to know what the issues for top management are, and what information should be communicated to it to ensure that decisions are people sensitive.

"HR people nowadays know little about Industrial Relations which many ignore at their peril. The current global situation has brought the focus again on collective interests rather than individual interests of employees, which latter area is what most HR people have been tutored in.

I have given an overview of the

significant laws and of collective bargaining as these are essential to understand legal compliance and the implications of collective thinking. ILO Conventions, concerns of the WTO, International Unions, and Ethical Investors are useful to create a global context for employment.

"We live in an era of specialisation, and technical people who direct the work of people, fail to see that employment has social and economic consequences far beyond the work unit.

Survival

"The Novel Coronavirus has resulted in businesses being challenged to create novel methods of survival. The clock was an essential tool of managing work, and in the past, employers thought that discipline started with employees being made to adhere to a norm of eight solid hours, or more if needed, under their watchful eyes.

"A paradigm shift in favour of work which is self-managed, casts obligations on both sides to be responsible. There has to be a culture change to be flexible and creative, in eliciting performance from a virtual workplace.

"There is also no special credit for talent acquired or retained. In short, people are not valued as a resource.

"The failure to have processes which help everyone in the organisation to have access to information I think is responsible for much of the pain.

"Social Responsibility is not only for good times but is a continuing responsibility. Laws are of no consequence as they are meant to be applied when conditions are normal. This is why Courts of Equity were born.

"The current situation demands common sense solutions which are flexible, fluid but responsible in terms of sharing the pain equitably. The history of the world has revealed that desperation caused by inequality is the seed for revolution.

Asia Capital to undergo restructuring



Nishan Sumanadeera

Amidst ongoing negotiations between Japanese and Malaysian investors of Asia Capital PLC (ACAP), the company appointed Frontier Capital Partners, a firm headed by Investment Banker Nishan Sumanadeera as the legal and financial consultant to head restructuring and to restore confidence among foreign investors of Asia Capital PLC.

"We have appointed Sumanadeera to relook at our assets portfolio and we are confident that he will guide the future direction of the Asia Capital Group to add value and to drive innovation to the original investments made by the foreign investors in the company," Executive Director of Asia Capital PLC, Stefan Abeyesinhe said.

"We will also look at further diversification going forward as a group into new sectors. Financial services would be a main focus along with shipping, logistics and imported substitution related industries," he said. Sumanadeera had already previously worked for Asia Capital PLC prior to his retirement in 2009 before the current senior management was appointed.

Sumanadeera said, "Investors in this company have placed their confidence in me and Frontier Capital team's financial and legal guidance to make sure Asia Capital will be positioned back to the place it had during the golden days of Investment Banking in Sri Lanka."

Business

Some thoughts on the formulation of Sri Lanka's new trade policy

By
Dr. Nihal Pitigala



The Government plans to adopt a New Trade Policy (NTP) considering recent developments. The development of the NTP is taking place amidst the devastating economic contagion that the Covid-19 pandemic has inflicted on Sri Lanka, resulting in a dramatic collapse of trade and income.

The recovery of Sri Lanka's largest trading partners in the West is likely to be prolonged, given the efforts to contain the still reverberating health crisis. Making the international market work for Sri Lanka's development in this context is a daunting challenge. It is incumbent upon the Government to ask some critical questions in re-visiting the orientation of Sri Lanka's trade policy and how it can optimally contribute to the Government's short-term Covid-19 recovery plan and its longer-term development objectives.

Development objectives

Before determining the direction of the NTP, it will be critical to clearly define the specific development objectives that the policy plans to achieve — whether an increased rate of economic growth, broader-based and more inclusive growth, greater or more diverse productive capacity, value-added through knowledge and human capital inputs versus value-added through replacement of imported inputs, an export-led versus an import-substituting orientation, and or other non-economic objectives such as national security, environmental sustainability, and promotion of health.

The Government's 'Vistas of Prosperity and Splendor' poses a broad set of economic development objectives to propel economic growth. As a corollary, to promote the Government's growth objectives, the design of the NTP should also take into consideration the extent to which it should exploit Sri Lanka's

established comparative advantages to cement its market share at home and abroad or incentivise investments in the development of new advantages.

While trade policy can contribute, in different ways, to this multifaceted set of development objectives, one set of policies can likely have, simultaneously, a positive impact in one area and a negative in another area, e.g. promoting competitive exports versus building domestic capacity to replace reliance on imports.

The design of the NTP should also consider the extent to which trade policy itself should directly contribute to more inclusive growth (and therefore the redistribution of wealth) versus allowing trade policy to maximise overall wealth with a reliance on other policies to redistribute wealth after the fact. Striking the right balance, through trade policy and complementary measures, will be critical to make simultaneous progress towards these objectives.

In practice, Sri Lanka is not alone in needing to balance what can be, in practice, a divergent set of development objectives. There is no shortage of evidence formally (empirically) and informally, including our historical performance, on how different approaches have or have not yielded the desired set of outcomes, have forced different trade-offs in terms of outcomes, and or could have been better served by other means.

How can trade policy affect development objectives and what other policy tools may be necessary to achieve impact?

The Government has a broad range of policy levers at its disposal that can be used to meet its development objectives, from tariffs policy, industrial policy, exchange rate policy, subsidies, trade agreements and labour policies.

In some cases, a different set of policies may be most appropriate to achieve the desired outcomes. In other cases, complementary policy tools may be required to realise the benefits. For example, fiscal incentives may be used to promote investment in the production of higher value-added products.



The selection of policy level

These incentives alone may be insufficient if the labour skills needed are scarce. Therefore, additional labour market policies to incentivise workers to gain new skills and or investments in education and training to increase opportunities for skills development may be needed. It should also recognise that each has potential for different spillover effects—intended or unintended, direct or indirect—on different parts of the economy, such as government revenue impacts (that, in turn, affect public spending), household income, and consumption, environmental impacts, and/or the allocation of productive resources (labour and investment).

The allocation of productive resources will ultimately shape the types and value-added of goods and services that are produced in Sri Lanka, and the level of value-added, the demand for different types and levels of labour skills. Careful consideration of the costs and benefits of each tool should be undertaken to balance the benefits—in terms of intended contributions to development objectives—against the costs to other parts of the economy, which may outweigh the expected benefits. For example, while there is enthusiasm by consumers to

'Buy Sri Lankan', there is likely an upper limit if higher domestic prices from protection are not mitigated by a quality premium, as well—without which, living standards may be negatively impacted. Another example, that incentivises the allocation of productive resources in the economy is: Tariffs, other restrictions on imports, and even subsidies create incentives, both directly to the sectors in which they are applied, and indirectly to other sectors of the economy that do not benefit from those measures.

For example, if the Government desires to incentivise investment in the production of a particular good (to substitute imports, increase local value-added, or to promote the development of an infant industry) with high tariffs, subsidies, or other measures that favour it over other sectors, it must be cognisant that the resource-pull it causes will also serve to divert resources away from sectors that do not benefit from the policy measure, including those that may already be producing inputs for the favoured sector and or those that are producing the same good for export markets.

In the case of input producers, if their level of nominal protection of protection or subsidisation remains unchanged, in practice, their relative

level of support will be less favorable than previously, causing resources to migrate away from the production of inputs, where the effective level of protection is lower, and toward the production of the final good, where the effective rate is higher. In the case of exporters of the final good, they will not benefit from higher tariffs at home, in terms of their profit margin, and will be enticed to divert sales from export markets to an artificially inflated domestic market.

Short and long-term policies and objectives

In the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic, many countries have put in place policies to promote domestic production and consumption using a combination of one-off or temporary policy levers—such as one-off fiscal stimuli (such as cash transfers), or as time-bound measures (such as concessionary loans)—all intended to act as temporary shocks to accelerate recovery.

Others have imposed policies to address immediate constraints, such as limiting imports in the face of limited foreign exchange reserves or export bans on medical equipment and supplies that are facing shortages. While the policies themselves may be short-term in nature, they can have longer-term impacts on the development trajectory.

For example, restrictions on imported inputs may have the unintended impact of causing businesses to fail and unemployment to rise while waiting for domestic production of those inputs to ramp up.

Other countries may use this pause in the global economy to intentionally shape policy measures that can promote longer-term structural transformation using performance-based incentives (e.g. tax incentives or concessionary loan programs) to diversify the economy in terms of the basket of and/or value-added to the goods and services it produces. A careful evaluation of short- versus longer-term objectives is required to understand the potential trade-offs to the economy and strike the right balance.

Market access mechanisms

The Covid-19 crisis may have accelerated the shift away from slow growth Western markets towards relatively fast-growing Eastward markets for many developing and emerging markets.

Access to a larger market is only part of the equation, where efficiency, access to technology, the attraction of investment, and foreign policy objectives are intertwined. If foreign policy considerations take prime the connection between the trade agreement and diplomatic strategy must also be clear. The choice becomes, with whom, with how many and the depth of any agreement Sri Lanka may consider.

As a 'new normal' emerges, the Government should take into account the shifting sands and the opportunities for growth in established markets versus smaller but fast-growing markets—how can structural reform policies, including trade policy and trade agreements, be shaped by these strategic market choices or, conversely, shape the need to pursue new markets.

As market size and composition (in terms of complementary market opportunities) matter, it will be important to compare the costs and benefits of such arrangements—not only in terms of the longer-term development objectives, but also in terms of speed to market, market size, and the overall impact on or complexity of the incentive environment.

For instance, trade links with growing and technologically sophisticated markets can boost domestic productivity growth depends on the depth of the agreements. Shallow purely tariff preferences rarely provide spillover benefits the agreements often promise.

A region-wide agreement with block members a far superior option to individual bilateral relationships with different market and administrative arrangements, which eventually must synergise with significant costs, unless the single country is large enough to generate market size-related benefits.

Call to expedite... Continued from page 25

...their contribution to the economy," said Manager, Specialised Training and Disability Resource Centre of the Employers' Federation of Ceylon, Manique Gunaratne.

The Disability Rights Bill was formulated with public participation in line with the UN Convention on the

Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD).

People with disabilities do not enjoy equal rights and privileges as other citizens in society.

They are deprived of basic entitlements enjoyed by other citizens due to physical and psychological barriers in

society. They also face stigma and discrimination.

The main causes for disability in Sri Lanka are poor hygiene, lack of medical care, the prevalence of a three decade battle against terrorism, the aftereffects of the 2004 tsunami and an increase in accidents.

Banking: Siloed... Continued from page 25

...limited integration with core banking systems, and incomplete coverage of all products and processes. This lack of technological maturity, and data governance appears to have had a cascading impact on every aspect of the AML program.

In the area of sanctions screening, nearly 60 percent respondents indicated that they are struggling with false positives. An ever growing and complicated sanctions list management has emerged as another major issue among the respondents.

In the area of trade-based money laundering, 86 percent of the respondents indicated screening trade finance transactions against internal lists, regulatory lists, and sanctions lists.

The respondents also pointed at challenges such as identifying hidden relationships between trade partners and ports, estimating pricing and invoicing of goods, and unavailability of a single automated system that can combine all screening data.

"In the past, banks have made discretionary investments in technology to meet certain immediate concerns around AML compliance. These have created issues pertaining to the availability and quality of data, systems working in a siloed manner, and inherent module based limitations, leading to significant reliance on manual processes to close gaps in compliance.

Regulators today expect banks to have a consolidated view of customer transactions across businesses and jurisdictions, to identify any unusual transactions and behaviour, or potential sanctions violations. The current technology frameworks may pose a challenge to doing that and banks need to take a strategic and longer term view of technology investments," said Karthik.

The report proposes the need for strategic investments in re-designing AML compliance programs in banking and financial services sectors.

The estimated amount of money laundered globally in one year is 2-5 percent of the global GDP, or in the range of US \$ 800 billion to US \$ 2 trillion. Though the margin between these figures is huge, even the lower

estimate underlines the seriousness of the problem that governments, banks, and FIs need to address. In South Asia particularly, the rapid adoption of online payments and wallet technologies means banks and FIs have had to fast-track and enhance their know your customer (KYC), and transaction monitoring processes. The Covid-19 pandemic has further accelerated digital transaction volumes, changing customer behaviour. As a result, efforts to combat money laundering need to be increased. As a result, the efforts to combat money laundering need to be increased.

"In this backdrop, we wanted to understand the preparedness levels of banks in South Asia to meet revised regulatory requirements and challenges faced by them.

"We undertook a survey of leading banks and FIs in India, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh in January–March 2020. We hope that the survey report will influence discussion and debate among banks, practitioners, regulators, and governments on how to improve AML and counter terrorist financing efforts," the report stated.

GBCSL to launch... Continued from page 25

...recreational, education, and other facilities while ensuring good health and good working environments to their employees, customers and students.

The Council provides free consultation sessions and seminars for industrial and non-industrial entities such as schools, universities, offices and military compounds.

"While people spend 90% of their time inside, indoor air quality (IAQ) has not been a major concern in facilities management and for tenants until recently," said Assistant Treasurer and Steering Committee Member of the Alumni of Certified Green Professionals of GBCSL, Mahen Hewawasam.

Buildings are home to many sources of air contamination, including volatile organic compounds (from cleaning agents, furniture and other materials), and bacteria, mold, and viruses. Poor ventilation exacerbates the presence of these contaminants.

Contaminants in buildings are so widespread that virtually every building contains one or more recognised contaminants.

GBCSL notes that the overall result of these pollutants can be Sick

Building Syndrome (SBS), which is diagnosed when over 20 percent of the building's occupants complain of symptoms such as headaches, upper respiratory irritation, or eye irritation, and when these symptoms disappear after leaving the building on weekends. Symptoms may also include irritation of mucous membranes, dizziness, nausea, throat irritation, and fatigue. Although the specific causes aren't identified, the symptoms coincide with time spent in a particular building and disappear when the sufferer leaves.

The related term 'Building Related Illness' (BRI) is also used to describe the same range of ailments, from mild allergic reactions to more serious infections such as pneumonia and severe respiratory diseases; the difference is that BRI is applied to those cases where the specific cause of the ailment is known.

SBS and BRI are largely the result of poor IAQ. Indoor Air quality was originally ignored in the quest to produce energy-efficient buildings, leading to concentration of contaminants at levels that threatened public health. This feeling of ill health increases sickness, absenteeism and causes a decrease in efficiency and

productivity of the workers. The most susceptible people are those who spend the most time indoors, including children, elderly people, and people with chronic illnesses. Allergies and asthma are also rising dramatically, and may be caused by contaminants in a sick building.

The coronavirus outbreak is bringing indoor air quality into the spotlight as hospitals work to mitigate the spread of disease and offices, retail, and education facilities are considering strategies to reopen safely and minimise infection.

Frequently, IAQ problems in large commercial buildings cannot be effectively identified or remedied without a comprehensive building investigation.

If a professional company is hired to conduct an investigation of a commercial building, the building's owner should select a company on the basis of its experience in identifying and solving IAQ problems in industrial and non-industrial buildings, as the methods and standards are different for each setting.

New technologies are enabling greener buildings to reduce energy consumption and support occupant health and comfort.

BID INVITATION

Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning & Maintenance of CCTV Surveillance System to Lanka Sathosa Limited.

Chairman Lanka Sathosa Ltd (LSL) invites sealed Bids from Local Suppliers, Local Agents, and Importers of their Accredited Agents, Manufacturers, who wish to Supply Installation, Testing, and Commissioning & Maintenance CCTV Camera Systems to Lanka Sathosa Limited. (Outlets / Warehouses / Head Office).

Specifications : As Indicated in the Bidding Document

Requirement : As Indicated in the Bidding Document

Interested Bidders shall obtain Bidding Documents from the Procurement Division (3rd floor) at Lanka Sathosa Limited head office at No 27, CWE Secretariat Building Vauxhall Street, Colombo 02, from 14.09.2020 to 06.10.2020 by paying Rs.5,000/= (Nonrefundable)

Bids should be sent by Registered post or deposited in the tender box placed at the Procurement Division (3rd floor) Lanka Sathosa Ltd, No 27, CWE Secretariat Building Vauxhall Street, Colombo 02, on or before 06.10.2020, 01.00p.m. The top left hand corner of the envelope containing the sealed Bid, should be marked as "Supply of CCTV Surveillance System to LSL"

All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security amounting to a value of 2% (refundable) of the estimated value.

Bids will be closed on 06.10.2020, 01.00 p.m. and open immediately after closing, in the presence of Bidders. Successful Bidder is required to pay a nonrefundable sum of Rs.20,000/= as a Registration Fee (except for Registered Suppliers) and Performance Security amounting to a value of 10% (refundable) of the estimated value.

Contact under Mentioned officer for clarifications:
Deputy General Manager, Procurement LSL - 071 1506120, 077 2535354
Chairman, Lanka Sathosa Ltd reserves the right to decide on awarding of the Tender/Contract.
The Chairman
Lanka Sathosa Limited

Lowest Price | Your Place

Lanka Sathosa
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Ministry of Trade

Business

Alternative lead generation practices

by
Hemantha Kulatunga



Lead generation, also known as prospecting, is one of the most important elements in the selling process.

Companies find customers using funnel mechanisms by applying various prospecting methods and tools. Lead generation is considered as the heart of a business and organisations often rely on leads and work on them to make sales. Acquiring new customers is done through various approaches and practices depending on the media used.

With the introduction of the internet, lead generation has become more convenient than what it was during the pre-internet period. Today, prospecting is done through methods such as content marketing, permission marketing, and inbound marketing, and so forth. The main intention of a marketing organisation is to draw more leads and convert them to purchase in order to increase revenue.

'Cold calling' or the commonest technique that was in practice since the inception of the concept of marketing is still active successfully for developing sales leads. However, with today's advancements in digital technology, prospecting is transformed into more effective methods by using predominantly the internet.

The major advantage of using a digital medium is the reduction of time constraints where the seller can reach a larger audience in a short time. Besides, lead generation through digital media is much less costly than any other method.

A big change has taken place today with the availability of the various

social media platforms that have made accessibility simpler. Consumers can interact with the marketing companies to understand the product they need better through content, images, and accurate details in the digital form. Additionally, the marketers can invite feedback easily to collect information for possible improvements to the product or service and also upgrade the service quality of the organisation.

Lead generation engine

When all elements are in place and when the leads are coming in, they can be handed over to the sales team for follow-up and to convert to sales. However, the important factor is to be in constant touch with the lead generation engine and review it on a regular basis. Let us look at some of the strategies to improve the inbound traffic of new leads.

Written and video content is a powerful advertising tool for generating new leads and finding new prospects. A cleverly planned and effectively produced Video programme in the company website and in any other marketing campaign can be very successful. This is a great way to inform both existing customers and the new prospects of the contents that benefit them.

As a video presentation is prepared with a full understanding of the target customer segment or group, the message can be more meaningful and often can induce them to contact the marketing company to initiate the buying process. A well-prepared website can usually be tempting to a potential prospect when the information in the write-up is appealing to the reader. Though good video content, the company can directly call for action to attract a lead initially and later initiate buying action.

An automated email marketing campaign is another method to find prospects that can offer a significant impact. Sharing important information



Content such as blogs, past experiences, customer recommendations, and short videos also helps to generate new leads. Even non-customers can educate themselves on the information and there is a big possibility that they too may turn up as customers at a later date

with a pre-identified customer group can give them enough reasons to initiate a sales process. A mistake the writer has observed with many Sri Lankan email campaigns is that the contents are cluttered making the message noisy.

Avoid confusion

The message in an email advertisement should be concise to avoid confusion. The usual practice is that the prospect initially only glimpses at the email that comes to either the mobile phone or to a computer. Hence, the message must be brief, attractive, and easy-to-read. While some companies use software applications to deliver

their campaigns, the rest use email marketing companies. Email tracking software solutions are available now to monitor and track open rates, clicked links, and the message delivery of the mails. Technical information such as specifications, guides, and instructions on how to choose a good product is generally appreciated by customers. However, it is recommended that all these materials must be offered free to the customer and the cost is minimal compared to the overall return for the company. Content such as blogs, past experiences, customer recommendations, and short videos also helps to generate new leads. Even non-customers can educate themselves on the

information and there is a big possibility that they too may turn up as customers at a later date.

As per research results, as of January 2020, there are 10.1 million internet users, 6.4 million social media users, and 31.8 million mobile connections available presently in Sri Lanka, and the number is continuously and rapidly increasing.

This is great news for marketers. In Sri Lanka, Facebook is the most widely used social network with 6.1 million users as of 2019.

Therefore, communication with prospects through Facebook accounts is immensely result-oriented. Businesses currently have a wide range of

platforms such as Twitter, YouTube, Instagram and TikTok. All these social media platforms allow companies to directly engage potential customers at a much lower expense than any other lead generation tool, as the posts can be shared for a long period with a wider audience than other means of communicating.

'Endless chain'

Asking for referrals from customers is another good strategy to generate new leads. This method is highly successful if the company has a good track record for customer satisfaction. Customers will gladly recommend the company to other possible prospects if a proper campaign is in place to make them aware of the products.

In the selling process, this is called 'Endless Chain' and one of the best methods to increase the prospect funnel. The strategy is to influence each happy customer to refer to five or more of his or her acquaintances for the marketing company to contact them.

Attending or participating in conferences, trade exhibitions and relevant public events related to the company also is another strategy to find prospects. This is an effective way of networking with potential customers and prospective business partners. Exhibitions and trade shows get the marketer directly engaged with the prospects as most often visitors to these shows are definite prospects who are interested in something they need at a particular trade show or an exhibition. The bottom line is that every company needs new leads to sell their products or services to improve revenue. By crafting good content and digital media strategy they can communicate to potential customers more effectively and develop channel partners. Digital platforms that are available freely and at lower costs can also be enormously useful to find more leads and eventually convert them into sales.

PCR lab donated to Colombo Army Hospital



From left: Managing Director, Sampath Bank, Nanda Fernando, Chairman, CBL Group, Ramya Wickramasingha and Founder and CEO of WSO2, Dr. Sanjiva Weerawarana present the cheques to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa.

Sampath Bank PLC, CBL Group and WSO2 together donated a fully equipped PCR laboratory to the Army Hospital in Colombo, recently.

Costing around Rs. 32 million, this state-of-the-art lab has a testing capacity of 600 per day, thereby expanding the national capacity to conduct PCR tests. This added capac-

ity will enable health authorities to expand their testing base, identify those infected with the virus, treat them and ensure that we keep community transmission at near-zero levels.

Managing Director, Sampath Bank, Nanda Fernando said, "We are honoured to support their efforts

with the donation of this PCR laboratory in partnership with CBL and WSO2. We will continue to empower fellow Sri Lankans and help the nation emerge stronger from this health and economic crisis."

Chairman, CBL Group, Ramya Wickramasingha said, "The CBL Group is honoured to support Sri

Lanka's fight against Covid-19 and we are thankful to our national health authorities and Security Forces who continue to lead Sri Lanka's frontline."

Founder and CEO of WSO2, Dr. Sanjiva Weerawarana said, "Sri Lanka has done a remarkable job of restricting the spread of Covid-19 in

the country and it has been an exemplary demonstration of pandemic control that other countries can emulate. On behalf of WSO2, I'd like to express our gratitude to everyone involved in these containment efforts, particularly the health officials and armed forces who have been at the forefront."

Nestlé awarded for contribution to coconut industry

The Sri Lankan coconut authorities awarded Nestlé at an event on World Coconut Day, in recognition of its high foreign exchange contribution as one of the world's largest exporters of coconut milk powder, and the strategic planning support extended to the Government to help promote the Sri Lankan coconut industry.

The award was presented by the State Minister of Plantations, Arundhika Fernando and Minister of Plantations, Dr. Ramesh Pathirana.

Nestlé's Managing Director Fabrice Cavallin said, "We're proud to be consistently recognised for the positive impact we make for everyone across our business."



State Minister of Plantations, Arundhika Fernando and Minister of Plantations, Dr. Ramesh Pathirana present the award to Nestlé's Managing Director Fabrice Cavallin. Chairman of the Coconut Development Authority, the Coconut Cultivation Board and the Coconut Research Institute, Jayantha Wickramasinghe looks on.

As a Good food, Good life company, we want our products to not simply be good for our consumers but also good for our community.

With almost 800 employees, we have been locally manufacturing over 90% of our products since 1984, at our state-of-the-art multi-production factory in Kurunegala.

This, together with our strong exports business, has enabled us to contribute significantly to Sri Lanka's economy.

We remain committed to continuing to do good in Sri Lanka, as we have for the last 114 years."

Nestlé also supports more than 9,000 coconut farming families through its business.

Nawaloka unveils state-of-the-art lab in Ragama

Nawaloka Hospitals opened a state-of-the-art laboratory to its chain of medical Laboratories, in the heart of Ragama recently. The mini-laboratory was opened by Nawaloka Hospitals Deputy Chairman, Harshith Dharmadasa.

Well-equipped to facilitate over 100 specialised tests in haematology and biochemistry, the mini-lab aims to service the Ragama Teaching Hos-

pital and the many private hospitals, clinics, nursing homes and medical centres in Ragama.

"Sri Lanka is engaged in the most important battle that we have had to fight in recent times, and this has increased the country's need for immediate, accurate and convenient diagnostic solutions.

With the launch of our new mini-lab in Ragama, we are expanding

our breadth of services and geographic reach to equip medical personnel whilst optimising efficiency and accuracy to the benefit of patients who have placed their trust in us during this time," Nawaloka Hospitals Chairman Dr. Jayantha Dharmadasa said.

"We are at an advantage of offering the most reliable diagnostic solutions due to the strength and

high logistical proficiency of our network of labs and medical centres strategically placed around the country.

As a leader in the private healthcare sector, the highly-skilled team at Nawaloka Hospitals remains deeply committed to equip medical personnel with comprehensive and state-of-the-art diagnostic capabilities," he said.

Puritas launches sustainable initiatives to mark Silver Jubilee

Puritas, a wholly owned subsidiary of Haycarb PLC and a member of the Hayleys Group of companies, announced the launch of 25 sustainability-focused initiatives to mark its silver jubilee.

Each of the initiatives will focus on advancing a variety of social and environmental causes including biodiversity protection, animal rights and welfare, water purification, the distribution of face masks to combat Covid-19, and concerted community and employee outreach and awareness building programs focused on the protection and conservation of natural resources.

Chairman and Chief Executive of Hayleys Group, Mohan Panthage said, "Puritas was founded on the knowledge that environmental, social and economic prosperity are all interlinked. One cannot be



Puritas and Haycarb Managing Director, Rajitha Kariyawasan and Puritas senior management participate in a tree planting campaign.

achieved in the absence of the others. For the past 25 years, our business model has been focused on

deriving economic value from measures aimed squarely at protecting our environment." Initiatives

on environmental protection and conservation launched by the company for its silver jubilee include, an indigenous tree planting initiative in collaboration with the Colombo Municipality, and a knowledge sharing session by veteran Puritas employees on environmental protection.

Puritas will also launch a packaged domestic wastewater treatment plant initiative.

Managing Director, Haycarb, Rajitha Kariyawasan said, "Puritas is no stranger to working with communities and businesses to ensure a sustainable environment for future generations. The 25 new initiatives driven by the Company in celebration of its silver jubilee have been designed to have a lasting positive impact on the environment and communities."

MINISTRY OF HEALTH, NUTRITION AND INDIGENOUS MEDICINE


**STATE PHARMACEUTICALS
MANUFACTURING CORPORATION OF
SRI LANKA**

INVITATION FOR BIDS - (IFB)
INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING -(ICB)
BID REF. : SPMC/03/2020 CLOSING ON 27th October 2020
PROCUREMENT OF PHARMACEUTICAL RAW MATERIALS

1 Sealed bids for the supply of Pharmaceutical Raw Materials will be received by the Chairman, Procurement Committee, State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation, (SPMC) No. 11, Sir John Kotelawala Mawatha, Kandawala Estate, Ratmalana, Sri Lanka **up to 10.00 a.m. on 27th October 2020.**

S. No.	ITEM	Qty. (KG)	Non-refundable Tender Fee (SLRs.)
1	Amoxicillin Trihydrate BP (Compacted)	18,000	15,000.00
2	Ascorbic Acid BP	500	500.00
3	Atorvastatin Calcium IP	1,000	8,000.00
4	Benzhexol Hydrochloride BP	100	500.00
5	Carbamazepine BP	3,000	7,000.00
6	Cetirizine Dihydrochloride BP	150	500.00
7	Cimetidine (Type A) USP	1,000	2,000.00
8	Ciprofloxacin Hydrochloride USP/ NF	1,000	2,000.00
9	Cloxacillin Sodium BP	9,000	10,000.00
10	Clarithromycin USP	3,000	18,000.00
11	Diclofenac Sodium USP	1,000	1,000.00
12	Diltiazem Hydrochloride USP	1,000	4,000.00
13	Domperidone Maleate BP	1,000	4,000.00
14	Enalapril Maleate USP	300	3,000.00
15	Famotidine USP	1,000	4,000.00
16	Frusemide BP	1,000	4,000.00
17	Gliclazide BP	4,500	19,000.00
18	Indometacin BP	300	1,000.00
19	Losartan Potassium BP	5,000	17,000.00
20	Mebendazole (Polymorph type A) USP	2,000	4,000.00
21	Metformin Hydrochloride BP	9,000	2,000.00
22	Metronidazole USP	4,000	3,000.00
23	Phenoxymethyl Penicillin Potassium (Compacted) BP	3,000	5,000.00
24	Prednisolone BP	400	8,000.00
25	Propranolol Hydrochloride BP	200	500.00
26	Pyridoxine Hydrochloride BP	25	500.00
27	Riboflavin BP	50	500.00
28	Salbutamol Sulphate BP	200	2,000.00
29	Sulfamethoxazole BP	1,000	1,000.00
30	Spironolactone USP	400	5,000.00
31	Theophylline Anhydrous USP	1,500	2,000.00
32	Trifluoperazine Hydrochloride BP	50	3,000.00
33	Trimethoprim BP	200	500.00
34	Verapamil Hydrochloride BP	300	2,000.00
35	Ammonio Methacrylate Copolymer (Type B) USNF	3,000	8,000.00
36	Calcium Sulphate Dihydrate BP	1,000	500.00
37	Cetyl Alcohol BP/USP/ USNF	100	500.00
38	Colloidal Silicon Dioxide USP/USNF	360	500.00
39	DC Lactose (Lactose Anhydrous USNF/ USP)	20,000	5,000.00
40	Hydroxypropyl Methylcellulose (Hypromellose) USP	1,500	1,000.00
41	Lactose Monohydrate BP/USP (200 Mesh)	80,000	6,000.00
42	Magnesium Stearate BP	2,000	500.00
43	Microcrystalline Cellulose USNF/ BP	8,000	1,500.00
44	Microcrystalline Cellulose USNF/ PH EUR/ JP (PH 200 LM)	4,000	500.00
45	Maleic Acid BP	50	500.00
46	Polyethylene glycol USP/ NF	100	500.00
47	Povidone K-30 (Polyvinyl Pyrrolidone K-30) USP/ BP	1,000	500.00
48	Purified Talc BP	5,000	500.00
49	Sodium Starch Glycolate BP/USNF	4,000	1,500.00
50	Stearic Acid (D - grade) BP	300	500.00
51	Titanium Dioxide BP	500	500.00
52	Zinc Stearate BP/ USP	100	500.00

2 Sealed bids should be made on a complete set of bidding documents in duplicate and original separately and sent by registered post addressed to the Chairman, Procurement Committee, State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation, No. 11, Sir John Kotelawala Mawatha, Kandawala Estate, Ratmalana, Sri Lanka or deposited in the tender box kept at the ground floor at the State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation, No. 11, Sir John Kotelawala Mawatha, Kandawala Estate, Ratmalana, Sri Lanka.

3 Bid documents could be obtained from the above address from **14th September 2020 to 26th October 2020** between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. during working days on submission of the followings.

- A written application to the Deputy General Manager - Planning and Procurement, State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation, No 11, Sir John Kotelawala Mawatha, Kandawala Estate, Ratmalana, Sri Lanka.
- Upon payment of the non-refundable Bid document fee stated above in cash to the Accounts Department of SPMC.

4 Bids are administered by the provisions of the "Public Contract Act No.3 of 1987" and therefore, in the event bidder is to retain an Agent, Sub-Agent, Representative, Nominee for and on behalf of bidder shall register himself any such Public Contract in accordance with Section 10 of the Public Contract Act and produce such valid certificate of registration in the course of any transaction relating to the bid or Act any stage in the duration of the bidding.

5 Bids will be opened immediately after the closing of bids at SPMC - Ratmalana., bidders or their authorized agents are permitted to be present when bids are opened.

6 Bid Documents may be inspected free of charge at the SPMC.

7 Further information could be obtained from Deputy General Manager - Planning & Procurement, SPMC (Tel. 2623298)

Details of the Bid can be viewed from our Website. (www.spmclanka.lk)

Foreign principals can download the Bid Document from our Website (Those who are not represented by local agents, such offers should be accompanied by a bank draft for similar value/s in US\$ as payment fee for the bid document mentioned above)

**Chairman,
Procurement Committee
State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation
No. 11, Sir John Kotelawala Mawatha, Kandawala Estate,
Ratmalana, Sri Lanka.**

**TEL. : (00) 94-11-2635353/ (00) 94-11 -2637574/(00) 94-11-2623298
E-MAIL : spmclanka@sltnet.lk
Website : www.spmclanka.lk
Fax : (00) 94-11-2634771, 2626621**


PROCUREMENT NOTICE - GLOBAL
STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA

The Chairman, Procurement Committee of The State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka will receive sealed bids for supply of following item to the Department of Health Services.

Bid Number	Closing Date & Time	Item Description	Date of Issuing of Bid Documents	Non Refundable Bid Fee LKR
DHS/SUS/WW/265/21	28.10.2020 At 9.00 a.m.	Surgical Sutures	15.09.2020	3,000/- + Taxes

Bids should be prepared as per the particulars given in the Bidding Documents available to prospective bidders on working days between 0930 hours and 1500 hours at the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, Head Office, No.75, Sir Baron Jayatillake Mawatha, Colombo 1. These could be purchased on cash payment of a non-refundable Bidding document Fee per set as mentioned above. Offers received without enclosing original payment receipt are liable to be rejected.

Wherever necessary potential bidder/bidders should get registered in terms of the Public Contract Act No.3 of 1987 before collecting the Bidding Documents and also should get the contract registered after the tender is awarded.

All Bids should be accompanied by a Bid Bond as specified in the Bidding Documents.

Sealed Bids may be sent by post under registered cover or may be personally deposited in the box available for this purpose at Internal Audit Department in the mezzanine floor of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation at No. 75, Sir Baron Jayatillake Mawatha, Colombo 1, Sri Lanka.

Bids will be closed at the Head office of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation on the dates and time mentioned above and will be opened immediately thereafter. Bidders or their authorised representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of Bids.

Bidding Documents are being sent to Sri Lanka missions abroad and foreign missions in Sri Lanka.

**CHAIRMAN- DEPARTMENTAL PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE
STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA
75, SIR BARON JAYATILLAKE MAWATHA
COLOMBO 1
SRI LANKA.**

**TEL/FAX : 00 94-11- 2335008
E-MAIL : dgmsurgical@spc.lk**

INVITATION FOR BIDS
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
**BID FOR DESIGN, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF FIRE DETECTION
AND FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS FOR BLOCK 03 OF
DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA**
CONTRACT NO : DHQC/FP & FD 03/2020

1. **The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC) on behalf of the Ministry of Defence** invites competitive sealed Bids from eligible and qualified Bidders for Design, Supply and Installation of Fire Detection and Fire Protection Systems for Block 03 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla and as described below and estimated to cost LKR 380 Million (Excluding VAT).
The work consists of Design, Supply and Installation of Fire Detection and Fire Protection Systems for Block 03 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda.
2. **The Construction period is 300 Days.**
3. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
4. To be eligible for the contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted. Bidders shall have Construction Industry Development Authority Grading EMI in the Specialty of Electrical and Mechanical Services (EM) Under Sub-Specialty Fire Detection, Protection and Suppression (FDPs).
5. Minimum Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award shall be,

Qualifications	Minimum Qualification Requirements
(i) Average annual turnover value of Fire Detection, Fire Protection and Fire Suppression works of any five years successfully performed in last ten years.	LKR 456 million per year
(ii) Experience in Design, Supply and Installation within last ten years. (2010 to 2019)	At least 5 Nr. Fire Detection and Protection Systems successfully completed within last 10 years. Minimum value of one number of such systems shall not be less than LKR 95 million.
(iii) The minimum amount of liquid assets and /or credit facilities (after setting apart for other contractual commitments) and exclusive of any advance payment which may be made under this Contract	not less than LKR 114 million
(iv) Ability to provide the maintenance services by the Bidder himself or by an authorized agent nominated by the Bidder in Sri Lanka for the supplied system during its service period	Compulsory

6. Interested bidders may obtain further information from **The Director - Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka** and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the above address from **14.09.2020 until 09.10.2020 from 09.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs.** during a working day.
7. A complete set of Bidding Documents (except Volume 1A) in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to **Accountant (Procurement), Ministry of Defence, No. 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 03, Sri Lanka** from **14.09.2020 until 09.10.2020 from 09.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs.** during a working day upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **LKR 50,000.00 (Sri Lankan Rupees Fifty Thousand)**. The method of payment will be by Cash.
8. A pre bid meeting will be held at **10.00 hrs. on 22.09.2020** and a site visit will be held on **same day** after the pre bid meeting at the Project Management Unit of Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
9. Bids shall be delivered to the address below or shall be deposited in the Bid box placed at the address below on or before **11.00 hrs. on 12.10.2020**, late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
10. Bids shall be valid from **12.10.2020 to 07.02.2021** (119 Days from the date of closing of Bids).
11. All bids shall be accompanied by a "Bid-Security", of **Sri Lankan Rupees Five Million Seven Hundred Thousand (LKR 5,700,000.00)** obtained from a bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, in the form of an unconditional and on demand bond and shall be valid from **12.10.2020 to 07.03.2021** (147 Days after opening the Bids). Beneficiary of the Bid Security shall be Secretary, Ministry of Defence.
12. Bidders are strongly advised to present the registration certificate under the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987 (when relevant), before purchasing the Bidding Document from Defence Headquarters Complex Project.
13. Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to the Director General (Account & Finance) Ministry of Defence, the Name and the NIC/Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

The address referred to above is :

**The Chairman,
Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC),
Ministry of Defence,
No. 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 03,
Sri Lanka.**

**Tel : 0094-011-2390719
Fax : 0094-011-2390720**

MINISTRY OF HEALTH


STATE PHARMACEUTICALS MANUFACTURING CORPORATION
REGISTRATION OF SUPPLIERS FOR GOODS AND SERVICES - 2021

Applications are invited from Government Departments, Government owned Business Undertakings, Public Corporations, Reputed Suppliers, Local Agents, Manufacturers, Dealers, Business Organizations and Contractors who wish to register themselves with the State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation for the supply of the undermentioned Goods and Services for the year 2021.

All applications should be made as per the specimen form given at the end of this notice.

A /SUPPLY OF GOODS

01. Office Stationery & Computer Stationery.
02. Electrical goods
03. Electronic goods
04. Building materials & Hardware items
05. Steel furniture
06. Office equipment (computers etc.)
07. Computer Software
08. Local software & Website Creators
09. Laboratory equipment & Spare parts
10. Laboratory chemicals
11. Plastic containers, plastic spoons, corks, screw & press-on caps and waddings (food grade)
12. Polythene including polythene bags, printed cellulose film, printed aluminium foil, aluminium bags and printed shrink sleeves (food grade)
13. PVC foil/ PVDC foil
14. PVC adhesive tapes
15. Adhesives for packaging
16. Textile materials for uniforms and socks etc.,
17. Towels (large & small)
18. Shoes - Black & White (Canvas)
19. Motor spares
20. Tyres and Tubes
21. V Belts
22. Pneumatic Spares
23. Fire extinguishers, safety equipment, Gas masks, Goggles, Rubber gloves, etc
24. Cloth masks & Cloth gloves, etc.,
25. Soap, detergents and cleaning material (brooms, mops washing powder, teepol etc)
26. Milk powder, tea, biscuit
27. Sugar (Food grade) / Pure white refined sugar (For pharmaceuticals manufacturing)
28. Cooked meal Suppliers (Lunch, Breakfast & Dinner)
29. Ethyl Alcohol 96 %
30. Pharmaceutical Raw materials (Ex-stock suppliers)
31. Pharmaceutical Reference standards
32. Empty glass bottles
33. Printed Corrugated cartons
34. Printed box board cartons
35. Printed materials (including Labels , Leaflets, Stickers etc.,)
36. Welding equipment and accessories
37. Spare parts for Air conditioners
38. Machinery equipment and spares
39. Stainless steel bolts & nuts
40. Bearings
41. Oil seal & "O" rings
42. Batteries for motor Cars
43. Printed Aluminium foils
44. Printer ribbon Toner/cartridge
45. Laboratory reagents and glassware
46. Sticker label Rolls
47. Silica gel Individual sachets and sachets in reel form

B - SUPPLY OF SERVICES

01. Repairing of motor vehicles
02. Servicing of vehicles
03. Tinkering, Spray painting, Body constructions and Upholstery work of vehicles
04. Building construction and renovations
05. Transportation of goods
06. Transportation of passengers
07. Hiring of vans, Lorries, cars etc,
08. Clearing and Forwarding services
09. Insurance
10. Renting of Containers for Storage Purposes
11. Electrical installation and repairs
12. Pipe, drainage and allied services
13. Labour contracts
14. Carpentry and Pantry cupboard work
15. Tailoring
16. Printing and binding
17. Designing & Printing of Annual Reports
18. Repair and service of Safety and Fire Fighting Equipment
19. Repair and service of Office Equipment
20. Repair and service of Central air-conditioning Systems, Split-type air conditioners and refrigerators
21. Repair and Service of Automobile Air Conditioners
22. Repair and service of Laboratory equipment
23. Motor rewinding
24. Steel fabrications, welding, Metal filling, machine and fitting work
25. Repair and service of Computers and Accessories
26. Repair and service of Electrical Equipment
27. Repair and service of Electronic Equipment
28. Repair and service of Weighing scales
29. Painting work of Buildings
30. Pest Control
31. Sanitary Cleaning Services
32. Warehouse for Rent (closer to Ratmalana)
33. Aluminium Fabricators
34. Metal & stainless steel works
35. Civil & plumbing works
36. Supply of short-eats for tea times

SPECIMEN FORM
APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION AS A SUPPLIER FOR THE YEAR 2021

1. Business Name and Address :
 2. Registration Number and Date :
 3. Name and Address of Proprietors :
 4. Item you wish to register :
 5. Telephone and Fax Numbers :
 6. Name of Bank and Account No. :
 7. List of Firms, Government Departments, Statutory Boards /Corporations, served in the year 2020 :
 8. Credit facility available to the Corporation :
- Period :..... Value :.....
Date :..... Signature :..... Designation :.....

All applications marked with "Registration of Suppliers - 2021" on the top left-hand corner of the envelope should be sent under Registered Post to reach the Chairman on or before 05.11.2020. Applications should accompany non-refundable remittance of Rs.1000/= as registration fee for each item in the form of a Cheque drawn in favour of the "State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation".

Separate applications should be made for each category of Goods / Services but could be sent under one cover.

Further details if any could be obtained from Deputy General Manager - Planning & Procurement via Tel. 2637574 / 2635353.

**Chairman,
STATE PHARMACEUTICALS MANUFACTURING CORPORATION
No. 11, Sir John Kotalawala Mawatha, Kandawala Estate,
Ratmalana.**

INVITATION FOR BIDS

**AIRPORT & AVIATION SERVICES
(SRI LANKA) LIMITED**
BID NO. : 063/T/2020
DESIGN, SUPPLY, INSTALLATION & COMMISSIONING OF A SERVO ASSISTED BAGGAGE HANDLING SYSTEM AT DEPARTURE BAGGAGE CLAIMING AREA AT BANDARANAIKE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, KATUNAYAKE

Bids are invited by the Chairman, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited for the **Design, Supply, Installation & Commissioning of a Servo Assisted Baggage Handling System at Departure Baggage Claiming Area 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 Three Thousand and Five Hundred (Rs. 3,500.00) 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 15.09.2020 up to 02.11.2020** from the Office of Supply Chain Management Division, Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited, Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake. 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 03rd November 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 Four Hundred Thousand (Rs. 400,000.00)** 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 pre-bid meeting will be held on **14.10.2020 at 10.00 a.m.** at the Conference Room of Mechanical Engineering 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 / 011-2264128, 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.**


STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA
PROCUREMENT NOTICE

The Chairman, Procurement Committee of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, Colombo 01 invites sealed quotations from registered and previous sources for following items and bids will be closed at the respective times on the dates given below and will be opened immediately thereafter.

(E-mail / Fax offers as well as FOB offers are not acceptable)

Sealed Bids may be sent by post under registered cover or may be personally deposited in the box available for this purpose at Internal Audit Department in the mezzanine floor of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation at No. 75, Sir Baron Jayatilake Mawatha, Colombo 1, Sri Lanka.

Bidders or their authorized representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of Bids.

SURGICAL ANNUAL ITEMS

Tender No/Bid Reference	Closing Date	Closing Time	Item	Quantity
DHS/RS/PQ/09/21	16.10.2020	2.00 p.m.	Non absorbable Synthetic Monofilament Suture	2850 Nos
DHS/RS/PQ/10/21	16.10.2020	2.00 p.m.	Surgical Consumables	135,000 Nos.

SURGICAL SPECIAL ITEMS

Tender No.	Closing Date	Closing Time	Item	Quantity
DHS/RSS/RQ/66/20	23.09.2020	2.00 p.m.	Coronary Guiding Catheters	Please refer SPC web site www.spc.lk
DHS/RSS/RQ/67/20	23.09.2020	2.00 p.m.	Peritoneal Dialysis Catheters.	Please refer SPC web site www.spc.lk
DHS/RSS/RQ/68/20	23.09.2020	2.00 p.m.	Surgical Non-Consumables	Please refer SPC web site www.spc.lk
DHS/RSS/RQ/69/20	23.09.2020	2.00 p.m.	Drug Eluting Coronary Stent, 3.0 mm diameter, 36-37 mm length, sterile.	264 Nos
DHS/RSS/RQ/70/20	23.09.2020	2.00 p.m.	Surgical Sutures	Please refer SPC web site www.spc.lk
DHS/RSS/RQ/4/21	18.09.2020	2.00 p.m.	Skin staplers	Please refer SPC web site www.spc.lk

LAB ITEMS

Tender No/Bid Reference	Closing Date	Closing Time	Item	Quantity
DHS/RL/56CPW/20	21.09.2020	02.30 P.M.	02/50400302 Blood collecting tube for Glucose with leak proof grey or orange lid: borosilicate glass 3.3 autoclavable size 12x75mm, thickness of wall 1.0mm clear with uniform thickness and vibration resistant. Securely packed in labelled boxes.	1,300,000 Nos
DHS/RL/104WKL/19	24.09.2020	02.30 P.M.	51619001 Sterile disposable plastic specimen containers with lids (50ml)	125,000 Nos
DHS/RL/5NK/21	30.09.2020	02.30 P.M.	Lab Items	Please refer SPC web site www.spc.lk

Bids should be prepared as per particulars given in the Bidding documents available at the Head Office of State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, No. 75, Sir Baron Jayatilake Mawatha, Colombo 01.

Wherever necessary potential bidder/bidders should get registered in terms of the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987 before collecting the Bid documents and also should get the contract registered after the award.

**CHAIRMAN - PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE
STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA
75, SIR BARON JAYATILAKE MAWATHA
COLOMBO 1
SRI LANKA.**

**Fax : 00 94-11-2335008/2344082
Telephone : 00 94-11-2335008/2326227/2335374
E-mail : dgmsurgical@spc.lk**

Advertorial

Pan Asia Bank relocates Gampaha branch

Pan Asia Bank opened its Gampaha branch at its new location on September 7 at 15, Rest House Road, Gampaha.

The Senior Deputy General Manager of Pan Asia Bank, Naleen Edirisinghe was the Chief Guest at the opening ceremony and Upali Dharmasiri, Deputy General Manager, Recoveries was the guest of honour.

The Senior Management of the bank, members of the business community and customers in the area were among the other distinguished guests.

Naleen Edirisinghe said that Pan Asia Bank is extremely happy that they were able to relocate Gampaha branch to a much spacious and convenient location for the benefit of its valued customers to offer fast innovative banking solutions that are based on understanding true customer requirements.

Pan Asia Bank, known for its innovative banking products and services has consistently introduced novel banking products to the local market such as Daskam



Naleen Edirisinghe Senior Deputy General Manager of Pan Asia Bank opens the branch. Also in the photograph from left: Upali Dharmasiri, Deputy General Manager Recoveries, Primal Vithara, Area Manager Colombo North, Shiyam Perera - AGM Retail Credit, Harsha Kurukulasuriya, AGM Operations and Administration and Nilantha Mahanama, Manager Pan Asia Bank Gampaha branch. (On right): Upali Dharmasiri, Deputy General Manager Recoveries of Pan Asia Bank receives the first deposit at the Gampaha branch opening.

Children's Savings account which offers an additional 10% deposit on top of each and every deposit with an enhanced interest of 5.25% p.a. (5.38%) and Champion Saver Savings Account which offers up to

5% p.a. (AER 5.12%) interest on savings deposits.

The bank also offers other products including Leasing facilities, Credit Cards and *Sammama* with an attractive guarantor free personal loan facility up to 4,000,000 offered

to retired government servants and CBSL pensioners. Nilantha Mahanama heads the Pan Asia Bank Gampaha branch. The branch will be open for business from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. on weekdays and 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. on Saturdays.

Seylan Bank financial services at 'Kedella Construction Expo 2020'

Seylan Bank participated in the 'Kedella Construction Expo 2020', Sri Lanka's premier Home Construction and Interiortrade show, providing a wide range of banking services to customers visiting the show. The exhibition was held at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH) on August 14, 15 and 16.

Organised by Asia Exhibitions & Conventions (Pvt) Ltd, the exhibition was the first event conducted in the country after the pandemic, according to the health and safety regulations. With a participation of over 40,000 people, the 'Kedella Construction Expo 2020' exhibition attracts visitors from across the island, featuring a wide range of exhibitors including Household Appliances, Home Decorations, Real Estate, Landscaping, Furniture, Tiles, Granite Traders, Bathroom Fittings, Kitchenware,



Electrical Goods, Paints, Wall Design Traders, Ceiling Decorators, Lighting, Home Drapers and Banking and Insurance.

Seylan Bank provided financial

solutions and advice to eager consumers looking for financial assistance, allowing them to make their housing dreams a reality.

The bank offered services ranging

from Housing Loans, Personal Loans and Credit Cards with the most competitive interest rates and payment plans in the market. Apart from these, Seylan Home Loans specialists and advisors were available at the exhibition to provide solutions and customized financial propositions for free, to walk in customers.

With a further drive to ensure customer convenience, Seylan Bank deployed a mobile ATM near the main hall of the event premises throughout all 3 days of the exhibition, ensuring customers had easy access to carry out cash withdrawals and check their account balances at any given time during the 3-day long exhibition.

Seylan Bank, the Bank with a Heart, operates with a vision to offer the ultimate banking experience to its valued customers through cutting-edge technology, innovative products, and best-in-class services.

Standard Chartered appoints new Corporate Affairs Head

Standard Chartered Sri Lanka has appointed Anuk De Silva as the Head of Corporate Affairs, Brand and Marketing, effective 19 March 2020. He will also function as a member of the Bank's Country Management Team, and will report to Binghamal Thewarathanthri, CEO, Standard Chartered Sri Lanka.

Anuk is backed by over 15 years of experience in Marketing, Communications and Branding, Digital Marketing, Public Relations and Journalism. His last corporate stint was at Brandix, where he oversaw the Corporate Communications and Branding functions of the company. He has also been a part-time News Presenter at TNL Radio Network for over a decade and a Visiting Lecturer at the Human Resource Management Institute.

More recently, he took a few years off from work to pursue a Master of Commerce in Marketing at the University of Melbourne, as a recipient of the prestigious Australia Awards Scholarship given by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia. During his time in Melbourne, he also had a short stint at KPMG Australia. Subsequent to his return to Sri Lanka, he re-



Anuk de Silva

joined the workforce with Standard Chartered, where he will be responsible for leading the Corporate Affairs, Brand and Marketing team, while supporting the execution of the overall country strategic agenda as well as the digital transformation of the Bank.

Anuk is a professional marketer and communications specialist. He is a Fellow and a Chartered Marketer of the Chartered Institute of Marketing, UK and a Certified Professional Marketer (Asia) of the Asia Marketing Federation, Singapore.

He also holds an MBA from the

Postgraduate Institute of Management, University of Sri Jayewardenepura. Anuk was a recipient of the Corporate Communication Professional of the Year award in 2013 at the CMO Asia Awards for Branding and Marketing held in Singapore. He is a former student of St. Joseph's College, Colombo.

When not at work, Anuk is extremely passionate about theatre. He has over 22 years of experience as a thespian having performed extensively in Sri Lanka as well as India, and has also co-founded the amateur theatre troupe 'Cold Theatre 7' in 2013.

Standard Chartered Sri Lanka is one of the oldest international banks in Sri Lanka, with more than 150 years of history with a presence in 59 of the world's most dynamic markets, and serving clients in a further 85. Standard Chartered Bank is a limited liability company registered under the laws of England and Wales by Royal Charter 1853, having a branch office in Sri Lanka - Reg. No. F3/B. Our purpose is to drive commerce and prosperity through our unique diversity, and our heritage and values are expressed in our brand promise.

Xiaomi launches Redmi 9A and Redmi 9C in Sri Lanka

Both smartphones feature a large display and a 5000mAh battery

Xiaomi, global technology leader, today recorded the latest addition to their budget line-up of devices in Sri Lanka with two new smartphones - Redmi 9A and Redmi 9C. With the introduction of these two new smartphones Xiaomi aims to further democratise the technology that has been developed for the budget segment.

Vidya Sagar, General Manager - Sri Lanka, Xiaomi said, "With each

Redmi device, we are moving closer to making sure technology is available for everyone. The popularity of the Redmi series is a testimony to the trust that our consumers have shown in us. With its powerful 5,000 mAh battery and a 6.53" Dot Drop display both these phones are exceptional choices for entry level smartphones offered at honest pricing. We are thrilled to introduce both these smartphones to

our Mi Fans and users in Sri Lanka and we hope to continue bringing the best to them from the house of Redmi.

Redmi 9A features a 16.5cm (6.53) HD+ IPS LCD display with a 20:9 aspect ratio.

Redmi 9C - the Triple Camera Champion with a massive display
This new entry-level smartphone is equipped with a massive 6.53" Dot Drop display.

Union Assurance wins awards

Insurance Asia Awards 2020

Union Assurance won three awards at the Insurance Asia Awards 2020 taking away the coveted Domestic Life Insurer of the Year, New Insurance Product of the Year, and Digital Insurance Initiative of the Year awards for Sri Lanka. The awarding body - Insurance Asia Awards, aims to recognise firms that can navigate around various market challenges whilst keeping clients satisfied and maintaining fruitful revenue.

Over seventy exceptional insurance companies from 22 countries were recognised at the fifth Insurance Asia Awards held digitally for



the first time due to the ongoing pandemic.

Union Assurance is the only Sri Lankan Life insurer to be recognized at the prestigious awards. Expressing his views on winning three major accolades at the Insurance Asia Awards 2020, Jude Gomes - Chief Executive Officer of Union Assurance said, "I'm delighted that we have been recognised in three critical categories in this prestigious annual award."

"We are proud of our track record of investing in our people, technology, products, and innovation to deliver exceptional service standards," he said.

SLT-Mobitel opens first regional flagship store at Panadura

Sri Lanka Telecom (SLT) together with its Mobile arm- Mobitel, opened the first regional flagship store (Tele-shop) at Panadura, offering customers the opportunity to experience and purchase 360 degree telecommunication solutions.

Conceptualised to provide the best in class service and latest technological solutions, the regional store will empower customers in and around the area with fully-fledged telecommunication and mobile solutions, ranging from Ultra-fast broadband connections, Smart home solutions and automated bill payments.



From left : Rohan Fernando, Chairman, SLT Group and Lalith Seneviratne - Director and Group Chief Executive Officer at the opening.

BMICH Restarts Sri Lanka

BMICH - Sri Lanka's iconic landmark hosted its first exhibition since the lockdown signifying an important milestone in the "Restart Sri Lanka" journey. The Exhibition - Kedella Home maker Expo - held from 14th to 16th August 2020 attracted over 20,000 visitors on the three days signifying Sri Lanka's return to the "new normalcy" and public confidence in the successful handling of

the pandemic by the government and its agencies. "We are delighted to have hosted the first exhibition since the lockdown amidst stringent health safety measures implemented with health and other relevant authorities to ensure a health safety environment for the visitors, exhibitors and staff. We appreciate the cooperation extended by the public in adhering to

the health safety measures implemented at the venue" said Sunil Disanayaka, Chief Executive, BMICH.

"BMICH, with the support of our partner for this event - Asia Exhibitions & Conventions, truly restarted Sri Lanka. It was a success beyond our expectations which is evident by the massive number of visitors that we received for the very first exhibition since the lockdown," he said.

LB Finance joins Lanka QR network

LB Finance (LBF), country's leading Non-Banking Financial Institution, recently joined the National Digital Payment Platform Lanka QR via its popular mobile wallet LB CIM (Cash-In-Mobile). LankaQR is the national QR standard for local currency payments introduced by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL).

Following the integration CIM mobile wallet becomes interoperable for all four-transaction types of Lanka QR, enabling its users, to pay and accept payments from other mobile wallets offered by third party Banks and Financial Institutions.

LB CIM smart phone application is available for Android & iOS based devices. It comes in the form of two separate mobile applications; 'CIM Customer app' & 'CIM Business app', to cater to the specific needs of customers and retail merchants. LB CIM is proud to be one of the few trilingual mobile wallets available in the market and champions the concept of simplicity in its UI/UX offering. The Company believes CIM's ultra-simple design gives it an advantage over the completion to become a truly inclusive digital payment solution to Sri Lankan masses.

The CIM customer app serves as an interest-bearing digital savings account (5.5% p.a.), that sits inside the users smart phone and functions as a wallet that can be used at any time to make payments to any Lanka QR merchant by simply scanning the merchant's QR code. Customers can use the CIM app to link any 3rd party bank account through Just-Pay network and top up their wallet, transfer money instantly to any bank, pay their credit cards, utility bills, mobile reloads thus eliminating the need to go in search of ATMs to withdraw money for daily cash purchases. Existing customers of LB Finance can also use the CIM app to service their loans/leases and inquire fixed deposit details at the convenience of their smartphone.

The CIM business app acts as a platform for retail merchants to develop their businesses by managing their business cash flows more efficiently and securely, while earning interest on the savings balance stored in the mobile wallets. CIM Business app provides additional benefits to CIM registered merchants by bringing customised technological conveniences, designed to help them develop their retail business operations.

LB Finance expects to include Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Sri Lanka to the formal financial services through the app.

Earlier this year the Central Bank named the year 2020 as the 'Year of Digital Transactions' and launched a promotional campaign named 'Cash Wade' with the aim of popularising digital payments among the masses.

The launch marked the official beginning of the retail level campaign aiming to draw as many customers to use digital payment methods such as mobile wallets, LankaQR code and Just-Pay network.



D. Kumaratunge, Director Payments and Settlements of CBSL (left), and Bimal Perera, Head of Digital Financial Services, LBF.

SPECTRUM

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BY NIRA DIAZ

Sri Lanka's national radio station - the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation (SLBC) - a studio with a three-year-old tiny tot before the microphone is presenting a program - her little voice resonating in the hearts of hundreds of listeners, children and adults alike.

A unique performance by a highly talented little girl, Bhashini Samarasinghe. She was presenting an item, *Binduge Dinapotha* (Bindu's Diary) on Radio *Sangarawa* the program presented by her father Palitha Samarasinghe, a reputed relief announcer and presenter over the National airwaves. Making the program even more unusual was the fact that her mother Rathna was the producer of the program. Thus, was the birth of a talented and versatile radio presenter under the loving and meticulous guidance of her parents.

Hectic life

Today, Bhashini is an award-winning program producer and presenter with Shree FM, the radio channel she joined as a young girl. Shree FM was then known as Sawana FM.

Incredible as it may seem that a three-year-old could present a radio program, in Bhashini's case it was not that unusual for having both parents as Radio Personalities she was literally born to ride over the airwaves.

A radio producer's life is hectic and mother Rathna ran around from studio to library and many other places with tiny Bhashini clutching her hand. If for some reason like having her hands full of tapes Mother Rathna could not give her hand to Bhashini to hold, she would make her daughter hold the fall of her saree.

After her school day at Visaka Vidyalaya was over instead of going home Bhashini came to SLBC and spent her time there till her parents finished their shifts. So, SLBC became familiar to her as her home.

Veteran producers Sugathapala de Silva and Premakeerthi de Alwis chose Bhashini to voice children's characters. In fact de Alwis used to carry the little girl to the studio and place her in her seat before the mike. Gradually, Bhashini rose to be a Grade 1 child artiste.

This era saw the breaking of new ground in Sri Lankan broadcasting with the establishment of the first private radio station Sawana, later Shree FM. It was quite by accident that Bhashini and Sawana discovered each other. Bhashini and her mother Rathna had gone to Liberty Plaza where another radio personality of the day, Stanley Fernando was conducting auditions for recruitment of announcers and presenters for Sawana FM. This attracted Bhashini and she stood in the queue of the would-be aspirants



Left to right: Rathna, Bhashini, Dr. Palitha and Savain

UNIQUE FAMILY OF RADIO PERSONALITIES

- Bhashini, Palitha and Rathna



Bhashini and Rasika

for radio fame. Soon, she was called in and given to read. Though she was still young, Bhashini had an excellent grasp of announcing techniques and flawless pronunciation. She passed the audition with flying colours and became a member of the Sawana family.

Bhashini was now working as a relief presenter for both SLBC and Sawana. Suddenly, she was faced with a

problem. The SLBC hierarchy decreed that she had to choose either SLBC or Sawana.

Bhashini was in a quandary as she loved both places. But the more modern studio facilities attracted her and she opted to join Sawana, now Shree FM.

Many programs

She has had a great career with Shree FM rising to her present position of Manager.

At SLBC, she participated in many programs presented by her parents such as *Binduge Dinapotha* (at three years), *Saraswathi Mandapaya*, *Muslim Kantha* (the first ever radio program exclusively for Muslim ladies), *Supena Prarthana* and *Radio Magazine*. *Pipena Kusum*, *Nelum Pohottu*, *Sannaliyane* and *Dhiganthayen Madhura Gee* are some of the notable programs she presented on behalf of *Sawana*. *Wishma Nimeshaya*, *Mathu Sambandayi*, *Tea Time Break*, *Shree Ran Wiya*, *Hindi Top Ten* and *Tharuwak Samaga Waruwak* and *Gee Shree Chart Show* are among her very popular programs presented on Shree FM. Bhashini has also been involved in drama and dubbing.

Among the many accolades

that Bhashini has won are: Best Child Actor Award 1989 for the *Nedeyo Tel drama* (SLBC), Best Female Presenter of the Year - 2006 - Mass Media Awards, Best Presenter and Best Producer of the Year 2008 (Government and Information), Best Presenter and Best Producer and Best Producer 2009 - *Madhyawedini* Awards.

This talented radio personality has won several scholarships, two BBC Scholarships in 2009 and 2012, a scholarship to City Radio Dubai in 2006. She also had a study stint at Nepal Radio in 2007.

In 2009, when she went on the BBC scholarship her study was focused on Global Media Links and Relationships.

Bhashini also had a period of study at the University of Rajasthan where she focused on enhancing her knowledge in Hindi.

In 2018, she was also chosen to represent Sri Lanka at the 'Young Parliament' in Hyderabad, India. In 2012, she took wing to Seoul, South Korea to Radio Seoul where she researched radio techniques for the future.

Her work experience includes ten-

ures as Manager, at *Shree FM* and program manager *V FM*, Presenter *Shree FM* and *Sawana FM* and presenter, SLBC. She is also an experienced dubbing artiste, writer, film director and editor.

Among the many types of Media Bhashini feels that radio is what tugs at our heartstrings the most. According to her, what comes over the radio waves makes us feel and think. We wait for the next few words or episode to see what happens next.

Parents

Today, happily married to Engineer Rasika Adhikari and the mother of a young son Savain a Royalist, Bhashini is the epitome of the modern professional balancing career and family with aplomb.

For relaxation, Bhashini loves watching movies, travelling and above all spending time with her precious son.

What of Bhashini's parents? Veter-

BHASHINI IS AN AWARD WINNING PROGRAM PRODUCER AND PRESENTER WITH SHREE FM, THE RADIO CHANNEL SHE JOINED AS A YOUNG GIRL. SHREE FMS THEN KNOWN AS SAWANA FM



an and well-reputed radio personalities Dr. Palitha and Rathna Samarasinghe.

Dr. Palitha Samarasinghe, a Senior Superintendent of Police was sent as an undercover intelligence officer to combat corruption at SLBC. His guise was that of a guest announcer and presenter. Palitha took to his new career like 'a duck to water'.

Among the popular programs he presented was *Radio Sangarawa* where he gave daughter Bhashini the first opportunity as a presenter. To him goes the distinction of introducing eminent personalities, such as Professor Nandasa Kodagoda to SLBC. *nowana mathaka satahan* was another highly acclaimed program featuring people, such as Dr. E. W. Adhikaram and C. W. W. Kannangara.

Dr. Palitha Samarasinghe is also a successful author. Godage publishers have published a series of books by Samarasinghe under the title *Mey Sri Lanka Guwan Viduli Sewayai* and has reserved a whole shelf for Samarasinghe's publications.

Bhashini's mother Rathna Samarasinghe boasts of 34 years at SLBC and after retirement, even now, works as a guest announcer.

Among her popular programs were *Saraswathi Mandapaya* and *Supena Prarthana* where daughter Bhashini too participated.

Today, she is the Secretary of the radio Drama Artists Guild and works tirelessly for their welfare. For her invaluable services to SLBC, Rathna Samarasinghe was awarded the *Kalabhooshana* award.

Marco Polo's remarkable 24-year odyssey

By R.S. Karunarathne



Most of us have read Marco Polo's interesting stories about his visits to China and his descriptions of the vast country and his experiences as a traveller. Some of the stories found in his notes appear to be incredible. Historians wonder whether he wrote tall or true stories.

When Marco Polo, aged 17, left Venice with his father, Nicolo and his uncle Maffeo, both merchants, on a journey across Asia in 1271, he would not have known that he was heading for a 24-year odyssey. The tales he brought back, later put into book form, have raised the question whether he faked the whole story. A whiff of suspicion has always lingered about him since he published a book giving details about his long trip.

The suspicion was due to the fact that even Venetians who were familiar with world affairs could not believe what he wrote. As they had never seen paper money or coal, they laughed at Marco when he wrote about them. They believed that Marco had not ventured beyond Constantinople (Istanbul).

Nicolo always encouraged his son Marco to probe what is unknown. As leading Venetian merchants, the Polos traded in silks, spices, precious stones,

furs and gold. They used to buy them from middlemen who came from India, Tartary (Siberia) and Cathay (China). In 1260, however, they decided to embark on a long trip that would enable them to visit the court of Kublai Khan, the king of Tartars and the Emperor of Cathay.

At the time, the Khan Empire was the largest in the world. The Polos arrived at the palace of Kublai Khan knowing well that he was the most feared monarch in the world. However, to their great surprise, Kublai Khan welcomed the Venetian merchants and expressed his desire to know more about Europe and Christianity.

Arduous journey

The Polos had to journey by horse, camel, yak and oar-powered galley. Sometimes they had to walk. They travelled through deserts, snowfields, mountains and slopes braving inclement weather. Their journey was constantly disrupted by torrential rains, floods, sand storms and avalanches. In addition, some of them fell ill on the way. Young Marco had to stay in Afghanistan for a year because of his ill health.

Unlike his father or brother, Marco was armed with a stack of notebooks. He wrote descriptions about the places he visited and the people he met. His notes reveal that people always extended their hospitality to them wherever they happened to be. Once, the Polos visited the house of a tribal chief. He welcomed the visitors and ordered his

wives and daughters to entertain them in any way they liked. Marco records in his notes that the women did not object to any of their requests.

In his long journey, Marco marvelled at the sight of coal. He described coal as "veins of black stones which, when lighted burn like charcoal and give out considerable heat." He described oil as "a substance spurring from the ground and used for burning in lamps." He discovered a material which can be spun into thread and woven into cloth that will not burn.

Today we know it as asbestos. He also saw coconuts for the first time. He saw "the nuts the size of a man's head, pleasant to taste and white as milk." He describes crocodiles as "huge serpents with jaws wide enough to swallow a man."

Impressive palace

Marco has devoted a lot of space to write about Kublai Khan's court in Peking (Beijing). The emperor took a fancy to Marco Polo and showered many favours on him. Marco marvelled at the grandeur of the emperor's palaces in Peking and Shangtu.

The palaces had been built of purest marble and stone and ornamented with intricate carvings, gilded and decorated with priceless art. The Peking palace was surrounded by ramparts 40 feet high. There were also rare trees brought from other countries. The emperor had stables and pastures for 10,000 pure-white horses.

Although Marco was no stranger



to affluence, he gaped at the dazzling court and courtiers. They were dressed in cloth of gold and silks with skins of the sable, the ermine and other animals all in the richest of fashion. The emperor had four queens and a number of concubines. Every two years, he brought in more than 100 beautiful damsels and kept them in his well-furnished harem.

First traveller

While in China, Marco learned the Chinese and Mongolian languages. Kublai Khan was so impressed that he appointed Marco as his emissary and sent him out on various missions. Marco served as Governor of the city of Yangchow for three years. Finally, he

became a Commissioner in the Imperial Council in Peking.

Marco never gave up his habit of taking down notes wherever he went. Being a methodical person, he became the first traveller to mark a route across Asia. He was also the first to write about the wealth and vastness of China with its mighty rivers, large cities and swarming population. When he returned to Venice, he brought back exotic sights, sounds and smells of the countries he visited.

Marco Polo says China was a highly developed country even at that time. According to him, the Chinese cities were clean and there were highways linking major provinces. There was a pony-drawn express mail service. All the major cities had police stations and fire brigades.

Return journey

The Chinese were using paper money, something unheard of in Europe at the time. He describes Hangchow as a "celestial city" because of its grandeur and beauty. He has compared it to Paradise. According to him, there were 10,000 bridges in the city and ships could sail beneath them.

After serving the emperor for 17 years, Marco Polo, his father and uncle decided to leave China.

The emperor who was in his 70s did not want them to leave but later permitted them to do so. He knew that jealous rivals at court might make life difficult for Marco Polo on the event of his death. When they finally left the

kingdom, they were given a large stock of gold and jewels.

The Polos' return journey to Venice took three years. When they finally set foot in Venice, even their family servants could not recognise them. They thought that their masters had died on the way. To prove that they are not imposters, the Polos threw a banquet and displayed their wealth. On seeing the diamonds, rubies and pearls, the servants recognised them as their masters.

Marco Polo left Venice at the age of 17 and returned home when he was 41. He had learned a lot about countries and the people. However, there were some people who did not believe what he wrote in his notebooks. As a result, he was a prophet without honour in his country during his lifetime. Many surprising events followed. Marco Polo's rivals captured his ships and put him in jail. While in jail, he called for his notebooks and dedicated his memoirs to a fellow prisoner. After many centuries, "The Travels of Marco Polo" became an indispensable book for explorers. When the book was first published, people laughed at him for writing tall stories.

On his deathbed, he confessed that he had not told half of what he had seen. John Lerner, a historian at the University of Glasgow said, "Never before or since has one man given such an immense body of new geographic knowledge to the West." Today nobody will believe that Marco Polo had written tall stories.

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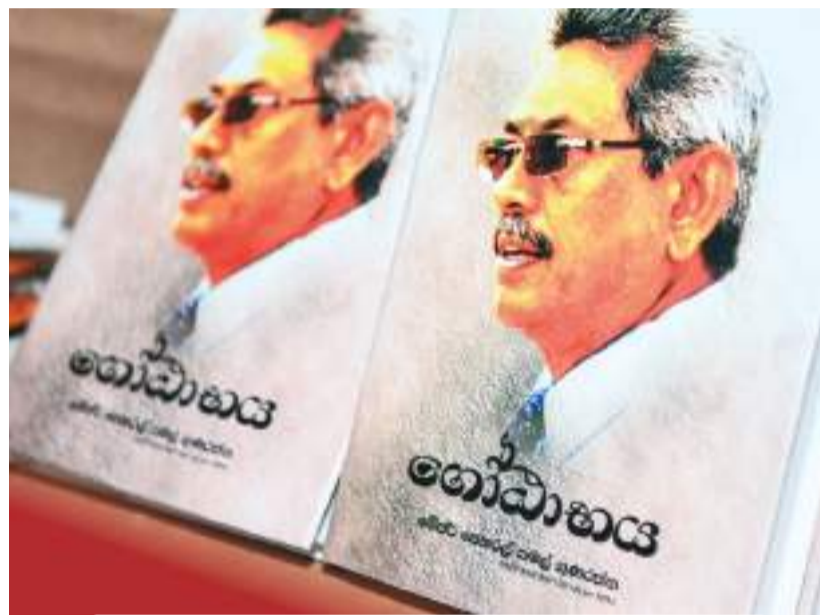
Pictorial



Defence Secretary Major General (Rtd) Kamal Gunaratne presents mementoes to the President and the Prime Minister



The President and the First Lady arrives for the event



Defence Secretary Major General (Rtd) Kamal Gunaratne presents the book to the Maha Sangha



The President greeting the Maha Sangha

Defence Secretary presents two books to President

Defence Secretary Major General (Rtd) Kamal Gunaratne presented the novel *Pathalayo* and the English translation of the book *Gatabaya* to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa recently at Kularatne Hall, Ananda College, Colombo. The novel *Pathalayo* is based on a series of true events.

The Sinhala book *Gatabaya* was released last year and this time around its English adaptation was released. Kamal Gunaratne had earlier written five books titled *Ranamaga Osse Nandikadal* in Sinhala and its English adaptation including *Road To Nandikadal*, *Kadol Aththu*, *Uththara Devi* and *Gatabaya*.

The English adaptation of *Pathalayo* and *Gatabaya* are the 6th and 7th books written by him. He presented the first copy of the two books to the Maha Sangha led by the Ven. Itthapane Dhammalankara Nayaka Thera, the Head of

the Sri Kalyani Samaggi Dharma Maha Sangha Sabha. The books were then presented to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa.

Chief Adviser to the President Lalith Weeraratna delivered the keynote address at the event. The author was introduced by Vishwa Rajapaksa, an alumnus of Ananda College and a lecturer in Sinhala.

Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa and Ministers Chamal Rajapaksa, Bandula Gunawardena, Mahindananda Aluthgamage, Sarath Weerasekera, Nalaka Godahewa, Secretaries to Ministries, former Army Commanders and current Army Commanders were present.

PIX BY: SAGARA LAKMAL DE MEL



The Defence Secretary worshipping his teachers



The President in conversation with a guest



Principal Advisor to the President Lalith Weeraratna



The Defence Secretary addressing the gathering



Performers at the book launch



Inspiring Buddha statues on the bank of Wila Oya

Reminiscing an adventurous trek into the wilderness in search of vandalised Buddha statues of Budupatuna

—Text & Pix by—
Mahil Wijesinghe



Last week I watched a news telecast in a TV channel that showed an archaeological team engaged in an exploration of the archaeological site of Budupatuna in Wila Oya at Lahugala-Kumana where rock-hewn statues of the Buddha have been vandalised by treasure hunters in the forest reserve in the Ampara district. The team headed by Prof. Raj Somadeva who had visited the site recently claimed that they found these ruined statues of the Buddha of Mahayana sect for the first time in the area.

I visited this site with some friends in 2018 and found the place vandalised by treasure hunters, which stood deserted in the middle of the jungle. Having watched the news, I reminisced my arduous trek which was not an easy task.

The legendary photographer, the late Nihal Fernando of Studio Times, might have been one of the first visitors to the site. His team of photographers from Studio Times such as Lakshman Nataraja had captured the three moss-laden statues of the Mahayanist Buddha which were published in a pictorial book.

Our destination was a mysterious and deserted place where rock-hewn images of the Buddha and two *Bodhisattva Avalokiteswara* were the symbols of the Mahayana School of Buddhism. Budupatuna, in the thick wilderness on the banks of the Wila Oya in the Lahugala-Kumana forest reserve, surrounded by clumps of greenery and jungle, gets no pilgrim or visitor today. It is silent, save for the sudden winds that take a fancy to howl through the trees. But in its heyday, this was a main spiritual hub and part of the ancient city of Ruhuna.

Two experienced villagers in jungle treks from Kotiyagala, Bandara and Raja guided us to the site which lies 15 kilometres from Kotiyagala to the west of Siyabalanduwa.

We drove the jeep through a chena cultivation of just harvested maize. An elephant's skeleton, bleached white from years of exposure to the elements, zoomed into view. Finally we entered the dense forest surrounded by the basin of the Wila Oya.

We followed Bandara and Raja along the footpath, making our way through the jungle, along twisting tracks so narrow that you can hardly turn.

There is something magical about walking in the jungle early in the morning. The whole place is filled with bird song. The cries of Changeable hawk-eagle and laughing thrushes filled the morning air as we followed the narrow jungle trail. A sloth bear paused for us, while a herd of elephants crossed our path. The landscape kept changing with every turn on the path.

Dense evergreen forests, little muddy pools followed us wherever we walked. It was not just the beauty of nature that fascinated us; it was also the absolute silence everywhere.

From the Kombokay junction, we began our eight kilometre trek along the dried-up river bed of the Wila Oya. Finally we reached the bed of Wila Oya, a sea of white sand bleached by drought.

We walked on the sand dunes, and sometimes waded through the shallow water. We had not met any ferocious animal during our trek except a lone sloth bear. Elephants, leopards and wild buffaloes had just crossed the river bed as their footprints were sighted on the sand dunes of the river.

We trekked on until a bend in the Wila Oya brought us to a great arch of Kumbuk trees (*Kumbuk Poottuwa*) which was one of the most striking features in our trek. Curving like a *Thorana*, (Arch) two Kumbuk trees grew on either side of the river, stretching over the riverbed to meet above our heads.

Further away from the Kumbuk arch, is another peculiar formation of a rock called *Goyamkolaya*, in the shape of a dagoba in the middle of the river. It is a landmark and the termination of the trek. A few yards away on the river bank, is a cluster of rocky boulders, where the Budupatuna ancient



Beautiful rock-hewn statues of Buddha (middle) flanked by Bodhisattva Maitri and Avalokiteswara Natha at Budupatuna on the bank of Wila Oya

site is located. The Budupatuna Mahayanist site was first discovered in 1985 jointly by the Archaeological Department of Sri Lanka and a Japanese expedition team from Hosei University, who described the statues depicting the Buddha flanked by *Bodhisattva Maitreya* and *Avalokiteswara* sans any damage.

The awe-inspiring ancient Mahayanist site, probably between 650-750 AC was hewn out of a rocky cliff and three figures carved in relief, on rock measuring 6 metres in height and 5 metres in width. All three statues stood on pedestals. The Bud-



The Kombokay Poottuwa (Arch) across Wila Oya

dha in the centre was on a lotus pedestal, while the others stood on two layered plinths. These fascinating statues had long been forgotten and left by treasure hunters. When the Japanese team re-visited the site in 1993, they found these statues damaged slightly. Today, most of it is broken, dug and blasted.

We had to get across by clinging onto the remains of the statues, as there is a deep hole beneath in front of the rock. The dagoba had been vandalised beyond recognition by treasure hunters.

The head of the carved Buddha statue had been completely gouged out and parts of the hands, arms and a section of the upper part missing. The *Bodhisattva Avalokiteswara* statue too had been almost completely destroyed. Only the green moss-covered statue of the *Bodhisattva Maitreya* remained intact.

However, Budupatuna might have a hidden connection with other Mahayanist sites scattered around Ruhuna such as Buduruwagala in Wellawaya, Kustarajagala in Weligama and Mudu Maha Viharaya in Potuvil, as the Buddha stands in the centre flanked by Bodhisattva statues.

The Budupatuna has not been fully explored by the Archaeology Department yet, as it is hard to reach the place in the wild animal infested jungle, which is a dreadful experience.

The exhaustion and fatigue we experienced during our trek is impossible to express in words. Having returned to Kotiyagala, ending a 15 kilometre trek on foot, we decided to go back one day, as the journey was a great adventure.



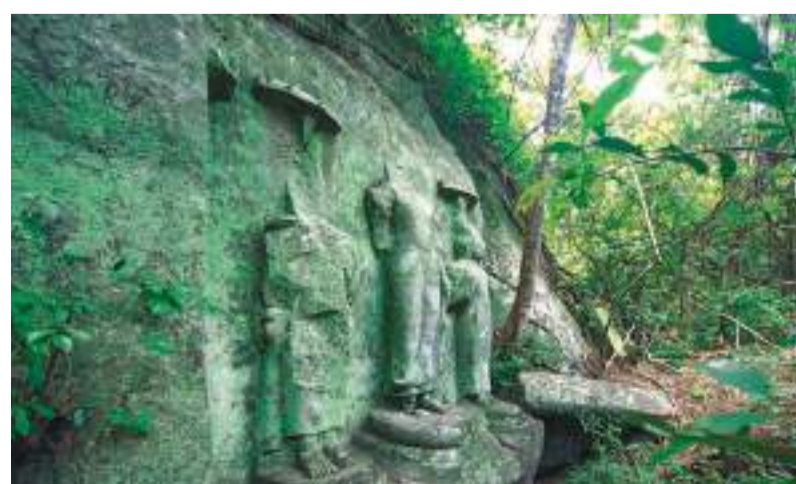
'Goyamkolaya gala' (heap of paddy) in the middle of the Wila Oya



Jungle trail to Budupatuna through Kotiyagala village



Just harvested maize cultivation near Kotiyagala



Rock-hewn statues at Budupatuna on the bank of Wila Oya

THE BUDUPATUNA MAHAYANIST SITE WAS FIRST DISCOVERED IN 1985 JOINTLY BY THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT OF SRI LANKA AND A JAPANESE EXPEDITION TEAM FROM HOSEI UNIVERSITY, WHO DESCRIBED THE STATUES DEPICTING THE BUDDHA FLANKED BY *BODHISATTVA MAITREYA* AND *AVALOKITESWARA* SANS ANY DAMAGE

Perceiving Sri Lanka through Chinese eyes

by Amy Yang



Travelling to Sri Lanka under new normalcy:

What do Chinese tourists think?

Sri Lanka is gradually entering 'new normalcy' in the post-Covid-19 period. Everybody now talks about border re-opening and tourism recovery. When will tourists come back? How will they choose the destination? What factors will influence their travelling plan? And more specifically: when will Chinese tourists come back?

As a blogger who shares the island's story in Chinese and with more than one million followers in China, almost every day I get messages asking, "When can I go to Sri Lanka?"

Who are these people who want to come to Sri Lanka?

More than half of these messages are from Chinese business travellers, or people who need to work in Sri Lanka. The Covid-19 pandemic has affected their work and plans. The others are travellers who have made plans, or have booked air tickets long ago. A few are Chinese investors who had planned to visit Sri Lanka before the Covid-19. They now wish to re-start their plans as Covid-19 is being controlled.

No matter whether business travellers or tourists, I have seen positive signs on the Chinese side. Although interests persist, under the circumstances, the doors on both sides have not been opened for tourism or personnel visits. The results depend on the policies: when and how will borders be opened?

Let's first consider the angle of the tourists. Tourists may consider several factors. As a frequent traveller and an islander who has been living in Sri Lanka for many years, I will take myself as an example. I will consider the following

1. Is it safe?

Who travels to this country? Are there any tourists from countries with severe epidemics who I may meet on the way? Are the hotels safe and do they observe health regulations? In this country is contactless travel practical? What if I get Covid-19 while travelling?

2. Difficulties of travelling

Is it easy to apply for a visa? Is 14 days quarantine required for entry? Are there measures or policies for quarantine mutual recognition or immunity passports? If travel to this country needs 14 days or even 28 days quarantine, which means around one month in isolation, I will certainly give up the idea of travelling.

Some countries such as, Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia, where the recorded number of Covid-19 infections is low, have created the Baltic Travel Bubble that allows one another's citizens to travel without the need for quarantine. I think that can work between Sri Lanka and China too, which will definitely help tourists to come back.

3. Information from the internet

While we wait for bans to be lifted and borders to re-open, many people are turning to digital travel. Virtual travel experiences offer escapism, inspire wanderlust and allow a travel and tourism industry that has crumbled to look towards a better future.

Therefore, we should not make our existence or voice vanish into thin air during the Covid-19. On the contrary, we need more exposure to target the market and talk about the hospitality of the people in our beautiful and unique island in the Indian Ocean, which brings us tranquility, inner peace and wisdom of Buddhism.

I heard that the formulation of specific national policies are proceeding, but will involve discussion and approval of many departments. However, even when Covid-19 in Sri Lanka and China is under control, the worldwide epidemic situation is changing rapidly. Many countries that recently eased social bans have reported a rebound of Covid-19. Reopening the country may result in an increased risk of imported cases and trigger a new round of infection. Hence, the reopening of the airport has been repeatedly delayed and discussed on both sides, which is understandable considering the limited medical resources available.

As regards the situation in other countries, it is generally considered to allow investment, business travellers and professionals to enter first, followed by overseas students, and finally tourists. Tourists are also being categorised. Thailand is a common benchmark country for tourism policy formulation in Southeast Asia and South Asia.

Thailand's current considerations are: "Allow small tour groups to enter first, and temporarily discourage free travel. At the same time, it must be based on the Covid-19 control status of each country and local opinion. The status of tourism operators and airlines are also factors to determine which areas will be open to tourists."

It's difficult to predict how long it would take for the full recovery of tourism. Travel will be conducted according to the new standards to ensure that health and safety is maintained. We can get excited about travel in the not-too-distant future, but we need to be fully prepared.

Fiction cannot be translated word for word

BY RAVINDRA WIJewardhane

Saman Athaudahetti is a veteran travel writer, radio journalist, translator and program presenter. His latest translation, third one in Sinhala, *Wasantha Kunatuwa* published by Fast Publishing was launched recently. The *Sunday Observer* discussed with him his new translation work and literary translations in Sri Lanka. Athaudahetti won the Vidyodaya literary award for the best newspaper column book in 2011 for *Sonduru Serisara*

-*Hanamichiya Dige*'

- Saman Athaudahetti

Excerpts:

Q: Could you explain your latest translation?

A: The original book of this translation is Sensei No Kaban, the second novel of Japanese writer Hiromi Kawakami. It was first published in 2011 and won the Tanisaki award, the most prestigious award in Japan in 2012. The book was translated into many languages, including English, French, Spanish, Italy and Dutch. However, there are two English translations of this book, one *The Briefcase* and other as *Strange Weather in Tokyo*, both by Alison Markin Powel, an American writer. My translation is based on the English book.

Q: This book is based on the Post World War 11 era?

A: After the Second World War, Japan had to suffer a lot. It collapsed socially, economically, culturally and spiritually. However, after the San Francisco Summit where Sri Lanka proposed a resolution to pardon Japan, the Japanese began to work hard to develop the country. As a result, by the '70s, Japan has overcome its worst condition and emerged as a strong country. A new social order, a new way of life and a new value system were established in Japan. The novel is based on this period.

Q: There is a subtle love story of an old teacher and his former student in this novel. Why did you select it to translate into Sinhala?

A: The protagonist of the novel is 36-year-old woman Tsukiko who accidentally encounters his old teacher at Isakaya, a Japanese restaurant after few decades from her graduation. Then there start a relationship between them which is subject to change as time went by. I was impressed by this subtle love story.

I was first attracted to Japan after reading Ediriweera Sarachchandra's two novels, *Malagiya Aththo* and *Malawunge Awurudu daa*. Though I read many Japanese novels and novels which have Japan as a setting, Sensei No Kaban (*Strange Weather in Tokyo*) is the one which gave me a feeling akin to Sarachchandra's two novels. I also have had the experiences similar to the ones described in Sensei No Kaban. But it is not a literary experimentation, such as Sarachchandra's two books.

Q: Have you met Hiromi Kawakami, the author of the book?

A: No. But she knows about my translation project as my publisher contacted her to obtain the publisher's permission to translate it.

Q: When did you first read the book to translate?

A: I first purchased the book (English Translation) from a bookshop in Japan at the end of 2019. But I read it during Covid-19 curfew when I was stuck at home. I started to translate it as soon as I read it. I completed the translation work within two or three months.

Q: What were the challenges that you faced when you translated the book?

A: The characters of the novel are complicated. Each character has a separate identity. The author presents many food items and recipes with the events of the novel - she does this when she needs to highlight those situations. I had to exert extra effort in translating these

things. Incidentally, those were the difficulties that Alison Markin Powel, the English translator of Sensei No Kaban, also faced. Umali Thilakarathne, a prominent actress and a student in Japan, helped me to solve these issues, and sometimes I had to include footnotes to present a clear picture of the circumstances.

Q: Sinhala readers know the Japanese life by the novels of Haruki Murakami, Yukio Mishima, Tadashi Noguchi and Akuthagawa. We have a general picture about the Japanese novel?

A: Yes, but that picture was given by our translators or their choices. We cannot give a specific picture of the Japanese novel, because Japan has many good novels and good novelists. We know about Haruki Murakami, a Japanese postmodern novelist, but his novel is another genre of Japanese novel.

Yukio Mishima produces another genre. The most important factor is that with their genres, they create a market in the world literature. We have a rich Sinhala literature, we are unable to produce a market in the world arena.

Q: Why is it so?

A: First, we have no good English translators to introduce our books to the world. We don't have good original writers. In Japan, most authors are writing in Japanese, not in English. But because of their translators, they present their literature to the world. The other thing is that we have no standard publishers to compete with the world. Our printing quality is low compared to the international standards.

Q: Do you think that we have writers or fictions to suit the international standard?

A: Yes, definitely. Let us take a novel, *Golu Hadawatha* by Karunasena Jayalath. If we had had good English translators, this book should have gone to the international market. There are other writers and books as well that should go to the world literature. However, good books and authors are rare in Sri Lanka.

Q: What is your art of translation?

A: I don't translate word for word. I try to translate the feelings of the original work, and try to draw the original picture, depicting the original colour, tone, sense, rhythm and the hidden meanings.

A fiction cannot be translated word for word. Language fluency or wide vocabulary is also important in literary translations, but it is not the only factor for a good translation. First, a translator has to enter the original book with feelings.

Then, you are aware of the original culture, its socio-political background and its environment. For this, a translator has to study the book as well as its author.

Q: Your views on abridged editions of the novels?

A: Abridged editions are accepted. Not only

abridged translations, but also abridged originals are present in the world. For instance, *David Copperfield* by Charles Dickens can be seen in both versions. Only the purpose is different in them.

I don't reject the abridged editions. The problem in Sri Lanka is that we don't mention whether the book is an abridged or not in its translation.

Q: Sometimes we see more than one translation of the same book?

A: Yes. It is good, because then we can select the best one. For instance, *Crime and Punishment* by Dostoyevsky was translated into Sinhala by Munidasa Senarath Yapa as well as by Cyril C. Perera. There are more than one Sinhala translations of *Anna Keranina* by Tolstoy.

Q: You have your original creations as well as translations. Which one is more difficult?

A: Both are the same for me, because I enjoy both mediums when I write.

Q: Haven't you associated writers during your travels?

A: No. I seldom meet writers during my travels. But I frequently visited Martin Wickramasinghe when I stayed close to Kirimandala Mawatha in Narahenpita where Wickramasinghe lived. Those days, Wickramasinghe's *Madol Doowa* and some of his short stories were adapted as radio dramas in which I played some roles.

I met Prof. Sarachchandra when he came to the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation (SLBC) for programs, such as *Shasthreeya Sangahaya*.

We were fortunate to associate artistes, such as Sarachchandra, Manawasinghe, Mahagama Sekara, Madawala S. Rathnayake, Amaradewa, Dayananda Gunawardhane, Sunanda Mahendra, Sugathapala de Silva and Premakeerthi de Alwis.

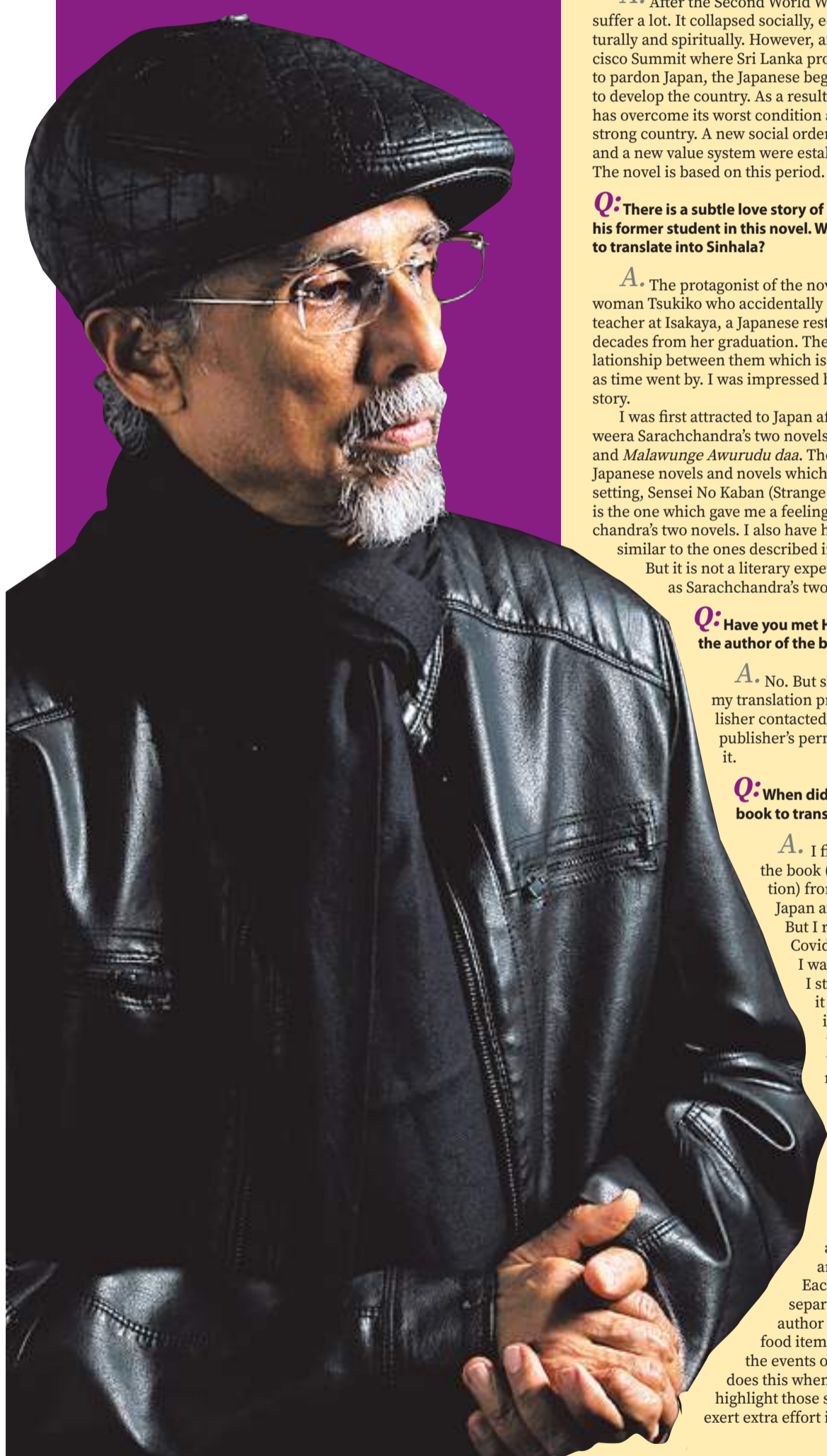
Q: During the 50s, '60s and '70s, we could identify a high art tradition at the SLBC?

A: Absolutely. It's a memorable and entertaining period from which we learned everything. The SLBC was like a university. I was ten years old when I first came to the SLBC.

I was selected to the *Lama Pitiya* and other children's programs. Subsequently, I joined various art programs, such as *Guwanviduli Ranga Mandala* (a radio drama), *Keti Kathawa* as a child artiste.

Q: How did you get into the habit of reading?

A: I started to read when I was about seven, eight, nine years old. My home environment helped me in that way.



Colombo International Book Fair from September 18 to 27

The Colombo International Book Fair will be held from September 18 to 27 at the BMICH from 9.00 am to 10 pm.

The Book Publishers' Association said that participants will be registered before entering the book fair. They can be registered Online, <https://cibf2020.com/visitor-registration>. Event registration must be completed at least a day prior to your visit.

"The registration will release you from Covid-19 declaration at the entrance gate and direct you to

express line," the Book Publishers' Association said.

When the *Sunday Observer* contacted Vijitha Yapa, President of the Sri Lanka Book Publishers' Association, he said, "We have to face some challenges regarding the book fair, because we have to follow health regulations. All the participants have to wear masks, wash their hands and keep a two meter distance between one another.

There are no foreign publishers, but we have foreign books. Some foreign publishers asked us to

conduct book stalls for them though they are not present. We have 400 book stalls like the previous one.

The book stalls will offer a 20 percent discount to the reader. There is a bargain book stall too.

The *Swarna Pusthaka* award ceremony was held on September 12.

Participants can enjoy cultural events as well, including plays, musical programs and other entertainment events from 6.00 pm.



Vijitha Yapa

MONTAGE

SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

RETAIL WEEK with ONE GALLE FACE:

A new experience in environment, wellness and literary interactions

A new normal environment calls for a new normal experience. Colombo Fashion Week curates a first-of-its-kind experiential retail interaction through knowledge in a responsible way.

Titled Retail Week, the three-week program commenced on Friday and will conclude October 4 and focuses on weekly themes, such as Fashion and Wellness Week, Environment and Conservation Week and Literary Week. The program is based on creative collaborations which bring about interesting retail interactions for guests and patrons; and it was launched in association with One Galle Face and HSBC Sri Lanka.

The month-long event program is a knowledge and engagement-based experience which includes expert talks on relevant themes and subjects, book readings and workshops, value added retail experiences, movie screenings, junior chef program, art workshop for children and special events, such as wine tasting and demos.

"To us the dynamic inside a con-

temporary mall environment is interesting and fascinating. We wanted to enhance the dynamics by bringing interesting creative collaborations so that knowledge is stimulated for patrons and add value beyond just monetary. OGF is an iconic mall in Colombo. We could experiment this new concept because of their openness to collaborate on something new.

Knowledge, entertainment and interactions is the basis of this experiential concept. I feel like coming from a creative industry like fashion and experiential retail is a logical next step. We are excited that OGF is partnering with us in this new concept. I am glad that our long-term partner HSBC continues our journey with Retail Week and will be introducing a new product," said Managing Director of CFW Holdings Ajai Vir Singh.

One Galle Face is the venue and partner for this new retail experience. It is Colombo's first internationally developed and managed mixed-use development project. Retail Week will craft knowledge and engagement-based retail experi-

ences which incorporate talks and other events categorised into weekly themes. In today's context, it's important that all are sensitised towards the importance of our environment, and hence a week-long program has been created to build knowledge and awareness through workshops and talks to engage the audience.

It is called Environment and Conservation Week, with key topics open to all, covering the impact of plastic by Dr. Anush Amarasinghe, Managing Director of BPPL Holdings PLC; marine conservation by Dr. Asha De Vos, Founder and Executive Director of Oceanswell; the leopard as an umbrella species for landscape-level conservation in Sri Lanka by Anjali Watson and Dr. Andrew Kittle, Co-Founding Trustees for The Wilderness and Wildlife Conservation Trust (WWCT) in Sri Lanka; and threats faced by sharks and rays in the Indian Ocean by Daniel Fernando, Co-Founder of Blue Resources Trust.

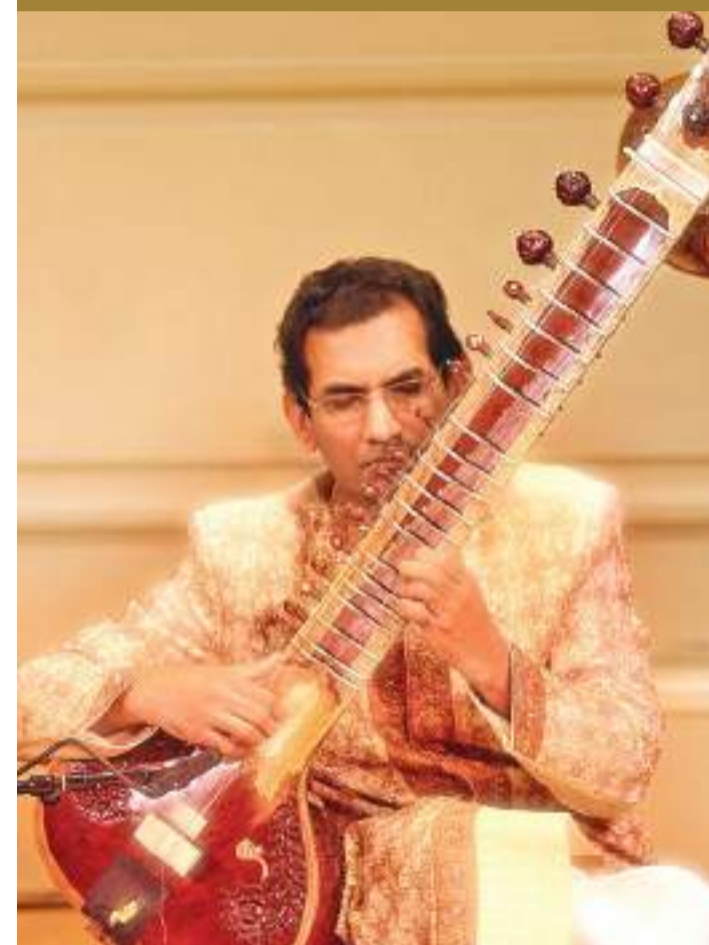
In addition to this engaging retail experience, CFW will launch The Edit, an exclusive store space on Level 2 of the One Galle Face Mall where

all participating CFW designers will retail their latest collections which were showcased on the runway in August. The Edit will be a dedicated store space for CFW designers to connect with a wider audience and retail their collections for a limited time at One Galle Face.

Fashion and Wellness Week will include talks on fashion grooming by Fouzul Hameed, a well-known name in menswear fashion solutions; the role of batik in contemporary design by Darshi Keerthisena, Creative Director of Buddhi Batiks; Professional Etiquette by renowned Corporate Trainer Kumar De Silva; and Responsible Fashion and the Journey Towards Circularity by Ajai Vir Singh, Managing Director of Colombo Fashion Week.

A Literary Week has also been curated with exciting book readings by celebrated Sri Lankan authors Ashok Ferrey, Shehan Karunatilaka and Aartika Aurora Bakshi. Each author will read an excerpt of some of their fan favourite works, while Ashok Ferrey will unveil an excerpt from his upcoming novel, "An Unmarriageable Man."

J'PURA UNIVERSITY SETS UP DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC AND CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY



The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura took another step towards modernising its degree programs and getting new knowledge across to the students when it established a Department of Music and Creative Technology recently under the headship of Prof Pradeep Ratnayake to give access to Sri Lankan music students to learn new methods of music creation, like composing and performing music through the computer and being better able to be of service to the new demands by the entertainment industry.

Prof Ratnayake had spent two years in Columbia University, New York, as a Fulbright scholar working at the Music Department and then the Computer Music Department, working with professors Brad Garton and Terry Pender, who were involved in cutting edge music technology research at that time.

Sri Jayewardenepura University Vice Chancellor Prof Sudantha Liyanage said, "This is the first time that a department of this kind is being introduced to the conventional university system in Sri Lanka. We are expecting something unique to come out of this, especially with regard to innovations connected to Sri Lankan music."

Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Prof Shirantha Heenkenda said, "Every faculty moves forward by incorporating new subject areas and giving students new knowledge, so that they can meet new demands."

I am happy that Prof Ratnayake has established a new Department of Music and Creative Technology that brings in technological skills and the use of the computer to the production of music. We have made plans to provide the department with state-of-the-art studio facilities to record even a Symphony Orchestra in it, along with separate audio production rooms with world-class equipment and industry-standard software. The midi-lab will facilitate 25 students at a time - and all this will open up this field to new possibilities for the students."

Good musicians

Prof Ratnayake said that it is important that Sri Lankan students keep abreast of all the changes in the music industry. "Our responsibility is to make sure that they can meet the demands by the new world of entertainment. We have geared our courses to give them this knowledge, so that they will not only be good musicians but will also know how to handle new technology connected to music. This will make them more employable as well as have a path to be effectively self-employed."

Prof Ratnayake being a sitarist who has performed in auditoriums across the world, such as the Carnegie Hall, New York; Walt Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles; Asia Society, New York; Kennedy Center, Washington, D.C.; Vienna Musikverein; BO-ZAR, Brussels, said that inclusion of new technology will not mean less attention will be paid to the traditional teaching of music, where students learn to become good performers.

"The old-fashioned way of teaching music is still going strong in our department. I studied for seven years at the Santiniketan, India, thanks to the ICCR scholarships, learning under some of the best gurus of Hindustani music. So, I know of its importance," he said.

The department offers courses in singing, violin, percussion, esraj, guitar and the sitar, as well as in Western music, where they can learn the piano and are encouraged to sit the exams in either Royal Schools of Music or Trinity College of Music, while they pursue their degree studies.

The department staff has senior lecturers, Gitara Wanasinghe for violin, Dr. Priyantha Thilakasiri for vocals, Muditha Arumawadu for music and video technology and Amitta Bandaranaike for Music Technology.

As visiting lecturers, the department has Chintaka Jayakody for guitar, Sachiththa Fernando for piano and western music theory, Isuru Perera for percussion, Isuru Kondasinghe for violin, Gitika Abeysekera for vocal and Handun Pathirage for Esraj.

"There will be two degree programs in the department, a more traditional one for producing a good musician and performer, who will have an idea of the technological dimensions of music, having followed some courses in it - and then one for more technologically oriented students - who will also have followed some courses on music - so that they become performing musicians to some extent too. Students of both programs get an understanding of the other," Prof Ratnayake said.

Celebrating Literature with GRATIAEN

Launching another gem in its fêted series of curated luxury experiences, Bentota Beach - The Cinnamon Luxury Collection, in partnership with The Gratiaen Trust, will present 'A Weekend with Gratiaen Winners' on September 26 and 27. The unparalleled up close and personal literary experience will feature 11 of Sri Lanka's most prominent literary celebrities, in the backdrop of the beautiful Bentota Beach Hotel, the legendary property that embodies art, design and luxury.

The award-winning authors at the event include Andrew Fidel Fernando, Arun Welendawe Prematilleke, Ruwanthi de Chickera, Shehan Karunatilaka, Vivimarie Vander Pooten, Lal Medawattegedera, Delon Weerasinghe, Jean Arasanayagam, Vihanga Perera, and Thiagaraja Arasanayagam.

Recognised the world over as the most coveted literary prize for Sri Lankan English writers, The Gratiaen Prize has brought to the limelight some of the island's best creative talent, since its inception in 1993 by Founder

Michael Ondaatje.

"We introduced a series of luxury experiences, carefully curated to cater to the vibrant tastes of today's discerning traveller," Dileep Mudadeniya, Vice President - John Keells Group, said.

"These experiential events, held on a monthly basis, will be showstoppers in their own right, be it literary, gastronomical, sports-related, musical, or artistic," he said, adding that every event will be crafted to align with the sophisticated luxury and refined experience that Bentota Beach - The Cinnamon Luxury Collection, offers.

The event will unfold with a poetry reading by Gratiaen Prize winning poets Vivimarie Vander Pooten, Vihanga Perera, Jean Arasanayagam, Thiagaraja Arasanayagam, Sumathy Sivamohan, and Malinda Seneviratne, at a Bawa garden. Guests will be transported to a world of poetic fascination, enveloped by the graceful wilderness of the enchanting garden landscapes.

The rest of the weekend's activities will include A Traveller's Tale with Andrew Fidel Fernando - a picture-

filled presentation of Andrew's travels around the island, with a short reading from his book, Upon a Sleepless Isle.

A key highlight will be the panel discussion with Andrew Fidel Fernando, Shehan Karunatilake and Lal Medawattegedera. Moderated by Ruhanie Perera at the Hotel's Banquet Foyer, the conversation will revolve around writing about cricket, politics, travel, and contemporary Sri Lanka.

Guests will also have the opportunity to enjoy a 45-minute performance of Arun Welendawe Prematilleke's The One Who Loves You So, as well as engage in a conversation with Vivimarie Vander Pooten and Prashani Rambukwella.

The two Gratiaen Prize authors will share their experiences of being female writers.

The literary weekend will also be one of gastronomic exploration and fun-filled encounters. Make a date with poetry and prose, and explore the wonders of the literary world with some of Sri Lanka's most celebrated authors.



Shehan Karunatilaka



Arun Welendawe Prematilleke



Andrew Fidel Fernando



Features



A scene from the play 'Forgetting November' (Pix: Sanjana Hattotuwa)

The State and Fate of Theatre

A feature series of Q & A interviews with Sri Lankan theatre practitioners on perceptions and perspectives of what lies ahead for Sri Lankan theatre as the world grapples with a pandemic that calls for social distancing

By
Dilshan Boange



An artiste dedicated to the arts as a writer, director as well as actor, Jake Oorloff is a Co-Founder of the Floating Space Theatre Company. An old boy of S.Thomas' College Mt.Lavinia, Oorloff's involvement in drama and theatre spans from working with schoolchildren to works of avant-garde theatre that combines, and even defies, conventional genres within the arts. The non-proscenium play 'Forgetting November' written and directed by Oorloff in August 2015, was a work of theatre which I had the pleasure of experiencing and reviewing in the *Sunday Observer's* issue of September 13, 2015 (exactly five years ago!). And thus, in this week's instalment of *The State and Fate of Theatre*, I present to the readers of *Sunday Observer* the views and perspectives of theatre practitioner Jake Oorloff, who provides a glimpse at what society at large should know about what theatre practitioners must deal with in days to come, in the face of a global pandemic.

Q. Did the lockdown and the subsequent situation that arose, halt any theatre productions that you had planned to get involved in?

A. Like most people, when the Covid-19 situation was first reported, I didn't quite understand what we were really in for. I was in the middle of planning a new production and was having conversations with a producer at the time. Floating Space Theatre Co., the company I work with, initiated a Theatre and Performance Symposium (TAP) last year and we were planning a second iteration when the curfews and lockdowns were announced. It soon became obvious that we were going to have to just sit it out until we understood what was happening around us.

Q. Looking at the next two years, how will the pandemic situation affect your plans as a theatre practitioner engaged in aspects of theatre as writing, directing and producing works of theatre?



Jake Oorloff

MANY ARTISTES, THEATRE COMPANIES AND ART INSTITUTIONS ACROSS THE WORLD HAVE TRIED TO FIND ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO PRESENT SHOWS AND PERFORMANCES AND ENGAGE WITH AUDIENCES, PERHAPS TO REASSURE THE PUBLIC AND OURSELVES THAT 'THINGS WILL BE OKAY.'

A. I believe the entire 'arts industry' and theatre community is grappling with the question at this particular juncture. The simple answer to that question is that I do not know.

For me, as an independent practitioner, creating and producing new work is reliant on many factors. Some of that is to do with the creative process but the actual production and presentation of work is reliant on people interacting, creating and generating work together.

A lot of this work requires payment and without the possibility of cultural life returning to normalcy it is hard to imagine that work can be generated at present. My colleagues in the theatre have attempted to use the internet to create dialogue/performance and in many of these instances managed to make some headway. But without a well thought-out strategy for generating funding or income, these projects are hard to sustain.

People think writers or creators can work anywhere and under any situation. That is a rather romantic if not a preposterous idea. Writers, if they do so in

a professional capacity need an income to sustain themselves. I know actors and theatre professionals who were living and working in the city and who have had to return to their homes outside Colombo. It means they are no longer able to practise their art or engage with their peers as they once did.

Q. You are a co-founder and artistic director of Floating Space Theatre Company known for its focus on experimental theatre. Have the events that unfolded in the context of this global pandemic provided you new perspectives on approaching avenues and media of performance to 'suit the times' so to say?

A. Floating Space has experimented with form and presentation before and the present moment has demanded a rethinking or modes of presentation. It is something the company is discussing. The pandemic, more than providing me with new perspectives for creating work, has given me time to reflect on my practice, and also revealed the fault lines in the industry as we know it.

Many artistes, theatre companies and art institutions across the world have tried to find alternative ways to present shows and performances and engage with audiences, perhaps to reassure the public and ourselves that 'things will be okay'. Societies and communities have always looked to art and artists to make sense of moments like these; moments that defy logic and reason. Science might tell us that Covid-19 or the new SARS-CoV-2, is most closely related to a group of SARS-CoVs found in humans, bats, pangolins and civets but that won't help us make sense of this moment we are experiencing together. That job will be left to the artistes.

Q. What do you see as possible trends and themes that may develop in Sri Lankan theatre in the face of this current situation where both state and non-state actors advocate social distancing, and fears of possible recurrent pandemic waves and thus possible consequent lockdowns, that seem to be looming over the 'collective psyche'?

A. I think artistes and companies that produced shows for larger audiences would need to rethink their established form of presentation. We may see more fringe theatre and experimental work when we finally start seeing work being presented.



Jake Oorloff at work as a director

The Indelible



Making a sincere attempt to bring an unimagined and unexplored treasure trove of modern Sinhala literature to the English reading community, *Montage* is bringing Mahinda Prasad Masimbula's award winning novel *Senkottan* translated by Malinda Seneviratne, veteran journalist, writer and poet. *Senkottan* (The Indelible), a remarkable creation of literature by Mahinda Prasad Masimbula was his debut effort in his literary career for which he won the State Literary Award in 2013 and short-listed in Swarna Pusthaka Literary Awards and many other Literary Award Festivals in the same year. The book has been published by Santhawa Publishers and *Senkottan* has blazed the trail in the self-publishing industry as one of the best-selling books in Sinhala literature.

CHAPTER 11, PART 2

Veerappuli Henaya did not go to the paddy field early the following morning as he customarily did. He went to the bo maluwa instead. Malma Ridee watched him. She felt an immense sadness about him. He was an extremely innocent human being. He would bow his head to one and all when speaking and would never harm even the tiniest of creatures. His mind had been shattered by recent events. Malma Ridee knew that although he didn't let out, each of these issues troubled his mind intensely. He had been able to deal with them thanks to his religious activities. There was just one matter that he couldn't resolve in this manner, the inability to fulfil Baba Henaya's wish to go to school.

This had festered him for long and had now broken the skin of tolerance. A few weeks previously he had confessed to Malma Ridee alone that he had visited the homes of the parents who had objected to Baba Henaya being enrolled in the school and had pleaded with them. In fact he had even gone to see the man from Kompitiya who had been the most vocal in objection and promised to collect and wash all soiled clothes until he died. Malma Ridee still remembered how he had wiped away tears while telling her at the vellaa hut how in each and every place the people had chased him away.

The bo sapling was now his only source of comfort. He could, if he so wished, spend the entire day by it in deep contemplation. Even right now, he was there, seated, Malma Ridee could see through the trees. He was still, however. He was waving his hands about and uttering something. She was intrigued and slowly made her way there. She hid behind a *kenda* tree and listened to her husband. He was murmuring something very slowly, addressing the bo sapling. She listened more intently. There were three new leaves that had sprouted from the top of the sapling. He stroked these new and tender leaves softly and spoke.

'You are my big boy...you my second girl and...and you my *heen kella*...' he touched each leaf in turn as he spoke. Then, as though addressing three small children, he spoke with utmost affection.

'...no one will harm you, my children...this is why you are growing so well even as I cast my eyes on you. Anyway, you will always have me, even if there's no one else. You will have your mother too. You should continue to live joyously, swaying like this in the breeze. You have no use of surnames. There's no distinction in such things. You should stand shoulder to shoulder with everyone else in the community. And you should educate those who know letters and yet know not, do you hear...all three of you?'

'Oh god...!' Malma Ridee couldn't stifle the tearful exclamation.

Veerappuli Henaya spent the entire day just like this. Baba Henaya and Malma Ridee took him lunch. He looked down, ate a few mouthfuls and gave the rest to Malma Ridee saying 'feed the little ones.' He spoke about Baba Henaya attending school all the time. Occasionally he would also mention Podina. He spoke of Heen Ridee and broke into sobs.

Meanwhile, Napo Signgno, who had come earlier with a message from their son Lewis Henaya who was also known as Podi Tissa, visited again with another missive. He wanted them to send at least his nephew if they were reluctant to go. After Napo Signgno left Veerappuli Henaya hugged Baba Henaya and wept.

It was during this time that they learned that Babanis would come home drunk every evening and assault Heen Ridee. Two evenings before this he had beat her so hard that the handle of the mamoty had broken in two.

That evening, when Guna Ralahamy came on his way home from Ratnapura, Veerappuli Henaya was at the bo maluwa. Malma Ridee appraised Guna Ralahamy of the changes in Veerappuli Henaya's behaviour. Guna Ralahamy came close to Veerappuli Henaya and spoke.

'Veerappuliyo...I am Guna Ralahamy. I went to Ratnapura, you know? I met the elder son. The story is true. He's like a lord now. He treated me very well.'

Veerappuli Henaya kept looking down and slowly cast his eye to see if Guna Ralahamy had left. Guna Ralahamy had stepped away from him and was speaking to Malma Ridee.

'There's been a change. He's not quite there in his mind. There was a time when he would just come running to see me if he was bothered even by the most trivial thing. He hasn't come in months now. Malmo...it has upset me as well.'

'This is how it is. He doesn't talk with us either. His conversations are with the bo leaves.'

'What upset him most was the business of the little one's schooling. He wept inconsolably as he told me about it. Veerappuliya said, "I have washed the dirty clothes of everyone in this and all the surrounding villages, but these people soiled my mind." It upset me very much Malmo. Who can we petition, who can we tell our woes to? We don't have any use for a Prince Diyasena...if at least a socialist capable of turning this society inside out soon, we will never see this situation change. We don't know how it would happen, but Malmo, I can tell that the day this system of vile domination and hypocrisy ends is not too far away. When that day comes, Veerappuli Henaya can stand straight and tall and live in this society. I don't know if you heard, but a few days ago some of these powerful individuals were defeated. NM won Ruwanwella. Who was defeated? Why, it was Adeline Molamure! Philip Gunawardena took Avissawella, defeating a similarly powerful person. And for this reason I am not ready to give up hope, Malmo!'

'So when will this change you talk about hap-

pen, Guna Ralahamy *unnehe*? Malma Ridee inquired, a thousand new hopes taking root in her mind.

'I cannot say exactly. The way things are unfolding, if the white man leaves then people like NM will become more powerful and we will be able to have a government we can call our own.'

'That will take a long, long time...' Malma Ridee became disenchanted again.

Malma Ridee figured from what Guna Ralahamy had said after his visit to Ratnapura that her son had done even better than she had expected. This made her happy. Veerappuli Henaya said nothing and just looked up when she told him.

Their son had sent a message through Guna Ralahamy, indicating that he was unable to visit since he had a lot of work to attend to and had asked them to send his sister's son Baba Henaya since he didn't have children of his own.

Malma Ridee was agreeable and this was due to what Guna Ralahamy had said.

'I know that it is not in you to leave this little village which has always been your home. I don't think Veerappuli Henaya would leave this bo sapling and go out of the village for even a single day. Your little boy is still quite tender. He hasn't put out roots yet. He's at an age where he can go anywhere and establish himself. Nothing ill will befall him if he were to go to Ratnapura. There's wealth beyond our imagination there. The boy could go to school, and not a jungle-school like the one here, but a really good institution. If he remains here, he'd just go wild, that's all. He's our boy and more importantly he's Veerappuliya's grandson. He will find the correct path. I am telling you, he will become a good man, a man who has humanity and would learn the right politics. Send him to that world in which the doors are open.'

Determining that neither he nor Nambu Henaya were suitable to undertake this journey, she got down her older sister Rambari and made arrangements for her to take Baba Henaya to Ratnapura.

'Worship everyone, my son,' Rambari said. Baba Henaya worshipped his *aatha* and *kiri amma*. Veerappuli Henaya said nothing, but took Baba Henaya's hand and began to drag him away. This agitated Rambari somewhat but Malma Ridee stopped her.

'He's taking him to worship the bo sapling.' Veerappuli Henaya, having brought Baba Henaya to the bo maluwa, looked at him. Baba Henaya sat on a nearby boulder and began to think.

He was wearing the clothes that had been made for him to wear to school. This is what he had worn when going to learn letters from Guna Ralahamy. Even on this occasion, Malma Ridee took him to Guna Ralahamy before he embarked on his journey. He stroked the boy's head and spoke as though to his own child.

'Learn, my son. Learn what's right. Just like you learn to write, learn about the trees, the vines, all creatures, the sun and rain...such things too. Become a man. Become a man like your *aatha*. If you do not find that superior quality called humanity in your books, then think of the innocent man who you call *aatha*.'

The boy, having tossed his belongings into a bundle, left the house with his *Rambari kiri amma*. Rambari had planned to go to the Rideevita Junction and then get into a bus heading for Ratnapura. Baba Henaya, eyes filled with tears, took leave of those who were part of his life. His sleeves were drenched with the tears he had brushed away. Etched indelibly in his mind was how his *aatha* had taken him near the bo sapling and how his eyes had been shining. The fragrance of soda-mixed boiled clothes which he loved so much wafted from his *aatha*. He told himself that he would never breathe that smell ever again and sobbed as went away.

They went past the peththare and walked along the tract of paddy land. Malma Ridee and Nambu Henaya came running to watch them go. The two of them blurring in the distance they saw through tear-filled eyes. With much sadness did this image get marked in their minds. The image disappeared at the end of the tract of paddy fields. Nambu Henaya sat on a rock and began to sob.

'Don't cry Nambuwo. The boy went on a journey that will take him to a better future. My boy will never go wrong,' Malma Ridee said and turned back.

As she approached the house passing the bo maluwa she noticed that Veerappuli Henaya wasn't there. She noticed something else which caused her heart to be pierced as though with the point of a very sharp blade. The ground near where Veerappuli Henaya had sat with his head bent low was wet with tears, but he was nowhere to be seen.

The bo leaves swayed in a soft breeze that came from the paddy fields. A yellowed leaf fell from the sapling, was caught in the wind and floated towards the talipot grove.

Malma Ridee ran in all directions, looking for her husband.

Thereafter, in addition to the rays of the sun that descended on the earth as always, there was rain, high winds and even earth tremors, floods, forest fires and oceanic tragedies from time to time all over the world. Such things disregarded distinctions such as high and low, roughness and tenderness, but powerfully went about indulging in their primordial habits. The planetary system altered in various ways the fate of individuals, industriously as always. The doorways of the east swung open easily to the morning that arrived following each and every night. The all-knowing skies made its way with usual equanimity. On account of the somewhat thick sighs escaping from certain people, however, there was a slight heaviness in the air that could be felt.

Experimenting with new narcotics pose deadly health outcome for women

Female drug users, a disturbing new trend in Sri Lanka

By
Carol Aloysius

News reports in the past few days have been replete with shocking revelations of our tiny island nation being flooded with new drugs illegally smuggled from neighbouring countries by organised drug mafia who distribute them to identified carriers eager for a fast buck. Reports have revealed that many of these carriers are women of varying ages, themselves addicted to drug abuse, or single mothers forced to engage in this dangerous business to support their families.

A recent report that over 553,000 Lankans are addicted to drugs, accompanied by Police reports that there were 25 underworld gangs operating in Colombo alone no doubt calls for stricter implementation of existing drug laws, especially, with news that many young women are now getting hooked on drugs and experimenting with new narcotics, such as ICE, Mandy, Bubble which are increasingly making their way to popular entertainment venues. To cite a recent example, several arrests made at recent 'facebook' parties revealed a number of young girls aged 17 upwards using the newest addictive drug ICE.

The *Sunday Observer* spoke to Emeritus Professor of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology, University of Colombo and Senior Prof. Forensic Medicine, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, and former Chairman, National Dangerous Drugs Control Board Prof Ravindra Fernando who has long spearheaded the war against drug abuse, on his views with regard to women engaging in drug experimentation and the impact on their health. We also asked him how drug use could be halted in keeping with the government policy to eradicate the menace soon.

Excerpts:

Q. More women are now indulging in drug experimentation using new drugs that have entered the country. Tell us how this could impact on their health. Are the effects the same as for men?

A. Women face unique issues when it comes to substance use, in part influenced by firstly sex (differences based on biology) and secondly, gender (differences based on culturally defined roles for men and women).

According to scientists who study substance use, women who use drugs can have issues related to hormones, menstrual cycle, fertility, pregnancy, breastfeeding, and menopause.

Q. Are the reasons for women using substances different from those of their male counterparts?

A. Most women we have seen have revealed that the reasons for using drugs, included controlling weight, fighting exhaustion, coping with pain, and attempts to self-treat mental health problems, reasons which are unique to women.

Q. Is the quantity of substances and the way they use them different from males?

A. Women often use substances differently from men, e.g. using smaller amounts of certain drugs for less time before they become addicted.

Q. What about their response to substance use? Is it the same as for male users?

A. Women can respond to substances differently. For example, they may have more drug cravings and may be more likely to relapse after treatment, which is a great problem.

Gender differences in rates of substance abuse have been consistently observed in the general population and treatment-seeking samples, with men exhibiting

significantly higher rates of substance use, abuse, and dependence.

However, recent epidemiologic surveys suggest that this gap between men and women has narrowed in recent decades.

For example, surveys in the early 1980s estimated the male/female ratio of alcohol-use disorders as 5:1, in contrast to more recent surveys that report a ratio of approximately 3:1.

Q. What about the physical effects of these drugs on them?

A. Women who use drugs may also experience more physical effects on their heart and blood vessels. Brain damage in women who use drugs can be different from those in men.

Women who use certain substances may be more likely to have panic attacks, anxiety, or depression.

Sex hormones can make women more sensitive than men to the effects of some drugs. Women may be more likely to go to the emergency room or die from overdose or other effects of certain substances. Women who are victims of domestic violence are at increased risk of substance use. Divorce, loss of child custody, or the death of a partner or child can act as triggers.

Q. What about pregnant women who take these narcotics? How does it affect them?

A. Substance use during pregnancy can be risky to the woman's health and that of her children in both the short and long term. Most drugs, including opioids and stimulants, could potentially harm an unborn baby.

Use of some substances can in-

crease the risk of miscarriage and can cause migraine, seizures, or high blood pressure in the mother, which may affect her fetus.

In addition, the risk of stillbirth is 2 to 3 times greater in women who smoke tobacco or marijuana, take prescription pain relievers, or

use illegal drugs during pregnancy.

Pregnant women or women wanting to get pregnant should stop using drugs. Pregnant women should check with their health care provider before using any medicines or substances.

When a woman uses some drugs regularly during pregnancy, the baby can go through withdrawal after birth, a condition called neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS).

The type and severity of a baby's withdrawal symptoms depend on the drug(s) used, how long and how often the mother used, how her body breaks down the drug, and whether the baby was born full-term or prematurely. Symptoms of NAS in a newborn can develop immediately or up to 14 days after birth.

Q. Briefly mention the common addictive drugs being used in Sri Lanka.

A. The commonest addictive or dependence producing drugs are alcohol and tobacco, both are legal in Sri Lanka.

Other common drugs are amphetamine, methamphetamine (Ecstasy) and ICE. Cannabis or ganja or marijuana, heroin, cocaine and benzodiazepines and similar drugs are also abused.

Other addictive drugs include barbiturates, hallucinogens (lysergic acid diethylamide - LSD, certain mushrooms), khat type (a plant *catha edulis*, used mainly in North Africa), and volatile solvents.

Q. Which of these is most harmful?

A. Methamphetamine. Meth is a powerfully addictive drug whose chronic use preferentially causes

psychiatric complications.

Chronic meth users have deficits in memory and executive functioning as well as higher rates of anxiety, depression, and most notably psychosis.

It is because of addiction and chronic psychosis from Meth abuse that the meth user is most likely to come to the attention of the practising Psychiatrist or Psychologist.

Q. What about ICE?

A. ICE, along with speed and base, is a form of the potent stimulant drug methamphetamine. It is also referred to as *shabu*, crystal, crystal meth or d-meth. ICE is the purest and most potent form of methamphetamine.

It comes as a powder or crystals that are usually snorted, injected or smoked.

About half of those who use methamphetamines say they prefer to take ICE. Methamphetamine psychosis typically involves feeling overly suspicious, having strange beliefs about things that are not plausible, or hearing and seeing things that are not there.

Q. Harmful effects?

A. ICE is far more potent than powdered methamphetamine, and as a result of its potency, it has a very strong effect on the body and can result in substance dependence.

ICE is highly addictive, stronger and causes more harmful side effects than the powder form. Some researchers consider crystal methamphetamine to be the most dangerous and destructive drug available today due to the devastating effects it has on the human body.

When ICE vapours are inhaled, they enter the bloodstream directly through the lungs and are rapidly transported to the brain.

Manifestations of acute overdose with methamphetamine include restlessness, tremour, hyper-reflexia, rapid respiration, confusion, hallucinations, panic states and fever.

Fatigue and depression usually follow the central stimulation. Effects on the heart include rhythm changes, high or low blood pressure and circulatory collapse. Gastrointestinal symptoms include nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, and abdominal cramps. Fatal poisoning usually terminates in convulsions and coma.

Q. As we are still amid the Covid-19 pandemic do you think users of illegal drugs are more vulnerable to this new virus?

A. Yes. Users of illegal drugs such as *kerala ganja*, cannabis and ICE can be vulnerable to the Covid-19 virus now spreading to all parts of the country, due to their already lowered immune systems.

Q. What do you think should be done to halt this disturbing trend?

A. The need of the hour is to rehabilitate substance abusers. Drug rehabilitation is the of medical or psychotherapeutic treatment for dependency on psychoactive substances and drugs such as cannabis, ICE and heroin.

The objective is to enable the patient to confront substance dependence and cease substance abuse to avoid the psychological, legal, financial, social, and physical consequences that can be caused by extreme abuse.

Treatment includes medication for depression or other disorders, counselling by experts and sharing of experience with other addicts. This is a costly, time consuming process.

Q. Role of parents? Teachers? Do you think more awareness raising is needed?

A. Definitely more awareness campaigns are required to educate parents and teachers to help prevent children becoming substance users.

Q. Your message to all young people especially young women on why experimenting with drugs can cause serious health impacts on them and their unborn children?

A. Never take or experiment with drugs. You do not know when you will end up as an addict.



Prof Ravindra Fernando

THE NEED OF THE HOUR IS TO REHABILITATE SUBSTANCE ABUSERS. DRUG REHABILITATION IS THE OF MEDICAL OR PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC TREATMENT FOR DEPENDENCY ON PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES AND DRUGS SUCH AS CANNABIS, ICE AND HEROIN



Medi snips

Compiled by Carol Aloysius

Health Ministry guidelines to prevent Covid-19 in schools

Director/ Environmental and Occupation Health and Safety



With the reopening of schools after several months of closure, concerns have been raised on whether the school environment is safe for students. The *Sunday Observer* spoke to Director, Environmental and Occupation Health and Safety, Dr Thilak Siriwardana.

Asked what steps have been taken to ensure a safe disease-free environment for the students in the country, considering that some schools had been used as polling stations at the recent parliamentary elections, he said the Ministry of Health had provided guidelines to the Ministry of Education to control and prevent Covid-19. "Grassroots level public health workers work hand in hand with schools to have these guidelines implemented in the schools. In addition all schools and other buildings were sanitised immediately after the election," he said.

Asked if the classrooms were sterile and what precautions had been taken to protect the students from exposure to the Covid-19 infection, he said, "The school authorities should follow the guidelines issued by the Health Ministry and the instructions by the Education Ministry. Parents also have to play an active role to protect students from Covid-19 as students who have been protected from the virus in their homes are now with other children who may carry the infection without their knowledge."

Asked about school canteens he said, "Any food premises in the country should be according to the regulations issued under the Food Act No 26 of 1980 and the Covid-19 guidelines issued on restaurants and food premises recently. They are applied to school canteens too." To our question whether there was a School Canteen Policy, he answered in the negative saying that there was no school canteen policy in Sri Lanka other than a few circulars issued by the educational authorities about the school canteens.

We asked him if there were precautions when serving and preparing food for students, he said, that the instructions were given to public Health Inspectors on this and general instructions to prevent Covid-19 can be practised by the parents to promote homemade food.

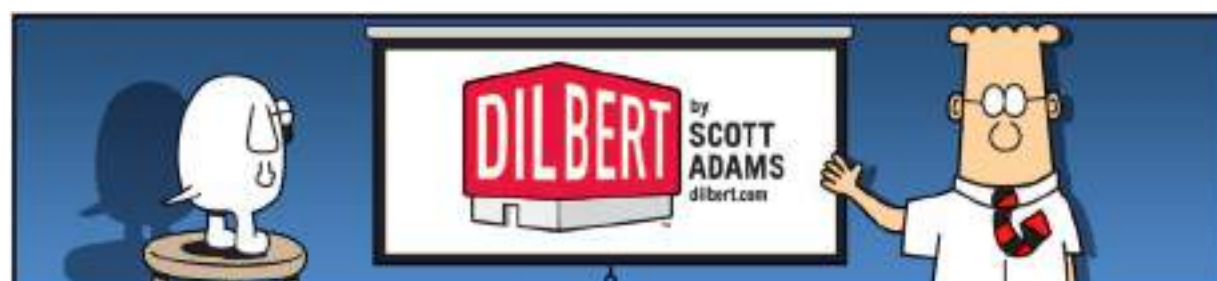
Who oversees adherence to the new health regulations laid down by the Ministry of Health, we asked?

He said "We have about 1,800 Public Health Inspectors supervised by the Medical Officers of Health to ensure the implementation of these regulations."

On the advisability of re-commencement of sports activities by schoolchildren he said "Sports played using rackets and which don't have to be in close physical contact could be allowed adding that the students should be taught on how to prevent themselves from the spread of Covid-19 during sports.



Feature



FAMILY TIME Crossword

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15				16					17			
18			19						20			
		21							22			
23	24				25	26				27	28	29
30					31					32		
33					34					35		
					36					37		
		38	39								42	43
44						45					46	
47						48					49	
50						51					52	

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

S	L	I	T	D	O	W	A	T				
C	D	T	E	U	S	E	A	R	A			
H	P	E	K	C	A	N	E	A	R			
R	E	M	A	R	K	I	N	M	A	T	E	
D	W	E	S	I	F	E	A	T				
V	I	E	N	O	T	P	V	A	N			
A	T	L	A	S	W	E	B	E	Y	E		
Z	T	I	P	U	D	A	R	K				
P	L	E	C	K	A	C	A	N	O	P	Y	
N	E	A	R	F	A	R	O	L	E	U		
C	A	N	E	T	M	T	L	O	O	E		

KENKEN

THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

EASY

12x			2÷
24x	4+		
	3+		3
	2	3-	

CHALLENGING

2-	18x	2	5-	100x	
					3+
3-	1	72x			
		5-	9+		4
12+			8+		2÷
1	11+				

TODAY'S ANSWERS

3	4	1	2	5
3	2	4	1	5
2	1	4	2	5
1	4	3	2	5

WORKSPACE:

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- ACROSS**
- Gypsy moth's tree target (3 words)
 - (K) Show an entertainer some love
 - (K) Like turtles
 - (K) Pigeon cry
 - Prefix with "dynamic"
 - (K) Hole in the skin
 - Purge
 - (K) Slugging equipment
 - Act as an accessory to, illegally
 - Indiana State and Clemson
 - Variety of Christmas tree
 - (K) Can makeup or roofing material
 - Eclectic mix
 - A state of agitated irritation
 - (K) Professional's charge
 - Quality of a great quarterback

- DOWN**
- Colour like 52-Across
 - A certain type of meat cut
 - (K) Changed
 - Beam thrown by a Scotsman
 - Jet giant
 - Fine things to study?
 - (K) Excellent type of attitude to have
 - (K) Barcelona's home
 - (K) Ear-piercing site
 - Metals-in-the-rough
 - (K) Absolutely soaking
 - Certain type of bowed, stringed instrument
 - Small monkey with a long tail
 - (K) Light switch position
 - (K) Tell a horrible fib
 - (K) Having the most lather
 - (K) Lamar Jackson plays in it
 - Most passionate
 - Incredibly long geological span
 - (K) Last word of many books
 - Twosome
 - (K) Marble chunk
 - Zodiac borders
 - Places to pitch many tents
 - (K) Work successfully at a lemonade stand
 - (K) Hovering over
 - (K) Shaft in a garage?
 - (K) Some precipitation
 - 1/2b x h, for a triangle
 - Bread served in India
 - Facility with a Jacuzzi

SUDOKU 223

Have fun with this highly addictive logic-based number-placement puzzle, the objective of which is to fill the 9x9 grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3x3 sub-grids that compose the grid contains all of the digits from 1 to 9.

								4
		3			9			6 5
	5		3			8 2		
7 6		4 3						
			7		2			
				9 8				5 7
	4 9			3				1
2 8		5				3		
6								

Riddle:
Diamond clubs?

Last week answer:
37-A) Atlas

Last week's solution

3	7	6	1	8	2	4	9	5
8	9	5	6	7	4	3	2	1
1	2	4	9	5	3	7	8	6
9	1	3	8	6	5	2	4	7
6	4	8	3	2	7	5	1	9
7	5	2	4	1	9	8	6	3
5	6	7	2	4	1	9	3	8
2	3	1	7	9	8	6	5	4
4	8	9	5	3	6	1	7	2

OBSERVER EDUCATION

SEPTEMBER 13, 2020



A NEW DIMENSION OF
ACTIVITY BASED... **PAGE 42**



REGISTER FOR BSC
(HONS) IN QS FROM... **PAGE 44**



STUDY HOSPITALITY,
LEISURE... **PAGE 49**



INSTITUTE OF BUSI-
NESS PROCESS... **PAGE 55**

Prof Nic Beech, new Middlesex University Vice-Chancellor

Professor Nic Beech has begun his role as the new Vice-Chancellor of Middlesex University. He joins Middlesex from the University of Dundee where he was Vice-Principal. During his first week, Professor Beech will be meeting Chancellor Dame Janet Ritterman, the Executive Team, students and staff.

In a Twitter post, Vice-Chancellor Professor Nic Beech said: "I've already been so impressed by how our community makes a real difference through education, research and how we engage with the world."

On Twitter, the new Vice-Chancellor spoke about his excitement the community of staff, academics and students at Middlesex University.

"I've already been so impressed by how our community makes a real difference through education, research and how we engage with the world."

Professor Beech, who takes over from Interim Vice-Chancellor, James Kennedy, has extensive leadership experience in higher education.

He previously held the roles of Vice-Principal and Head, College of Arts and Social Sciences at the University of Dundee and Vice Principal, Dean of Arts and Head of the School of Management at the University of St Andrews.

His research interests are in change management and leadership and the construction of identity in the music industry, health, financial services and creative industries.

He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, the British Academy of Management, the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development, the Australia and New Zealand Academy of Management and the Academy of Social Sciences.

As Chair of BAM since 2013, he has taken

the organisation into new areas of activity and outreach, through initiatives including a study of diversity in leadership in the FTSE 100 and the setting up of schemes to promote scholarly activity across borders.

Nic was selected for the role by a selection panel comprising independent governors, the student governor who is also the President of the Students' Union, a staff governor and an external assessor.

Geraldine Proudler, Chair of the Board of Governors, said: "Nic impressed the panel with his commitment to our mission and values, his outstanding track record of successful leadership in higher education and his collegial and engaging style."

"Nic's tremendous breadth and depth of experience will be of huge benefit to Middlesex at what is both a challenging and exciting time for Higher Education in this country."



Professor Nic Beech

Medical faculty entrants up by 350



Education Minister Prof G.L. Peiris at a discussion with Vice Chancellors and Deans of universities that have Medical Faculties

The Government will increase the intake of students to the Medical Faculties of Government universities by 350.

This decision has been taken as a step in education development that is anticipated by the Ministry of Education in the near future, said Education Minister Prof G.L. Peiris.

Several rounds of discussions were held in this regard with the Vice Chancellors and Deans of all Government universities that have Medical Faculties on the request of Education Minister Prof Peiris.

This is the first time the number of intake of students to the medical faculties of the



state universities has been increased considerably.

The move aims at giving an opportunity to more students to enter the medical faculties of the universities based on the results of the General Certificate of Education (Advanced Level) Examination in 2019.

Secretary to the Ministry of Education, Professor Kapila Perera, Chairman of the University Grants Commission Senior Professor Sampath Amaratunga, Vice Chairman Janitha N. Liyanage, officials of the University Grants Commission, Vice Chancellors of the Universities and the Deans of the Medical Faculties participated in the discussions.



Examinations timetable

The Year 5 Scholarship Examination will be held on October 11 and the General Certificate of Education (Advanced Level) Examination will be held from October 12 to November 6.

School holidays will be from October 10 to November 8.

The third school term will commence on November 9 and will end on December 23.

The final school holiday season of the year will be from December 24 to January 1. The new school term

for 2021 will commence on January 4.

The G.C.E. Ordinary Level Examination for 2020 will be held from January 18, 2021 to January 27.

This period will be considered as a holiday for all schools.

Students expecting to sit for the G.C.E. Ordinary Level Examination, will be given a holiday from January 1, 2021 to January 17.

Schools will reopen after the G.C.E. Ordinary Level Examination on February 1, 2021.

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Advertorial



A new dimension of activity based learning at Big Spark by Gateway

Gateway's newest venture, Big Spark by Gateway, brings together the Schools of Computing, Language, Speech and Drama, in an endeavour to promote STEAM Education with an activity based approach that uses Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics.

Gateway has a long heritage of energising, enlightening and empowering children for the challenges that lay before them by facilitating inquiry, dialogue, creativity and critical thinking.

At Big Spark by Gateway, every child is thought of as a universe awaiting the spark that would create an adult who is intellectually, emotionally and physically ready for the challenges that tomorrow brings. A diverse range of programs are offered to children from the age of 4 years.

With education expected to prepare children for a fast-changing digital workplace, technology-led learning is becoming the norm. This new era of education also demands a fresh set of skills that children can apply to anything by learning to think in a logical and rational manner. These are instilled in them through the suite of technology based programs offered at Big Spark by Gateway. Children are encouraged to unleash their creativity and think critically with the activity based programs in Robotics, STEM and Coding. Additionally, Gateway's Computer Pioneers program that is assured by Pearson Education



provides the fundamental knowledge in ICT for young students. Students also have the option of getting certified for International Computer Driving Licence (ICDL), world's leading computer skills certification.

The ability to communicate effectively provides a great advantage for children's success in life, both as social beings and in pursuing an education. Big Spark by Gateway endeavours to develop a rounded language skill set, focusing on Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing

in English and Tamil. English courses are taught via traditional lessons, blended learning and e-learning while courseware, such as workbooks, audio and video are provided by UK publishers such as Cambridge, Pearson and Delta.

All programs are designed according to the Council of Europe Common European Framework Reference (CEFR) and thus meet the highest international standards. Courses are carried out in partnership with Pearson and Cambridge International Examinations.

The Performing Arts play a significant role in helping children develop their creative skills. The Speech and Drama programs available at Big Spark by Gateway, allows children to be creative and playful; motivating them to recreate and enact situations.

Students are not only exposed to a wide range of literature and its appreciation, but develop confidence as well as skills in reading, speaking and presenting.

A panel of qualified teachers decides on the best curriculum to follow based on continuous assessments of the child. Classes are grouped in small sizes to ensure individual and customised attention. Students are presented for both foreign and local examinations, through the LAMDA, Trinity College London, IWMS and CALSDA according to their age and ability.

With a vision to provide a holistic learning experience that will produce capable, creative and confident citizens who are fueled by a fire to do good and succeed in life, the Big Spark by Gateway endeavours to instill the values of kindness, dependability, self-expression and independence, in its students.

For further information, contact any of the following branches
Bambalapitiya - 0112502100 / 0112583858,
Borella - 0112699642 / 0112670633,
Nugegoda - 0112816815/0112829334,
Moratuwa - 0112641527

Let's traverse through books

BOOKS IMPROVE OUR EXPRESSIONS. WE LEARN NEW WORDS FROM THEM AND THAT WIDENS OUR VOCABULARY. BOOKS HEIGHTEN OUR CREATIVITY AND HELP US EXPLORE NEW POSSIBILITIES AS THEY MAKE US MORE FLUENT IN LANGUAGES.

By
Vasana Abeynayake



"A great book should leave you with many experiences, and slightly exhausted. You should live several lives while reading it"

— William Styron

We are in the vicinity of the most wonderful exhibition of the year; the international book fair. This is the most fascinating month of the year for passionate readers.

Books are referred to as a man's best friend. They are beneficial for mankind and have helped it evolve. There is a motivating force of information and knowledge. Books offer us many things without asking for anything in return. Books leave a deep impact on us and are responsible for inspiring our mood. This is why we suggest children read books from an early age to gain knowledge. The best part about books is that there are various types of books. One can read any type to gain different types of knowledge. People of all ages must read. It not only widens our thinking but also enhances our vocabulary.

There are different genres of books for book readers. Every day, thousands of books are released to the market from travel books to fictional books. We can pick any book of our interest to expand our knowledge and enjoy the reading experience.

We have travel books, which tell us about the experience of various travellers. They introduce us to different places in the world without moving from our place. It gives us travelling tips which we can use in the future. We have history books which state historical events and about the eras and how people lived in times gone by. We have technology books that teach us about technological developments and different equipment.

You can also read fashion and lifestyle books to get up to date with the latest trends in the fashion industry. There are self-help books and motivational books. These books help in the personality development of an individual. They motivate us to do well in life and also bring a positive change in ourselves. Fictional books are based on the writer's imagination and enhance our mind's eye. They are entertaining and keep us intrigued until the end.

There are various advantages of reading books. It improves our knowledge of a variety of subjects and makes us wiser. When we learn different things, we learn to deal with them in a different way too. Books also keep us entertained. They kill our monotony and provide us great company when we are alone and help us to recognise our areas of interest.

They also determine our career choices to a great extent. Books improve our expressions. We learn new words from them and that widens our vocabulary. Books heighten our creativity and help us explore new possibilities as they make us more fluent in languages. They enhance our writing skills too. The reader becomes more confident in debating, public speaking quizzes and more with new knowledge gained from books.

Books are a rich source of information and knowledge. Reading books on diverse genres imparts information and gives you a deep insight of the topic you read. You learn something new when you read. It is a fact that those who have good reading habits show signs of higher intelligence. With diverse and abundant genres, books unbolt the mind and enhance the creativity and language skills.

Reading fiction develops empathy and helps build better relations with others. You become a part of the story and naturally empathise and sympathise with characters, including the awareness about how people get affected in different situations. It enhances your ability to have compassion with others. Good reading inspires you to write. Many writers get inspiration and gain expertise by reading. It's a matter of learning the art of using language.

Reading is a kind of motivation that works wonders in when it comes to de-stressing. Reading motivational books can change our life for the betterment. Reading autobiographies can also encourage us to work hard and stay dedicated to achieve our goals. It helps us become a better person in life.

There are many perks of good reading habits. It keeps your mind active, strong and healthy. Reading is important for your overall personal growth and development as you never feel bored or lonely if you develop good reading habits. To acquire the habit of reading is to construct for you a refuge from the miseries of life. In September, we cannot ignore the fact that it's the Reading Month of the year and the most awaited excitement of the exhibition week of the books is around the corner. Books may well be the only true magic.

COLOMBO INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR 2020

MBA program of Canterbury Christ Church University at Saegis Campus

ARE YOU DREAMING OF OBTAINING A GLOBALLY RECOGNISED BUSINESS QUALIFICATION?

- Start your own business to become an entrepreneur
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- Speed up your career progression
- Move into a new functional area
- Move into a new industry and go up in the ladder
- Make new connections and become a strong person

Get registered for the Canterbury Christ Church MBA program with the trusted partner in Sri Lanka "Saegis Campus"

Why study at Saegis Campus Sri Lanka?

- Experienced and Qualified Faculty with industry experts
- Superior learning facilities and individual attention to students
- Flexible payment options with attractive bank loan facilities and 0% interest installment payment for Sampath bank and HNB credit card holders
- Access to CCCU online resources and other services
- Assignment based evaluation
- Easy access, state-of-the-art facilities and vehicle parking facilities.

Business world is rapidly changing and the complex global business environment requires unique skills, knowledge and right attitude.

Thus, focal point of MBA program, Canterbury Christ Church University (CCCU) and Saegis Campus are to nurture the students remain competitive and think well beyond the scope of standard business models to face world-scale social, environmental, political and economic challenges.

Having considered all such challenges, MBA program was designed by Canterbury Christ Church University with a group of experts competent in globalization and emerging needs in Sri Lanka as well as in other countries.

Thus the MBA program is designed to understand the big global picture and to get used to the implications and opportunities in the competitive businesses and new enterprises both in Sri Lanka and abroad.

The prime objective of this Canterbury Christ Church University MBA program is to groom well-rounded global leaders ready to thrive and succeed in today's business environment. Your ability to achieve and act - both independently and as a member of the MBA team is what make you stand out.

Canterbury Christ Church University MBA Team invites you to expand your horizons through this career-transforming, life-changing learning experience. Join us and realize your true potential for success. Find below what Saegis



MBA Package offers you achieve your career aspirations.
Canterbury Christ Church University (CCCU) - Teaching Excellence

The MBA program conducted at Saegis Campus is identical to that of CCCU, UK and follows the same curriculum, methods of teaching and evaluations, ensuring high quality and international standards.

It is noteworthy to emphasise that during Covid-19 pandemic, Saegis campus was able to continue with the online study programmers on LMS platform, and the students embraced the change and continue with their studies without any interruption and delay.

Duration - One (1) Year

A competitive and academically rigorous 12 month MBA postgraduate platform, that allows students multiple modes of delivery to choose from, giving ultimate flexibility whilst retaining high quality educational provision - strictly adhering to the standard delivery protocols approved in the United Kingdom.

Excellent Panel of lecturers

A team of experienced lecturers possessing the ideal balance of academic and professional insight along with the top level industry experience professionals deliver an unparalleled, modern and inspirational learning experience for

students in the program. This will also bring real world application and context to the theory built into the syllabus. Also the delivery standard of lecturers is evaluated with student feedback and quality parameters to ensure high standard of delivery throughout the period.

Customised packages for Corporate Sector

The unique scholarship schemes of Saegis campus for corporate sector is designed to maximize students' potential while providing a valuable boost for their academic progress and development. This venture also seeks to equip students with the necessary skills to meet the challenges of emerging trends within the relevant industries today, and recognizes the growing need to produce top notch professionals who will make an important contribution to industries.

Affordable pricing and attractive loan schemes to facilitate students loan facilities

Potential students who need financial assistance to pay course fee with extended bank loan facilities are introduced to students, while also Sampath bank and HNB credit card holders are given with opportunity to make the payment with zero % interest payment plan.

MBA Studio Facility

It is with great pride that we introduce you to our Collaborative classrooms - a recent trend in higher education under the concept of MBA Studio Class Room. This is a unique facility that provides students a more engaging environment to learn and also force a shift in pedagogy for the betterment of the program.

Thus, Faculty of Graduate Studies - Saegis Campus is ready with an MBA studio classroom to offer a collaborative, highly interactive environment that features technology-enabled group tables and smart boards.

The new intake will commence on October 3.

Register Today!
For more information:
Call 077 043 5555 or visit
www.saegis.ac.lk
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T M P G Tennakoon
 Chartered MCIPM,
 DBFA, SCBA, FCPM,
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 Chief Operating Officer
 - Saegis Campus

A BRITISH LAW DEGREE ORIENTED TO SRI LANKAN PRACTICE

The law training programme at APIIT Law School leading to LLB (Hons) Law degree awarded by Staffordshire University, UK is unique; students learn not only the British Law with reference to Sri Lankan legal practice, but also a few Sri Lankan law modules. An optional work experience project in the local legal environment is designed to increase students' interaction with leading practitioners and extend their learning in the classroom to the profession. This allows our graduates to develop themselves as effective legal practitioners in Sri Lanka with an international perspective to legal practice.



Further, we appreciate that Law should be learnt in a practical context. That's why our Law students visit the courts and parliament, debate legal topics, and take part in mock trials and moot competitions in addition to their classroom work.

From careers in the legal profession to international diplomacy; business management to entrepreneurship;

and politics to academia, the opportunities for our graduates are truly endless.

We are pleased to invite you to visit our Law School to see the facilities, meet with the staff, and experience first-hand the excellent academic environment we have created for a high quality learning experience.

“AT APIIT LAW SCHOOL, STUDENTS LEARN NOT ONLY THE BRITISH LAW WITH REFERENCE TO SRI LANKAN LEGAL PRACTICE, BUT ALSO A FEW SRI LANKAN LAW MODULES. AN OPTIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE PROJECT IN THE LOCAL LEGAL ENVIRONMENT IS DESIGNED TO INCREASE STUDENTS' INTERACTION WITH LEADING PRACTITIONERS AND EXTEND THEIR LEARNING IN THE CLASSROOM TO THE PROFESSION.”

A UNIQUE BRITISH DEGREE IN LAW

LLB (Hons)



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APIIT Law School is a vibrant place to pursue legal studies; high quality teaching and learning is supported by modern technology. Students are taught to leverage IT to improve their learning and are provided with unlimited access to computer laboratories, the Internet, and online databases such as Westlaw-UK, Lexis Library-UK and E-law web application. The overall goal is to produce a new breed of IT savvy legal practitioners who will bring creativity and innovation to their practice.

Our British LLB (Hons) Law degree programme is so much more than the law. It is one of the most versatile training programmes. It teaches you to think differently; to challenge and debate; to research and analyse; to take decisions based on facts; to negotiate; and obviously to operate within a legal framework.

Stand apart from the rest as you-

- Study for a British Law degree oriented towards the Sri Lankan legal profession
- Get the opportunity to choose from the widest array of modules
- Gain an insight into the Sri Lankan legal profession through the 'Work Experience' module
- Leverage technology to enhance learning
- Develop legal practice skills through moot, debating, mediating and other skills development programmes
- Graduate well-equipped to pursue a rewarding career

Register Now. Next Intake: 21st September 2020

LLB (Hons) LAW

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APIIT Colombo Campus, No 388, Union Place, Colombo 2.
APIIT Kandy Campus, No 63, King's Street, Kandy.

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Advertorial

UNIVERSITY OF RUHUNA FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE



Admission of Diploma Holders in Agriculture to BSc. Agricultural Resource Management and Technology Degree Programme - Academic Year 2020/2021

The Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ruhuna calls applications from Diploma Holders in Agriculture to follow the BSc Agricultural Resource Management & Technology Degree Programme. The duration of the degree is four academic years.

Every candidate should satisfy the following requirements:

(1) Academic Qualifications :

A two year Diploma in Agriculture or Animal Production from any School of Agriculture of the Department of Agriculture, Aquinas University College, Hardy Institute of Technical Training, Affiliated University College or any other recognized institution approved by the Ministry of Education or University Grants Commission.

OR

A two year Diploma from National College of Education with Agriculture as the main subject.

With

GCE (O/L)

Six passes in one sitting, with four credit passes including Science and Mathematics.

AND

GCE (A/L)

At least three passes in one sitting of the following subjects: Botany, Chemistry, Zoology, Biology, Physics, Mathematics (Pure/Applied), and Agriculture.

(2) Experience :

Five years (05) of experience (on the closing date of application) as a permanent employee in the government or private sector, in the field of Agriculture/Animal Production or related sectors, after obtaining the Diploma in Agriculture.

(3) Age Limit :

Should be below 40 years of age, on the closing date of application

An examination for the selection of up to ten candidates to follow the above degree programme will be held shortly. The examination will consist of the following :

- a. An aptitude test: 30 minutes
- b. Subject matter paper: 02 hours (MCQ & Structured Essay Type)

Employees in the agricultural field of government and private sector organizations, who possess the above qualifications, are eligible to sit for the examination. The maximum number of attempts allowed to sit for this entrance examination will be three.

The Head of institutions concerned should make arrangements to grant scholarships/study leave for the selected persons to follow the programme on full-time basis.

Application forms and other details can be obtained from the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ruhuna, Mapalana, Kamburupitiya after a cash payment of Rs.500/= to the Assistant Bursar, Faculty of Agriculture. Duly completed applications should be forwarded through the respective Heads of the Institutions to reach the Assistant Registrar, Faculty of Agriculture on or before 15th October 2020. Those who wish to obtain application forms and other relevant particulars by post should send a self addressed stamped envelope of the size 9" x 4" addressed to the Assistant Registrar, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ruhuna, Mapalana, Kamburupitiya along with a Bank Deposit Slip to the value of Rs.500/= written in favour of the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ruhuna, Account No. 133100160000029 held at the People's Bank, Kamburupitiya branch indicating the applicant's name and address.

**Registrar
University of Ruhuna
Matara**



FULFIL YOUR AMBITIONS

Register for BSc (Hons) in QS from Oxford Brookes University OCTOBER 2020 INTAKE AT BCAS

If you have ambitions of becoming a certified Quantity Surveyor, then the BSc (Hons) in Quantity Surveying from Oxford Brookes University UK, is now offered in Sri Lanka through its exclusive local education partner BCAS Campus. The British College of Applied Studies (BCAS) has been a leader in the private tertiary education sector since 1999, and following its collaboration with Oxford Brookes University, which is ranked 33rd in the UK, it has given Sri Lankan students the opportunity of earning a reputed British Quantity Surveying degree right here in Sri Lanka!

Oxford Brookes University has over 150 years of history and has grown into one of the UK's top modern universities with a local, national and international reputation for teaching and research excellence. The BSc (Hons) in Quantity Surveying degree program gives you an exceptional career preparation and will help you develop the knowledge to work in quantity surveying and commercial management, gaining skills in building construction, design, materials, CAD, quantity surveying and much more.



The degree program is uniquely structured with industry-specific modules and is delivered in a convenient environment to go comfortably with your hectic daily schedules. The course duration is one year and the modules cover a wide range of subjects and include: Construction Dis-

sertation, Contract Administration and dispute Resolution, Sustainability, Development Economics and Finance, and Construction Measurement and Cost Management.

Choosing to study for the BSc (Hons) in Quantity Surveying at BCAS, which has won more than 18 local and international awards due to its exemplary academic success record, is the best decision that you can take for your future! With a student-friendly environment, flexible learning schedule and modern learning facilities, BCAS has established itself in Sri Lanka with key campuses in Colombo and Mount Lavinia, along with three regional campuses in Kandy, Jaffna and Kalmunai. Offering a highly qualified lecture panel with a 100% guarantee of excellent results makes BCAS the No.1 choice to enhance your career prospects and determine your future success in field of quantity surveying.

Registrations are now in progress for the next intake commencing in October. Contact 0776653636 / 077 272 9908 for further information.

Rotaract Club of CCS 9th Annual Installation Ceremony

The 9th Installation Ceremony was held at the P.P.G.L. Auditorium, Institute of Chemistry Ceylon (ICChemC) on the August 31. The ceremony marked the appointment of the new board of the RAC CCS Club led by Rtr. Bhanuka Gunaratne.

A recap on the previous year was also conducted where several noteworthy projects of the past year were highlighted including Speak to the Future; a Community Service Project which involved the donation of items worth Rs 300,000 to the Sri Wickrama Kanishtha Vidyalaya, Ruwanawella. Certificates of appreciation were handed


over to the previous board members for their service and the club website was also launched.

The Chief Guest for the evening was Prof. Sujatha Hewage, Dean of College of Chemical Sciences. The Guest of Honour was Paul Harris Fellow, Rotarian Kasun Hewamalika; the President 20-21 of the Rotaract Club of Colombo Regency.

Other special invitees included the President of ICChemC, Prof. Sagarika Ekanayake, the Registrar Mr. NINS Nadarasa, Dr. Keerthi Attanayake, President 19-20 of the Rotary Club of Colombo Regency Mr Anjana Ratna-

sara, Rotarian Gehan de Alwis, current District Rotaract Representative Rtn. Rtr. PP. Kasun Sigera, members of the Rotaract District Steering Committee and past Rotaractors of the RAC CCS Club.

The event was attended by many Rotaractors from Clubs all over the island as well as ICChemC internal staff members, teaching assistants and club members. We express our gratitude to the organising committee, past and present board members and to the newly joined Rotaractors from Level One for helping to make this event a great success.



2020

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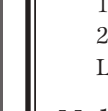
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CENTRE FOR INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND COMMUNITY STUDIES

Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka

APPLICATION FOR POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMS

Applications are called from suitable candidates for the admission of the following Postgraduate Programs conducted by the Centre for Indigenous Knowledge and Community Studies of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka. These Postgraduate degree programs can be selected under two major streams. The candidates who are interested in studying traditional knowledge (indigenous knowledge) in technology, agriculture, medicine, fishery and fine arts, etc. Those who wish to study the social, economic, cultural, religious and health protection systems, evolution and the language of Indigenous Communities in Sri Lanka or any other country in the world can apply for these Postgraduate degree programs.

01. Master of Philosophy (M.Phil) in Indigenous Knowledge and Community Studies

Admission Requirements:
A Special Degree with First or Second Class Upper Division
or
A Postgraduate Diploma/ A Master's Degree with a General or Special Degree

Course Fees:

Registration Fee	Rs. 1,500.00
1st Year	Rs. 60,000.00
2nd Year	Rs. 40,000.00
Library Deposit	Rs. 5,000.00

Medium: Sinhala / English

02. Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) in Indigenous Knowledge and Community Studies

Admission Requirements:-
A special Degree with a First Class
or
Any Master's Degree /M.Phil (2 years by a research)
(Note: Candidates under this qualification will initially be registered for M.Phil and be upgraded for Ph.D) based on their performances.

Course Fees:

Registration Fee	Rs. 1,500.00
1st Year	Rs. 100,000.00
2nd Year	Rs. 75,000.00
3rd Year	Rs. 75,000.00
Library Deposit	Rs. 5,000.00

Medium: Sinhala / English

Application form and relevant information for registration could be obtained from our website: www.sab.ac.lk/cikcs. The closing date for receiving applications will be **05th October 2020**.

Fer further details, please contact:
Director,
Centre for Indigenous Knowledge and Community Studies,
Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka,
P.O. Box 02,
Belihuloya 70140.
Telephone: 045-2280040 / 071-4453450
Email: director@cikcs.sab.ac.lk
Website: www.sab.ac.lk/cikcs

Registrar,
Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka

Informatics Institute of Technology (IIT), the pioneer in British higher education in Sri Lanka and the country's premier IT and Business campus announced the launch of BSc (Hons) Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Data science (DS) by Robert Gordon University, Scotland for the first time in Sri Lanka at an online forum held recently.

The informative online forum was attended by Dr. John Isaacs - Head of School of Robert Gordon University - UK, Prof. Nirmalie Wiratunga - Professor Intelligent Systems Research of Robert Gordon University - UK, Shevan Goonetilleke - President and General Manager, Integration Business of WSO2 and Naomi Krishnarajah - Dean of IIT. The forum was moderated by Dr Damitha Karunaratna, Head of Department Computing at IIT.

IIT's BSc (Hons) Artificial Intelligence and Data Science course is designed to cater to the growing demand of ICT professionals with skills in Artificial Intelligence and Data Science (AI and DS), as well as to provide the opportunity for students looking to pursue a rewarding career in AI and DS. Students will be able to gain practical understanding of contemporary AI and DS trends and technologies in developing cutting-edge solutions.

The 4-year full-time degree adopts initially with a range of modules under the key streams such as Systems, Mathematics, Programming and AI and DS. Subsequently, they are gradually specialised into AI and DS modules, as the student progresses through Stages 1 to 4. As with all IIT degrees, Year 3 will include a compulsory 12 month industrial placement period that will provide the student additional practical skills and a competitive edge in the job market.

Addressing the online audience, Naomi Krishnarajah - Dean of IIT stated, "Today marks another significant milestone as IIT launches the BSc (Hons) Artificial Intelligence and Data Science in collaboration with Robert Gordon University (RGU), Scotland. The growing need for AI and DS Professionals by the industry locally, regionally and, internationally was the main

required ahead of time and provide a pathway for students to get world-class qualifications in those areas."

Giving her insights to AI and DS, Prof. Nirmalie Wiratunga - Professor Intelligent Systems Research of Robert Gordon University - UK stated, "We are very pleased to offer BSc (Hons) Artificial Intelligence and Data Science in collaboration

reservations on your behalf or IoT sensing platforms that can manage smart homes, automated language translation or video captioning on mobile devices all rely on AI and DS technologies. This degree will impart strong conceptual understanding of technologies behind AI and DS, extend the reach and relevance for opportunities to gain employment and thrive in professional careers".

Shevan Goonetilleke - President and General Manager, Integration Business of WSO2 commented,

timely as it will impart much needed skills and knowledge to budding technology professionals in the country who can leverage this to build Artificial Intelligence solutions to improve Sri Lankan industries as well as provide expertise to advance these technologies on a global scale."

IIT conducts internal postgraduate and undergraduate degrees from the University of Westminster (UOW), UK and Robert Gordon University, UK. The degrees offered at IIT are Software Engineering, Business Information System, Artificial Intelligence and Data Science, Business Management and Computer Science with specialization pathways in gaming and computer graphics development, mobile and web computing and multimedia computing.

IIT is an award winning campus, which has bagged many accolades for innovation in local and international competitions such as Microsoft Imagine Cup, National Best Quality Software Awards (NBQSA), APICTA, British Council-HSBC Youth Enterprise Award and e-Swabhmani. With its strong international affiliations, outstanding resources and focus on quality higher education, IIT is without a doubt an ideal place for students to follow world renowned IT and Business degrees.

For further information, e-mail "admissions@iit.ac.lk" or call the hotline 0766 760 760 or visit IIT Main Campus at No. 57, Ramakrishna Rd, Colombo 06.

IIT LAUNCHES SRI LANKA'S FIRST-EVER BSc (Hons) ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND DATA SCIENCE



BY ROBERT GORDON UNIVERSITY - UK

justification for launching this degree. IIT has been extremely successful with its undergraduate ICT degrees and this is another degree adding to its growing portfolio of offerings. IIT has developed a strong partnership with RGU since 2016 and has been offering, namely MSc Big Data Analytics and MSc Business Analytics, which are highly sought by graduates working in industry. The AI and DS degree cover multiple streams (programming, systems, artificial intelligence and data science) progressively moving towards specialization in AI and DS. IIT's strong relationship with the ICT industry enables it to identify the skills

between RGU, Scotland and IIT, Sri Lanka. We have designed the course jointly which will be delivered by IIT; with RGU assuring quality and conferring of awards. Industries such as healthcare, life sciences, energy, financial services, automotive, manufacturing, and entertainment all benefit from reasoning from data. Technology giants such as Facebook, Google, and Microsoft are opening their deep-learning platforms for all to use. We have designed this degree; with modules that are essential to meet industry demands. Hot applications like self-driving cars, personal assistants that can make

"Advances in Artificial Intelligence technologies have proven to disrupt and improve how we work across all industries, globally. The AI and DS programme launched by IIT is very

"The growing need for AI and Data Science Professionals by the industry locally, regionally and internationally was the main justification for launching this degree"





BSc (Hons) Artificial Intelligence and Data Science


BY ROBERT GORDON UNIVERSITY - UK

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IIT CAMPUS
Informatics Institute of Technology

Advertorial



M. Sc. / Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Electronics Department of Physics UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

Applications are invited for the Master of Science Degree/Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Electronics program.

Eligibility: B.Sc. degree with Physics or Electronics as a subject, or any other equivalent qualification acceptable to the Senate of the University of Colombo.

Total program fee: Rs. 275,000

Duration: 24 months

The M.Sc. program consists of two parts. Those who successfully complete the first part will be eligible for the Postgraduate Diploma. Alternatively, they will be able to proceed to the second part which leads to the M.Sc.

While lectures will be conducted mostly online, practical classes will be held in the laboratories of Department of Physics. Both lectures and practical classes will normally be conducted at weekends. Further information can be obtained from the web page <https://science.cmb.ac.lk/academic/postgraduate-programs/msc-pg-dip-programs/msc-in-applied-electronics/> (or scan the QR code below).

Application Procedure

Applications can be submitted by completing the online form in the above web page. A printed copy of the application form, together with a payment slip of the Rs. 2500/- application fee (paid to the People's Bank collection account of the University of Colombo, Account No. 3140-3450-0000 through any branch of People's Bank) should be produced at the interview. The closing data for submitting applications is **30th September 2020**.

**Registrar
University of Colombo
Colombo 3**



Over 10,000 students sit CASL Business Level examinations

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CA Sri Lanka) conducted the Business Level I & II examinations with an impressive number of students sitting for the exams which was held in August and September.

Incidentally, CA Sri Lanka was among the first professional institutes in the country to physically conduct an examination following Covid-19 and the subsequent lockdown.

CA Sri Lanka enforced stringent health regulations and other necessary measures to ensure the safety of the over 10,000 students who sat for the exams conducted at 11 examination centres island wide.

The Business Level I & II exams were conducted in Colombo, Galle, Kandy, Kurunegala, Jaffna, Anuradhapura, Kalmunai, Ratnapura and

Bandarawela. The examination was originally to be conducted in March; however, the Institute was compelled to postpone the exams on the orders of the Health Authorities following the Covid-19 outbreak and the lockdown.

Annually, CA Sri Lanka conducts four exams in total, two exams for the Business Level and two exams for the Corporate and Strategic Levels. The Corporate and Strategic Level exams is scheduled to be held on October 18, 24 and 25.

The second round of the Business Level I exam which was originally to be held this month has now been scheduled to be held on 05th and 06th December 2020, while the Business Level II exam will be held on 12th and 13th December.

CA Sri Lanka's Chartered Accountants

are globally recognised for their ability to steer any business successfully, due to their exceptional technical and perceptive skills, financial discipline and out of the box thinking.

About 40% of CA Sri Lanka Chartered Accountants serve at senior management level including Partners, Chairmen, Managing Directors, Chief Executive Officers, General Managers, Vice Presidents, Chief Financial Officers and Financial Controllers, among others. An impressive percentage of CA Sri Lanka's members also play an influential role across the corporate world, both locally and overseas spanning Australia, Africa, Americas, Middle east South East Asia and South Asia.

CA Sri Lanka also enjoys numerous agreements with leading inter-

nationally reputed accounting bodies including the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), Chartered Accountants Australia & New Zealand (CA ANZ), CPA Ireland, CPA Australia and Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) which paves way for CA Sri Lanka qualified Chartered Accountants to enjoy greater mobility across any part of the globe.

CA Sri Lanka is also the only professional body in the country to offer a dual membership pathway simultaneously with ICAEW for the benefit of its students following the CA Sri Lanka program. To obtain the dual membership from CA Sri Lanka and ICAEW, students must complete 2 out of 5 subjects from the CA Sri Lanka Strategic Level and 3 subjects from the ICAEW Advanced Level.

HORIZON CAMPUS

Faculty of Management Internship Review Meeting

Students of the Intakes 4 and 5 of the Faculty of Management had their Internship Review meetings with their mentors at the faculty on September 4. The students shared their work experiences, skills they learned and explained the responsibilities they were entrusted with as interns. The current batch of Management Faculty Interns were guided by Ms. Sakunthala Rathnakara, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Management.

The internship review meeting is the capstone event of a six-month long evaluation and monitoring process where the Management Faculty interns are monitored and guided by their assigned mentors from the faculty.

The faculty has been able to place students of the current batch of interns in top corporate giants such as ICL Brands (Maharajah Group), Sri Lanka Telecom (SLT), Ninewells Hospitals (Access Group) and at leading advertising industry stalwarts like Promowatch. Some

other students from this batch found internship opportunities at rapidly growing young firms such as the e-commerce unicorn Zig-Zag.lk while others joined consultancy firms and IT startups for their internship training.

Marketing Special and HRM Special degree programs at Horizon Campus, Faculty of Management are based on applied education targeting the prevailing job market. Additionally, the Faculty of Management's focused academic approach ensures a strong emphasis on practical exposure and experience.

The Faculty of Management's on-going relationship with business and industrial sectors has enabled the Horizon Campus to become a favourite choice for intern recruitment and industrial training opportunities among the private sector. The excellent curriculum and faculty provide students a unique learning experience that enables them to reach their maximum potential and succeed in the corporate world.



Internship Review meetings



State Ministry of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research and Innovations

National Apprentice & Industrial Training Authority - Orugodawatta



Recruitment of Apprentices – Year 2021 AUTOMOBILE ENGINEERING TRAINING INSTITUTE

The Automobile Engineering Training Institute functioning under the purview of National Apprentice & Industrial Training Authority, invites applications for the recruitment of apprentices for the Year - 2021 from the Sri Lankan youth (age between 16-25 years) for the following full time courses:-

1.	Full time courses	Duration	Educational Qualifications
1.1	Automobile Mechanic	3 years	Passed G.C.E (O/L) examination in two sittings with 6 subjects including Sinhala, Mathematics and Science. Note: Age should be between 16-25 years as at 2021-01-01 Gender (Male / Female)
1.2	Automobile Electrician	3 years	
1.3	Machinist	3 years	
1.4	Automobile A/C Mechanic	2 years	Passed Grade 8 in a Government school or Government recognized school. • Age should be between 16-25 years as at 2021-01-01
1.5	Automobile Tinker	1 1/2 years	
1.6	Automobile Painter		

2. Course Details:

- All courses will be conducted on competency based training under the Dual Training system and the National Vocational Qualification frame (NVQ).
- Upon successful completion of the institutional training (Duration – 12 months) under courses 1.1 – 1.4, the trainees will be attached to Government/Private Automobile organizations for on-the-job Training to facilitate further development of knowledge and skills.
- Upon successful completion of the institutional training (Duration – 06 months) under courses 1.5 – 1.6, the trainees will be attached to Government/Private Automobile organizations for on-the-job training to facilitate further development of knowledge and skills.
- Course No. 1.3 includes training on CNC Milling Machine, Lathe Machine, CAM Programming, Head facing machine, Boring machine, Crank grinding machine, Tool cutter grinding machine etc.

3. Awarding Certificates:

Apprentices who pass the National Vocational Qualification final assessment, the National Vocational Qualification Level - 4 certificate (approved by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission) will be awarded together with the certificate of Automobile Engineering Training Institute.

4. Course Selection:

- Applicants who fulfill the above educational qualifications shall be tested on mathematics and general knowledge by way of an Aptitude test (Duration - 1 hour). Further, applicants will be called for an interview based on marks obtained from the Aptitude test.

5. Application Process:

- Applicants have to pay Rs. 400/- to the Dematagoda branch of the People's Bank to the credit of Automobile Engineering Training Institute, Account No 071100103320674 pay- in- slip obtained from the bank should be affixed on the space provided on the back side of the application.
- Duly completed application form should be sent under registered post to the "Director / Principal, Automobile Engineering Training Institute, No: 69/A, Baseline Road, Orugodawatta on or before **22nd October 2020** (Use application format given in the Gazette notification). Please mention "Recruitment of Apprentices - 2021" on the top left-hand corner of envelope or visit our website: www.aeti.edu.lk
- For further information, contact Registrar Tel. Nos. 0112-572977 and 0112-532182 refer the **Sinhala Gazette notification** published on **11th September 2020**.

**Chairman
National Apprentice & Industrial Training Authority**

“ONE CHILD, ONE TEACHER, ONE BOOK, ONE PEN CAN CHANGE THE WORLD”

-Malala Yousafzai

Since the inception of Metropolitan College in the year 1999, we have grown and emerged into one of the most reputed and high quality private higher educational institutes. For more than two decades Metropolitan College has provided countless opportunities to all the students seeking the power of knowledge. Metropolitan college provides a multi-cultural environment to their students from all over the Globe and an exceptional support in their pathways towards success.

Metropolitan College offers a variety of courses in Teaching, Psychology, Business Management, Travel and Tourism, Quantity Surveying, Languages & International Relations. When a student enrolls into a diploma program, a pathway is made to reach PhD. In order to fulfill the student qualification needs, Metropolitan College has partnered with Girne American University, OTHM (UK), NOCN (UK), ICIDL and IDP.

As an institution we focus on quality of education along with a great importance towards morality, politeness, Ethics and a good inter & intra personal relationship. It is our vision to meet with the country's priorities in higher/professional education, whilst contributing towards social and economic development in the country. We drive ourselves with the mission to provide Educational Services through a high-quality approach and contribute to the country's economic growth.

Girne American University (GAU)

Being the largest American style university in Europe, GAU has established branches in seven countries including the USA and UK. Metropolitan College is the sole service provider of GAU campus in our country. The courses offered in Metropolitan College is recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) of Sri Lanka.

OTHM (UK)

OTHM is one of the largest awarding bodies in the UK. The qualifications provided by OTHM is internationally recognized by the Office of the Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (OFQUAL). Metropolitan College provides qualifications Starting from level 3 foundation courses to level 7 Postgraduate diploma qualifications which Leads to top up MBA at University of Chichester UK.

What we offer in Teacher Training

Metropolitan College proudly offers diploma & higher diploma in Teacher Training which are recognized locally by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission (TVEC) of Sri Lanka. The above level leads students to final year of the degree under Early Childhood Education, Primary School Teaching & English Language Teaching which are duly recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) of Sri Lanka.



Students have the opportunity to continue their pursuit towards knowledge by progressing to MA in English Language Teaching, MA in Educational Administration and Supervision. Furthermore, students can reach the pinnacle of career through the PhD in Educational Administration and Supervision program.

Why choose Metropolitan College?

In terms of affordability we offer the most flexible and affordable payment plans as we believe "Your success.... our achievement". It is our privilege to offer the best quality service in the education industry.

Metropolitan College suits everyone with a thirst towards success in the field of teaching, once

completed O/L or A/L or with a Diploma or Higher Diploma qualification, students can obtain a much broader knowledge in the field of teaching with a passion to impart knowledge with the greatest quality. Metropolitan College provides flexibility of fulltime & part time options to satisfy the professional needs of students from all walks of life.

Remember, teaching is one of the most noble fields in the world. Great leaders would have never had the opportunity to be great leaders without the Guidance and knowledge their teachers bestowed upon them. Metropolitan College proudly takes responsibility to educate and strengthen future generations to build a better Sri Lanka!



Become an Outstanding Teacher



GIRNE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY



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- BA. English Language Teaching
- BA. English Language and Literature
- MA. English Language Teaching
- MA. Educational Administration and Supervision
- PhD In Educational Administration, Supervision and Planning



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Advertorial

IIHS announces 2021 intake for three key courses

Sri Lanka is slowly but steadily returning to normalcy after stemming the spread of the deadly Covid-19 virus. The country's political leadership, healthcare professionals, tri-forces and the police have carried out a tremendous job to keep Sri Lanka and her people safe from the pandemic. Almost all the countries in the world have waged a defensive war against Covid-19 and healthcare workers continue to remain on the front line.

In this backdrop, organisations around the world, such as the International Institute of Health and Science (IIHS) - Sri Lanka's premier, privately run healthcare education institute - have an important role to play, producing highly qualified healthcare professionals who can respond to similar high-pressure crisis situations.

Hence, with added vigor, IIHS is now inviting applications from prospective students for three significant courses; Bachelors of Nursing, Bachelors of Physiotherapy and Bachelors of Biomedical Sciences. All three courses are 3+1 pathway programs and discounts will be offered for early-bird registration.

As Sri Lanka's premier International University Learning Center (IULC), IIHS, for over 18 years, has offered programs ranging from certificates to PhDs. The programs are offered in partnership with leading global universities securing pathways and opportunities for students to realise their dreams at an affordable price.

"With over 20 international partnerships from United Kingdom, Australia, Finland, United States of America and Malaysia, we produce the high quality students who are equipped to join the international workforce," said Dr. Kithsiri Edirisinghe, Founder CEO of IIHS.

"We began a concept titled 'Be Me in Global Health Care Profession' where our students will receive a chance to be directly in touch with alumni to obtain more accurate and first hand information on our systems and qualifications."



Following are IIHS alumnus, who had followed these three specific programs and reached their academic and professional goals.

Rashmalee Peiris, an alumnus of Lyceum International School, Wattala, felt her options were limited as an international school student, who had completed London A/Ls. After my 3 years at IIHS I completed 1 year at Deakin University Australia and my Bachelors has secured my registration as a nurse which has unlocked many doors. She is now a Registered Nurse, Lyndoch Nursing Home Warrnabool Victoria.

Ayodhya Karunaratne, an alumnus of Holy Family Convent, Bambalapitiya, completed her 3-year Advanced Diploma in Physiotherapy at IIHS, and continued her academic journey at Coventry Univer-

sity where she completed a Masters in Physiotherapy. She is currently a Registered Physiotherapist in Birmingham City Council, United Kingdom.

Josephian Kanchana Fernando, graduated from Metropolia University of Applied Sciences is currently employed in the city of Helsinki, Finland as a registered Physiotherapist. He is one of IIHS's many exceptional students.

Krishmitha Maniwanan, an alumnus of Lyceum International School, Wattala, is a 21-year-old Bio -Medical science student. Krishmitha aspires to complete the Bachelors in Medical Sciences degree from Murdoch University, Western Australia which will also serve as her foundation for studying medicine. During her time at IIHS, she

completed multiple research projects and presented her findings at national and international forums.

IIHS continues to be dedicated to training young professionals in the areas of healthcare and education. The Institute's primary focus is to provide the highest standards of education that will qualify students to pursue satisfying careers and lucrative employment opportunities.

IIHS is a front-runner in adopting new trends in education providing a multitude of choices and opportunities to its student community aligning with the current Sri Lankan government policies of making Sri Lanka a regional hub for education.

Intakes are now open for Bachelors of Nursing, Bachelors of Physiotherapy and Bachelors of Bio Medical Sciences.

SLASSCOM partners Pearson Lanka for Tech Webinar series for undergrads

The Sri Lanka Association for Software Services Companies (SLASSCOM) has partnered with Pearson Lanka to present a series of Tech Webinars targeted at upskilling IT undergraduates in Sri Lanka.

When the Covid-19 pandemic hit Sri Lanka and the Universities closed down, SLASSCOM proactively stepped in to bridge the knowledge gap by organizing a series of highly engaging bi-weekly webinars conducted by top IT industry professionals covering highly relevant and trending topics for university undergraduates. Titled the 'Lockdown Webinars', the free webinars conducted via Zoom, rapidly grew in popularity drawing more than 1,000 IT undergraduates from across the country and receiving really good feedback from participants and university lecturers alike.

SLASSCOM hopes to replicate these successes with this new series of Tech Webinars commencing from September 2020. Targeting young IT undergraduates looking at entering the industry, the webinar series will focus on knowledge sharing by industry experts who have experience, expertise and insights on Sri Lanka's IT landscape. With the objective of upskilling the new generation, the series will also act as a platform for development and creativity to improve Sri Lanka's future IT industry ecosystem.

Being in the forefront of uplifting the local IT industry with the latest breakthroughs in tech innovation, research and IT advancements, SLASSCOM is driven to enhance capacity and skill development in the sector - one of its key strategic initiatives. While looking at expanding the talent pool and leading capacity development, the association is also keen on influencing tomorrow's IT leaders to take Sri Lanka's tech domain to the next level.

"We have always placed our efforts in taking the IT industry of the island to greater heights - a priority we diligently invest in," says Chairman of SLASSCOM Channa Manoharan

He said, "The pandemic brought about many changes in how we do things, including how we expand knowledge, influence the newer generations and share experiences. Our webinars have proven to be very effective and have assembled large audiences who have been actively engaging with us during the lockdown. And it is this



Channa Manoharan
- Chairman, SLASSCOM



Diyath Ariyaratne
- General Manager, Pearson Lanka

encouragement that drove us to launch a year of monthly webinars where we will be bringing together our own successful SLASSCOM members and IT undergraduates on to one platform for knowledge sharing."

Pearson Lanka, the Strategic Partner for the Tech Webinar series is the largest Pearson owned technology center, employing nearly 900 IT professionals. The company is a leading provider of Software Development and Remote Infrastructure Management services to multiple technology groups, across Pearson - The World's Learning Company.

"As one of the leading technology service providers helping more than 75 million learners across the world, we are proud to partner with SLASSCOM for this series of Tech Webinars," said Diyath Ariyaratne, General Manager of Pearson Lanka. "With the government also mandating the improvement of technology and tech knowledge, we are indeed happy to support the growth of Sri Lanka's IT ecosystem."

An industry enabler that has continuously proven its ability to develop and uplift local talent, SLASSCOM is looking forward to creating yet another industry benchmark through this Tech Webinar series.



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EXTERNAL DEGREE PROGRAMS 2021

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

B.Sc. in Electronics and Automation Technologies

Admission Requirements

G.C.E. Advanced Level Examination (New/Old Syllabus) Three passes including Physics as a subject in one sitting (Preference will be given to those who passes at least one Mathematics subject)

Or

G.C.E. Advance Level Examination (Technology Stream) Three passes including Engineering Technology and Science for Technology (Preference will be given to those who passes Mathematics as the third subject)

Or

Any other equivalent academic/professional qualifications acceptable to the faculty board and the senate of the University (Ex: London A/L, City & Gills or HNDE Diploma/Higher Diploma, etc.)

B.Sc. in Financial Engineering

Admission Requirements

G.C.E. Advanced Level Examination (New Syllabus) Three passes including Combined Mathematics/Higher Mathematics as a subject in one sitting

Or

G.C.E. Advanced Level Examination (Old Syllabus) Three passes including Pure Mathematics/Applied Mathematics as a subject

Or

Any other equivalent academic/professional qualifications acceptable to the faculty board and the senate of the University.

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10th of October 2020

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Registrar
University of Colombo

State Ministry of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research and Innovations

National Apprentice & Industrial Training Authority - Orugodawatta



Recruitment of Apprentices - Year 2021 AUTOMOBILE ENGINEERING TRAINING INSTITUTE

The Automobile Engineering Training Institute functioning under the purview of National Apprentice & Industrial Training Authority, invites applications for the recruitment of apprentices for the Year - 2021 from the Sri Lankan youth (age between 16-25 years) for the following full time courses:-

1.	Full time courses	Duration	Educational Qualifications
1.1	Automobile Mechanic	3 years	Passed G.C.E (O/L) examination in two sittings with 6 subjects including Sinhala, Mathematics and Science.
1.2	Automobile Electrician	3 years	
1.3	Machinist	3 years	
1.4	Automobile A/C Mechanic	2 years	Note: Age should be between 16-25 years as at 2021-01-01 Gender (Male / Female)
1.5	Automobile Tinker	1 1/2 years	Passed Grade 8 in a Government school or Government recognized school. • Age should be between 16-25 years as at 2021-01-01 • Gender (Male / Female)
1.6	Automobile Painter		

2. Course Details:

- All courses will be conducted on competency based training under the Dual Training system and the National Vocational Qualification frame (NVQ).
- Upon successful completion of the institutional training (Duration - 12 months) under courses 1.1 - 1.4, the trainees will be attached to Government/Private Automobile organizations for on-the-job Training to facilitate further development of knowledge and skills.
- Upon successful completion of the institutional training (Duration - 06 months) under courses 1.5 - 1.6, the trainees will be attached to Government/Private Automobile organizations for on-the-job training to facilitate further development of knowledge and skills.
- Course No 1.3 includes training on CNC Milling Machine, Lathe Machine, CAM Programming, Head facing machine, Boring machine, Crank grinding machine, Tool cutter grinding machine etc.

3. Awarding Certificates

Apprentices who pass the National vocational qualification final assessment, the National Vocational qualification Level - 4 certificate (approved by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission) will be awarded together with the certificate of Automobile Engineering Training Institute.

4. Course Selection:

- Applicants who fulfill the above educational qualifications shall be tested on mathematics and general knowledge by way of an Aptitude test (Duration - 1 hour). Further, applicants will be called for an interview based on marks obtained from the Aptitude test.

5. Application process:

- Applicants have to pay **Rs. 400/-** to the Dematagoda branch of the Peoples Bank to the credit of Automobile Engineering Training Institute, Account No **071100103320674** pay-in-slip obtained from the bank should be affixed on the space provided on the back side of the application.
- Duly completed application form should be sent under registered post to the **"Director / Principal, Automobile Engineering Training Institute, No: 69/A, Baseline Road, Orugodawatta** on or before **22nd October 2020** (Use application format given in the Gazette notification). Please mention **"Recruitment of Apprentices - 2021"** on the top left hand corner of envelope or visit our website www.aeti.edu.lk
- For further information contact, Registrar Tel. Nos. 0112-572977 and 0112-532182 refer the see **Sinhala Gazette notification published on 11th September 2020.**

Chairman,
National Apprentice & Industrial Training Authority

Study Hospitality, Leisure Management at a World-ranked University

The Management & Science University (MSU), one of Malaysia's top universities complements the needs of highly skilled and expert human capital by offering both Bachelor's degree and diploma in the hospitality and tourism specialisation.

As one of Malaysia's top universities, MSU has received much recognition from the Malaysian and international independent bodies.

In the most recent ranking, MSU has been ranked #28 in the world for Hospitality and Leisure Management. In addition the 2020 QS World University Rankings by Subject places MSU at number 2 in Malaysia for Hospitality and Leisure Management. Scoring in five subjects, Management and Science University (MSU) made both the Top 50 and Top 100 lists in the latest ranking exercise.

MSU was also placed in the top 1.8% among Asia's best universities and placed in the top 541 universities of the world. MSU is also ranked as one of Malaysia's top five private universities through an establishment audit done by Ernst & Young.

Management and Science Institute (MSI) is the Colombo Campus established by MSU. While the former offers a wide spectrum of diploma programs, the latter continues the Degree and Master programs for academics to become professionals in their chosen field.

"The rapid growth of the hospitality and tourism industry in Sri Lanka with international hotels opening and operating all over the country, has created enormous employment opportunities.



tionally recognised hotels, event organisations and travel operators. Organisationally, graduates will be absorbed into hotels, event companies, travel agents, transport operators, corporations and companies, banks, multimedia telecommunication companies and marketing agencies.

The Diploma in Event Management offered by MSI is yet another popular program at MSI. It is designed for individuals who wish to follow a career in organising events in either private or government institutions. The diploma program is a useful step for anyone looking into careers with hotels, event organisers and travel operators among others. The course is conducted over two years and offers students the unique opportunity to explore the different disciplines of events and management. Graduates of the program will learn to competently handle the common event practices and also act as supervisors and managers who provide advice on routine decision making processes of the job scope.

The Bachelor of Hospitality & Tourism Management (Hons) is an undergraduate academic program that leverages on a unique learning opportunity in the combined disciplines of hospitality, tourism and management. Students pursuing the program will be exposed both in the hospitality and tourism industry, as well as to the state-of-the-art technologies used in the fields of economics, management and marketing. Graduates of the program are expected to be competent to handle not only the common hospitality and tourism practice but also to provide advice on complex strategic issues in business decision making process.

Students from Sri Lanka will now have an opportunity to enjoy MSU's quality education through its Colombo Campus, MSI.

For more information on MSI programs, call us at 0112576644, 0112576700, Hot Line 0770777880, email at info@msi.edu.lk, www.msi.edu.lk or visit Management & Science Institute, No 300, Galle Road, Colombo 3.



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Study Hospitality Management at MSI and MSU

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NSBM DECORATED THE COLLECTION OF SUCCESS TROPHIES WITH A SILVER THIS TIME

NSBM Green University Town won the Silver Award for Best University and Education Institute website at the "BestWeb.lk" 2020. The competition, was organized by .lk domain registry, seeks to recognize excellence in numerous Sri Lankan websites.

Among the hundreds of websites that contested at the competition, NSBM University website was able to gain the silver award based on the criteria of visual appeal, usability and popularity. Professor Chaminda Rathnayake, Deputy Vice-Chancellor

of NSBM and Mr. Venura Colombage, Head of Marketing, received the award at the ceremony held on 9th September at Shangri-La Hotel Colombo.

HARNESSING THE STUDENTS FOR THE FUTURE ICT INDUSTRY

Industry Preparation Training programme organized by the Faculty of Computing was successfully held on 3rd September at the university premises. The programme was an initiative to equip students with the knowledge to succeed in the industrial life while ensuring a smooth transition from university to the

industry. A team of experienced IT professionals, who have extensive experience working in recognized IT firms and interacted with all tiers of IT professionals such as novices, seniors and managers were invited as the trainers for the programme. Mr Chanuka Wategama - Head of Policy Information



and Communication Technology Agency (ICTA) provided an insight into the future prospects of ICT profession in Sri Lanka, informing the students of the skills demanded by the industry. Mr Shehan Kumar, Senior Manager - Employer Branding & Engagement at Pearson Lanka, also shared his thoughts

with students encouraging them to reach their goals. Professor Chaminda Rathnayake - Deputy Vice-Chancellor of NSBM, Dr Rasika Ranaweera - Dean School of Computing, Ms Manoja Weerasekera - Head, School of Computing, and other senior academics participated in the event.

NSBM WELCOMED YET ANOTHER IFSLs BATCH

NSBM warmly welcomed the fourth intake of students who are applying through the interest free loan scheme. Interest-Free Loan Scheme, granted by the government, facilitates higher education opportunities for the A/L qualified students who have not received the state university entrance. This programme allows these students to pursue their higher education in a desired degree

programme while receiving a unique academic experience at NSBM. The orientation programme was held on 2nd of September 2020 at the university auditorium in the presence of Deputy Vice-Chancellor of NSBM, Professor Chaminda Rathnayake, Head of the Academic and Quality Assurance, Professor Baratha Dodankotuwa, Deans and academics of the three faculties.



Advertorial

UNICEF explores primary education development possibilities



Education Minister Prof G.L. Peiris in conversation with UNICEF officials

Officials of UNICEF and Education Minister Prof G.L. Peiris had discussions on the possibility of developing primary education in Sri Lanka at the Education Ministry recently.

UNICEF officials agreed to put forward proposals and recommendations to improve the quality of primary education and

stages of the primary education, including pre-childhood.

Minister Peiris said that he expects the support of UNICEF to uplift primary education. The Minister requested the UNICEF officials to discuss further with Education State Minister Susil Premajayatha and heads of the Primary Education Section of the

Ministry of Education on the further development of the education system.

UNICEF in Sri Lanka Head Tim Sutton, Head of Education Yashinka Jayasinghe, UNICEF Representative Takaho Fukami and senior officials of the Ministry of Education were present at the discussion.

Educational reforms empowering children to overcome challenges

– Education Minister

Educational reforms aim at producing children with capability to overcome challenges with logical knowledge without being limited to the subjects that have been learnt by heart, Education Minister Prof G.L. Peiris said.

The Minister was addressing a meeting held at the Ministry recently with the State Minister of Education and the representatives of the Presidential Task Force set up for the educational reforms, including the revision of the curriculum.

Minister Peiris said that the proposed Cabinet Paper aims at creat-

ing a background for the revision of the syllabuses and learning methods. He said steps are being taken to provide opportunities to children to access technical and vocational education at various levels.

Measures have been taken with the intervention of the Presidential Task Force to prepare a national education policy and proposed development strategies. More than 30 governmental and nongovernmental parties have joined the Presidential Task Force to support the future education plans.

Minister Peiris said the biggest problem in the education system is

the gap between the subject knowledge the students receive and the job opportunities. He said students have to wait for a long time to enter the universities after passing the G.C.E. (Advanced Level) Examination.

He said students should be given an education to suit professional requirements.

State Ministers Dr. Sita Arambepola, Susil Premjayantha, Piyal Nishantha de Silva, Education Ministry Secretary Prof Kapila Perera, Dr. Anura Dissanayake and Dr. Upali Sedara representing the Presidential Task Force also participated.

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Advertorial

Overseas Medical Education is available for students who completes "A-Levels in Local (CCS or above) London (CCD or above)". What about students who have aspiring dreams of becoming a doctor right after O-Levels or talented students who are disheartened with their AL results? Is there a second chance of achieving a "Dr.ream"? The answer is, "Yes".

Studying Medicine – "After O-Levels or with Less A-Level results?"

The notion of a student failing / obtaining "S" passes in A-Levels and studying medicine has led towards criticism by certain people. Only 40% of what you learn at AL's are focused in Medical Education, rest are mostly new therefore placing a judgment "ONLY THROUGH A-LEVEL FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION" is a misconception.

Failure to achieve the entry requirement of university, students' needs to enroll for the "Pre-Medical Program" which is more oriented to Medical Studies than A-Levels. Completion of a Pre-Med program is an indication that the candidate is "ELIGIBLE" to study medicine.

About the Pre-Medicine Program?

This is a Pre-Qualification offered by the "Vitebsk State Medical University- Republic of Belarus" to assist students in accomplishing university entry requirements. If students do not have minimum grades of CCS/CCD or wishes to enter right after O-Levels, completion of the foundation program is an evidence of the student being qualified to study Medicine.

About Vitebsk State Medical University (VSMU). Is this Pre-Med recognised internationally?

Vitebsk State Medical University (VSMU) is fully recognized by WHO (World Health Organization) and ECFMG - USA, AMC - Australia and GMC United Kingdom. VSMU is one of the most distinguished higher medical institutions in the Republic of Belarus and considered to be one of the European Leader in Medical Education and Research. VSMU was established in 1934.

Currently, many overseas medical students including more than 350 from Sri Lanka currently studying Medicine (Doctor of Medicine - MD) in this world class medical university. In addition to Sri Lankan students, there are more than 30 nationalities of students studying at VSMU making it one of the most popular medical universities for Sri Lankan students

The leading name in Australian migration consultancy, The Career Development Centre (CDC), has for more than two decades been at the forefront of helping many hopeful migrants from Sri Lanka realise their dreams of reaching greener pastures in Australia for a better life.

Led by its dynamic founder and senior consultant Uneetha Samanthika Pathirige, the CDC has always ensured their name stands for trust, reliability and transparency when it comes to guiding hopeful migrants to reach their goals of migrating to Australia.

The CDC through its perennial flow of success cases today stands with conviction and reassurance to let all hopeful migrants from Sri Lanka know that the CDC is gearing up to look forward to the opportunities that will abound in the post pandemic situation in Australia. It is therefore best that all future candidates who plan to migrate to Australia from Sri Lanka should subscribe to the CDC Facebook page (Migration Agents in Sri Lanka) to be up to date with Australian im-

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Three Qualifications in One Medical Degree

Vitebsk State Medical University has the option of offering the 6 year MD (Doctor of Medicine) with an additional Dual Qualification within the 6 year time frame. This pathway is exclusively for students placed through IMC Education, Sri-Lanka. The Vitebsk State Medical University in partnership with IMC Education, Sri-Lanka collaborated with Lincoln University College in Malaysia to provide the following dual qualifications

1. Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Hons) – on completion of the 4th year of studies.

2. Master of Medical Science (By research) – on completion of the 5th year

Benefits of more career scope & variety of employment options. Research orientation offers students competitive edge over others during the postgraduate medicine program and when they attend interviews in the foreign hospitals for

About (Pre-Medical Program) through IMC Education

(IMC Education is the only approved and accredited International learning center in Sri Lanka of Vitebsk State Medical University (VSMU), Republic of Belarus to deliver the Foundation in Science (Pre-Medical) Program in Sri-Lanka.)

The 8-12 months IMC Pre Medical Program provides the academic bridge for students to progress successfully to undergraduate Medical studies at the "Vitebsk State Medical University (VSMU) - Belarus". The Program has been specially designed for students after O/L's and with A-Level results not meeting the direct university entry requirement who has the eager to fulfill their dream of becoming a Medical Doctor at a younger age.

Sri Lankan students can choose this Foundation in Science Program, as the successful completion assures admission to the Doctor of Medicine



(MD) program and secure careers overseas.

If students wish to work in Sri Lanka right after the Degree, the Pre-Med program can be done in parallel with 1 Year London A-Levels by IMC Education provided the student obtains (CCD).

Opportunity to work in Sri-Lanka & Overseas

According to Sri-Lanka Medical Council (SLMC) in order practice medicine in Sri-Lanka right after completing studies, students need to obtain AL results (Local/London) of CCS or CCD above (Mandatory). Stu-

dent who complete Medical Studies with Pre-Medicine will secure careers overseas as a Medical Doctor.

World report shows that the Demand for Medical Doctors in countries such as the UK, USA, Australia and Europe is increasing whereas the supply of doctors is very less.

The population below 18 years is projected to grow by 5%, whereas the elderly population over 65, who typically require more care from physicians, is expected to grow by 41%. (Source: News Medical Life Sciences).



These countries do not consider A-Level as a mandatory qualification to work as a Medical Practitioner. Students who have completed the Pre-Medical program & the Medical degree with a completed Internship from Vitebsk State Medical University, Belarus can now fill the gap of the Lack of Supply in Medical doctors.

Scholarship Opportunities for Foundation In Science (Pre-Medical) Program

IMC Education has opened a Scholarship opportunity for all aspired candidates to start off their Foundation in Science (Pre-Medical) Program up to 75% through a placement examination.

IMC Education's support for Careers in Sri-Lanka & Overseas

IMC Education assists students to appear for the Medical Licensing Examinations all around the world.

IMC Education is affiliated to the best Australian Medical Council Examination trainers in Australia and the best trainer for United State Medical Licensing Exam (USMLE) to obtain careers in USA| Australia. With Germany becoming a very lucrative country for Medical doctors, students can also explore the opportunities in such European countries.

IMC Education – Only Official Representative to have a full time office in Belarus

IMC Education is the Only Authorized Representative for Vitebsk State Medical University (VSMU), Republic of Belarus. IMC Education is the only accredited learning center to provide the Internal Medical Foundation of Belarus in Sri-Lanka & Maldives. We are also the accredited examination center in Sri Lanka for (VSMU) to conduct the entrance examination of university. With a proven track record of 100% student pass rate at Foundation exam & medical entrance exam IMC Education opens admission for the September 2020 Intake.

Call IMC Education on 077 30 888 40 | 077 442 1597 to book a free appointment and obtain details on Foundation & Medical Programs for the September 2020 Intake.

Australia prepares for migration in post pandemic period to boost economy

migration news alerts which can also be done accessing the CDC website at www.cdclanka.lk.

Australia's economy requires migration

Research has shown that Australia's immigration program has played a key role in the nearly three decades of uninterrupted economic growth. Looking at the present situation and the projections of how the demographic factors will play out in Australia's future, Dr. Allen has said, "We need immigration to survive this next stage of our future. We have an ageing population with more people retiring from the workforce than people entering the workforce. That means we have fewer people contributing to our tax base, which pays for our vital services; our roads, our infrastructure, our hospi-

tal and our schools – everything."

This insight is a strong indication that a large window of opportunity will open in the post pandemic period for young qualified and skilled individuals who can contribute to the Australian economy to migrate to Australia.

Another significant and positive outlook on this matter comes from Prof. Anna Boucher who is a migration expert from the University of Sydney who has noted how much the Australian economy is reliant on migrants.

Prof. Boucher has said, "Without high net overseas migration, we would not have had a budget surplus." He said Australia needs to take measures to attract migration that contributes to the economy. "We are in competition with other countries for migration. If other countries have closures for as long as we do and we are still seen as providing opportunities, we might be able to bounce back to pre-Covid-19 levels."

Migration and Australian economic growth

John Daley, the CEO of Grattan Institute, which is an Australian public policy think tank, has said, "Population growth and economic growth exists side-by-side and migrants have historically played a big role." He has further stated, "Real economic growth in Australia over the last couple of years has been around 2 to 2.5 per cent. Of that, almost one percent has simply been the effect of migration."

Daley's observations go deeper into giving credence as to why Australia needs to adopt an active migration intake soon, by saying, "In many quarters over the past couple of years, Australia has had almost no economic growth apart from the growth in population and of that growth about two-thirds have been from migrants."

Adding to the discourse on why Australia needs to activate its engine for migration intake soon, economist Ryan Felsman said that even a reduction of just 10% of the overall migration intake would make a significant negative impact on the Australian economy. Felsman's statement supports a strong policy for expediting migration in this context, as he says, "The longer our borders are closed, the more likely it is that Australia will have a slower economic rebound than other countries."

The Australian economy relies much on the strength of skills and talents of migrants who have been a driving force for the Australian economy over the last few decades. Recognising this fact, Aus-



Senior Consultant Mrs. U.S. Pathirige Department of Home Affairs (DHA) Off Shore Agent ID: 3001304

tralian National University demographer Dr. Liz Allen shared with SBS News some insightful opinions that show just how vital migration is for Australia to keep its path of economic progress on track. "Migrants helped us build this nation and they will feature right at the core of Australia's economy," said Dr. Allen whose views are shared and echoed by not only academics, but many other experts as well.

As always the management of the CDC is alert and perceptive about what factors indicate 'favourable winds' to carry forward hopeful applicants to reach their dream destination. To provide an insightful picture about the optimism that many in Sri Lanka can have with regard to their dreams of migrating to Australia for a better life, see some of the practical factors that have to be looked at to assess the future opportunities for migration to Australia.

While the current situation only allows citizens and permanent residents of Australia to enter the country, this does not mean the future of Australia's policy is going to be negative for migration. In fact, it will be quite the opposite since the downturn that has affected the Australian economy due to the corona pandemic will see a considerably high scale of opportunities opening up for hopeful migrants in the post pandemic period.

The true nature of the travel ban

Right now the situation in Australia is that there is a travel ban which doesn't allow new migrants into the country. However, what all hopeful migrants need to know and keep in mind is that the travel ban doesn't affect visa processing. The

Department of Home Affairs in Australia is continuing to process visa applications. Hopeful migrants who have plans of settling down in Australia in the next few years should begin their application plans now and take things forward step by step since once an application is successfully through and the visa is granted, it is only a matter of waiting for the borders to open once again after the pandemic situation has been controlled.

International students who migrate to Australia for higher education is one of the largest foreign exchange bringers to the Australian economy and therefore the travel ban doesn't affect the visa applications and processing of future student visas for international students. Similarly the dependency on migration to address the needs in the labour market has ensured that Employer Sponsored Visa Programme will continue to be addressed as well as family sponsored visas among other visa categories will also be continued to be processed during this time despite the travel ban.

Migration, Employment and the Australian job market

The large and prosperous economic engine of Australia needs new skilled migrants to enter folds of employment to take the country forward. And therefore what can be expected in the near future is a very positive Australian migration policy which will relax some of the very strict limitations that were seen in recent years, and a surge in opportunities to boost sectors that are in urgent need of workforce to replace the ageing population.

Agriculture, medicine, elder care, as well as food manufacturing and Hospital Service operations are areas that will be looking for skilled and qualified professionals to join the workforce in the immediate aftermath of the pandemic situation. Specialists in these areas who possess qualifications, such as nurses, qualified agricultural and farming professionals, supply chain managers, elder care specialists, and food processing technicians, will see a larger scale of opportunities rising for them to migrate to Australia in the post pandemic period.

The future of real estate in Australia

Another factor that affects the Australian economy in correlation to migration is the real estate market, which has been lagging due to the pandemic. However unless migration is encour-

aged and large intakes of new migrants, who soon become potential future home owners, are allowed to enter the country, to work, earn and spend on housing, the real estate market in Australia will suffer in the long term. Therefore it is not only the labour market in Australia that is looking hopefully for the borders to be soon opened and for migration to go into operation again, but also the real estate market which hopes to boost its performance through migration.

When looking at the available facts and insights it is clear that what is visible at present is simply a waiting period for the pandemic to be brought under control. The tide will turn sooner than you think, and the race for placements to enter Australia as hopeful migrants will begin. The CDC as always is ever diligent and prepared to keep its dynamic role as the most reliable Australian migration consultancy in Sri Lanka, active and fully operational.

The trusted name to guide you to greener pastures

As the trusted name for over a decade that has helped streams of hopeful migrants from Sri Lanka to reach the greener pastures of Australia and fulfil their dreams of a better life, the CDC urges all hopeful migrants who are looking to build a better life by migrating to Australia, to begin preparations right away. As 'time and tide waits for no one', the rush for placements in the post pandemic situation will create a huge 'congestion' that can be avoided if the process is started now itself.

The welcoming atmosphere of the CDC office brings to life a narrative of how successful clients have built their lives beautifully in Australia. Their thanks and appreciation sent from Australia saluting the trusted diligent and transparent work that was put in by the team at CDC to ensure that their clients reached their dreams are greatly valued by the CDC. The dozens of letters and photos from successful clients that adorn the walls of the CDC office are the accolades that speak of the company's Credibility, Dedication and Competency that ensures, that once a client has been undertaken by the team at CDC, a bond of reliability and trust will guide the applicant through, to complete the goal and realise their dream.

Even though the present situation may not look very bright, the CDC is looking ahead to when the grey clouds clear up and the sun shines with warmth on those welcoming greener pastures that beckon opportunities to fulfil the dreams of hopeful migrants to Australia who wish to realise a better life. And to such persons who have cherished hopes, the CDC is readily waiting to be their trusted guide who helps make their dreams of a prosperous life in Australia, become a reality.

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The golden opportunity to commence studying the first academic year in Sri Lanka is introduced by the university and many more scholarship/bursary schemes are offered for eligible applicants. Students can attend the online lectures at REC Campus premises Nugegoda which is well equipped with luxury lecture halls and facilities or your own home. Students can receive more information at the Open Day.

Date: Saturday 19th of September 2020

Time: 10.00am Onwards

Venue: REC Campus, No:181, High Level Road, Nugegoda

Charles Sturt University is dedicated to excellence in the delivery of higher education and has a well-earned reputation for providing exceptional education delivered by dedicated professionals with practical and relevant industry experience. The academics are supported by well-researched curriculum and teaching methods that maintain high levels of satisfaction among graduates, employers and the University's partners.

All students are encouraged to look at their studies from a global perspective, considering ethical, social and ecological factors, which will inform decisions made throughout their lives. While studying at CSU, students will learn skills that will take them far beyond their career destination, such as teaching them how to become a lifelong

learner, the value of independence and collaboration, how to think critically and communicate on a number of levels, and how to take a flexible approach to learning and problem-solving.

The rapidly growing technology sector needs inquisitive, skilled professionals with the aptitude, passion and drive to solve complex problems, develop new technologies and improve gadgets, programs and applications to keep up with customer demand. Students will have diverse career opportunities that may lead them to a career in development, networking, and systems and information technology (IT) support. Students can choose a career that is constantly evolving and offers them new and exciting challenges through Charles Sturt University's diverse degrees in IT.

Commence 1st Year in Sri Lanka
The Bachelor / Master of Information Technology (with specialisations) will provide the students with the skills needed to become a knowledge worker in the rapidly expanding information technology industry.

Sri Lankans can commence the 1st year in Sri Lanka for November 2020 and February 2021 intakes. CSU is one of the few universities in Australia to run 12 subject Master program over a 2 years study period and students get eligible for PSW (Post Study Work Visa is designed to enable students to gain work experience in Australia before returning home). The university assists students in the final year (bachelor or Master program) in final semesters to apply for unpaid



internship roles (8 weeks) with a database of more than 1000 companies - at no cost to the student as the university will pay the internship fee to the company.

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ship in the field of IT which is worth AUD 10,500.

Students can enter the university from the 2nd year commencing from July 2021 in CSU International Campuses in Melbourne, Sydney, or Brisbane. We are here to guide and assist the students with their student visas and smooth settlement in Australia for studies. Many different types of rental accommodation available in Australia and we assist them to find the best type of accommodation according to the affordability and comfort.

Every year, the university recognises and celebrates the outstanding academic achievers. The university runs academic workshops so students can build on their study skills. The university has Australia's highest graduate employment rate. The graduates have gone on to successful careers both in Australia and back home, working for renowned international companies such as Google.

Make your pathway to Australia for a better future

Register now for the Charles Sturt University Open Day in Sri Lanka. Reserve your seat now. Call - 0711-808080 / 0706 - 101010



Brisbane International School - Open Day

The Open Day of the Montessori section of Brisbane International School was held on September 7, following strict health and safety protocol. This program was held to give current and prospective parents who wish to enroll their child at BIS for the new term commencing in September, the opportunity to visit their child's classroom, view its facilities and learn about the various methods and techniques that are used to educate young children at BIS. "We believe that this first-hand experience gained by parents helped them make the right decision of giving their child an effective and solid foundation with us at Brisbane International School," school authorities said.

China to support Human Resources Development

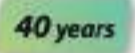

Acting Chinese Ambassador to Sri Lanka Hu wei and Education Minister Prof G.L. Peiris held discussions in connection with the development of Tertiary Education and Vocational Education in Sri Lanka.

They paid attention to how China can support the implementation of plans by the Education Ministry. The Education Minister outlined the support expected from the Chinese Government, especially for the improvement of tertiary and vocational education through the school education system. Steps to be taken to improve vocational skills of the youth and to set up factories for the production of drugs and the manufacture of tyres in Hambantota were also discussed.

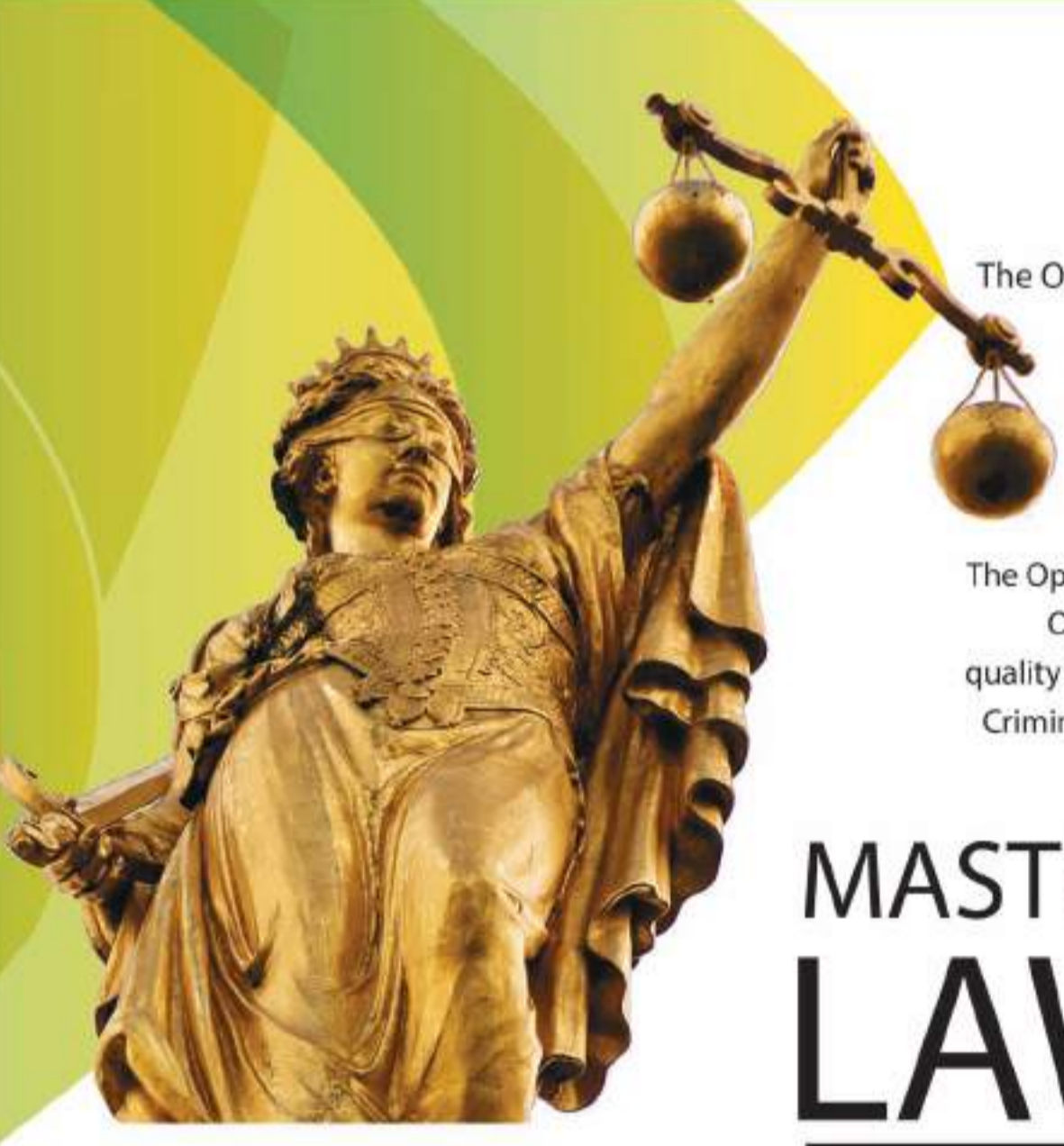
The Chinese Ambassador said that he is interested in strengthening the friendship and mutual understanding between the two countries.



Education Minister Prof G.L. Peiris and acting Chinese Ambassador to Sri Lanka Hu wei exchanging mementoes

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All applicants will have to face an interview for selection.

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Advertorial

Benefits of online learning

The benefits of online learning can't be beat when it comes to earning your college degree. If you're on the fence about online classes vs. traditional classes, then read on about the (lucky) 13 benefits of taking college course online!

A large variety of courses to choose from - did you know you can earn college course credits for almost any course you can think of? Whether it's algebra, English composition or even biology lab work, there's a course you can take online. You can even study humanities, sociology and business administration.

Multiple ways to communicate with your professor - the great thing about online classes vs. traditional classes is the flexibility you have to communicate with your professor. It's not always convenient to see your college course instructor face to face, so between email, live chat and telephone conversations, you should have more opportunities to get feedback or have a great Q&A session with your college professor.

It doesn't cost as much - you can save hundreds of dollars to get your degree when you're learning online. The traditional costs associated with using classroom space and equipment don't apply. As long as you have the right hardware and software to log on and complete course assignments, as well as study the material, there are big savings you realize right away.

You have better opportunities to concentrate - you can choose anyplace that helps you learn the material to gain a greater understanding of the overall body of knowledge



you need to earn your degree.

You can customise your learning environment - Whether you're at home, on the road or at a friend's house, you can create your own perfect room to study class materials and do homework assignments. You don't have to put up with any more disruptive environments like crowded libraries. Online learning offers better opportunities to concentrate by not being around other people. You can dedicate one room for quiet study, or if you're shy, you

don't have to worry about interacting with other students.

The benefits of Online Classes Vs. Traditional Classes

Enjoy a flexible schedule - one of the great benefits of getting an online degree is you can still work full time and manage time to earn a degree in your off hours. If you work non-traditional hours, you don't have to lose sleep, arrange for childcare or waste time commuting to physical classrooms.

Boost your career advancement

opportunities - if advancing your career is dictated by your higher education accomplishments, then you take only the courses you need to get a promotion by upgrading knowledge and skills. This means no more waiting years to complete a traditional degree to get an opportunity to earn a promotion or a raise. Instead, the time you invest could only be months.

It's eco-friendly - in the debate of online classes vs. traditional courses, you don't have to commute

to a college or university to take the courses you need to complete a degree. You'll save money on gas and vehicle maintenance, but most importantly, earning an online degree saves you time that you can use to study and take exams in the comfort of your home.

Your online college credits can transfer - by carefully researching colleges and universities you are interested in earning a degree from, you can arrange credit transfer to get your degree. Contact the admissions office of the colleges you're interested in and get a list of the online courses they'll accept for credit transfer to get your degree faster.

More benefits of Online Learning

Boost your opportunities for classroom subject discussions - Online college courses give you the chance to talk about classroom assignments using chat forums or live online discussion sites. You can still exchange ideas and dialog with other students without having to travel to a common meeting place that might not be convenient for you.

Join virtual study groups - it's possible to form study groups online using free online software like Google Hangout or Join Me to study remotely with others. All you need is your computer, a headset to listen and talk in, and the time to join others virtually to swap ideas about classroom assignments, get questions answered about things you're stuck on. You can share screens, present documents, use virtual whiteboards to brainstorm ideas and organize your study projects.

You can review course materials repeatedly - even if it's 3AM, you have access to online course materials such as videos, podcasts, written materials to reinforce course concepts and theory you might be stuck on. It's so much easier to flip through screens, use the "find" function to quickly zero in on relevant paragraphs quickly and take online notes to help you understand the class materials.

You can learn at your own pace - the pressure to keep up with other students in a face to face environment is removed. You might knock out some courses in record time because the concepts and material are easy for you to understand, or you may need extra time to make some of the more abstract concepts stick with you. The point is, you are in control of your progress through any online college course you take.

Two bonus benefits of Learning Online

Take online quizzes and exams and get your score immediately - let's face it, waiting to learn your test score can be nerve-racking. Online learning systems have immediate scoring systems to let you know how well you passed the test.

You'll develop great self-discipline - without the commitment to attending physical classes at a brick and mortar location, you'll be forced to learn self-discipline by managing your time and tasks. If you need to use time management tools like scheduling time and tasks in an online calendar, this is a life-long skill that will help you beyond getting your college degree.

"Covid Curve in Grocery Retailing: The Seychelles Perspective"

The National Body for Marketing of Sri Lanka, the Sri Lanka Institute of Marketing (SLIM) recently conducted yet another insightful knowledge sharing session as part of its "IGNITE" series.

The webinar themed "Covid Curve in Grocery Retailing: The Seychelles Perspective", featured Veronique Laporte, Chairperson, Seychelles Maritime Safety Authority and Former Chief Executive Officer, Seychelles Trading Company Ltd. Hosted by retail expert Charaka Perera, Executive Director Fuchsia Retail (S.A) Pte Ltd. Singapore, and EXCO member of SLIM, the webinar was held to provide the local community with a holistic and comprehensive understanding of the impact Covid-19 had on the retail sector.

Sharing her ideas, Veronique Laporte stated, "As a country that imports the majority of its consumer goods, Seychelles is facing a drastic change in its retail landscape. The longer the pandemic remains, the more challenges and the greater impact it will have on retailers of all sizes. Covid-19 has acted as an accelerator to shifting business models and consumer priorities. Although most of the retailers in Seychelles were not set-up with solid e-commerce facilities, they started to reach consumers and take orders through social media platforms. For instance, most of the small-scale retailers have started using WhatsApp as a virtual platform to sell their goods. Both big and small players in the retail industry have seen the massive shift to home delivery and in-store pickup. I think in many ways the future of retail has arrived sooner than we thought. Today, online grocery shopping is in the spotlight. To survive in the market, retailers should identify what customers need and deliver it because this crisis leaves them with no choice but to act."

She also highlighted that the availability of resources is the key



Veronique Laporte



Roshan Fernando - President SLIM



Charaka Perera

SEYCHELLES IS FACING A DRASTIC CHANGE IN ITS RETAIL LANDSCAPE. THE LONGER THE PANDEMIC REMAINS, THE MORE CHALLENGES AND THE GREATER IMPACT IT WILL HAVE ON RETAILERS OF ALL SIZES

determinant of the retail sector of Seychelles. Since the retailers import most of the goods, the ones who have enough stocks make profits while the ones who aren't able to restock their inventory are facing issues in meeting the consumer demand. In Seychelles, the crisis situation has caused a significant change in supply chain as well. Instead of purchasing from a middleman, customers are now given the option to cut out the middleman and directly purchase from the seller.

Further discussing the grocery retail sector of Seychelles and its transformation during these unprecedented times, Veronique Laporte added that it is equally important to make sure that the retailers follow an ethical approach in doing their business. Although there are ample opportunities to exploit the consumer, conducting business in an ethi-

cal way is a moral responsibility of retailers. Moreover, it was discussed how the consumers are trying to be self-sufficient by growing crops in their home gardens in a sustained effort towards alleviating the impact of Covid-19 on essential food security. Customers now tend to purchase essential goods in bulk as they try to avoid the frequency of physical contact as much as possible. Obtaining goods without stepping foot into a brick and mortar store is one of the most important factors for today's consumers. She believes that these new consumer habits formed during the pandemic will become innate behaviour of consumers across the world.

Since Seychelles is mainly dependent on the tourism industry, the current situation has dealt a major blow to retailers whose target customers are tourists. Unlike essential goods sellers, they have no way to market their products. They share an overriding fear about the future as the revival of the tourism industry may take time.

Veronique Laporte ended the discussion mentioning that although these are challenging times, if retailers can react with focus and purpose, they can bounce back stronger with better business models and

forge a greater relationship with their customers.

Roshan Fernando, President SLIM stated, "As the National Body for Marketing SLIM has always been in the forefront to promote and nurture future Sri Lankan marketers through education, recognition, motivation and appreciation. By conducting the Ignite video series SLIM was able to introduce eloquent and informed speakers who discussed the effects and the ways to overcome the adversities of Covid-19. The grocery retailing business was one of the important topics reviewed with strategies to comply with the new normal behaviour of consumers. The thought-provoking speech and the pragmatic strategies advocated by Veronique Laporte truly inspired marketers and business heads to take novel steps to restart their retail sales fields."

SLIM is the National body for Marketing in Sri Lanka and has been promoting marketing excellence and elevating the status of marketing since 1970. SLIM also has received ISO 9001:2015 certification in recognition of its superior quality management system and ISO 29990:2010 for Learning Service Provider (LSP), providing non-formal education and training services.

Webinar on Building Emotional Competence

The Institute of Certified Management Accountants of Sri Lanka has organised a webinar on 'Building Emotional Competence' on September 16 2020 from 3.00pm-4.00pm via Zoom Video Conference.

The objective of the webinar is in a multicultural world of business in constant transformation - Professionals in the workplace with Emotional Competence are better equipped to understand, accept and harness one's self and stakeholders around them in order to bring about congruence and cohesion in the business. Emotional Competence helps you with wellbeing, resilience and adaptability to function in high stress environments, volatility, agile thinking, multicultural settings and interpersonal interactions. The resource person at this webinar will be Mariam Riza. She is the President of Intergenerational Consulting - Wattleshire Pty. Ltd and Mariam is an award-winning intergenerational strategist, and international speaker on human capital engagement at Wattleshire, Australia.

She builds strategies to engage differing generations in business to harness undervalued talent potential in people. Her industries cover the Accountancy member education, HR Technology, Higher Education, Public



Mariam Riza
President - Intergenerational Consulting - Wattleshire Pty. Ltd

sector, & Multicultural community organizations and also, she is a Fellow Member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (UK).

The webinar will cover Understanding Self-identity through personality models, Social and group identity, Emotional intensity and Continuous Self-regulation of Emotions.

The webinar will conclude with a question and answer session where participants will also have an opportunity to discuss practical applications and obtain clarifications via chat option.

Those who wish to attend can send an e-mail to: registrations@cma-srilanka.org on or before September 14.

Royal Institute Int'l School marks 50th year of academic excellence

Royal Institute International School (RI), a pioneer of international schools in Sri Lanka, marked its 50th year of providing quality education to the children of our nation on September 1.

As a responsible provider of primary and secondary education, RI has right throughout been dedicated in crafting well rounded citizens. The quality of education has been the core of the five-decade long journey. Quality education provided together with a wide array of extra-curricular activities have developed strong personalities within students to serve communities worldwide. This has in fact been the vision of the founder of RI Mr. G.T. Bandara, five decades ago. The humble beginnings of the school in 1971 has been at the Havelock Town premises which is the main branch. Currently, RI has a network of four other branch-schools in Nugegoda, Maya Avenue, Maharagama and Gampaha. The student population of the RI branch network is over 5000 at present.

Students of RI have performed extra-ordinarily well in academic, sports and cultural fields, having received numerous awards and accolades both locally and internationally. The student-friendly

school environment, state-of-the-art sporting facilities together with the superior guidance provided by highly qualified and experienced teachers have made students enjoy their academic journey.

This enthusiasm that has been created within students have in fact led them to perform better and achieve higher. Career Guidance Units (CGU) have been instilled in all branch-schools to guide students with their tertiary educational needs and career aspirations. These units are much dedicated in understanding well the needs and abilities of students to guide them along fruitful avenues.

Royal Institute of Colombo (RIC) which is the higher education arm of RI supports the school CGU's in this regard. RIC too emphasises on academic quality which has been the recipe of success for over 40 years in the field of higher education. Being affiliated to the prestigious University of London and the Deakin University Australia, RIC has created top professionals whose knowledge and experiences are being shared constantly among students of both RIC and RI. Being exposed to such a professional setting from a tender age is what makes students of RI stand out from the rest.

Institute of Western Music and Speech 2019

PRIZE WINNERS FROM PILAPITIYA, KELANIYA

1st Row - From left: Nisini Yelinsa, Gihansith Githmal, Onadi Weerakkody, Yenuja Dias, Kavitha Kalubowila, Dinara Nethaki and Shanuki Francis.

2nd Row - From left: Dihas Ganepola, Dahamli Pathirana, Dahamli Pathirana, Ometh Silva, Ashini Balasooriya, Ayuni De Silva, Thanudi Warnasooriya and Bosen Akmeemana.

3rd Row - From left: Yuthmini Peiris, Akeini Francis, Anukshie Wanduragala, Geeshan Lakshitha, Kaveesha Fonseka, Anuraddha Swarnamali, Miheli Methmavi, Thinuli Dissanayake and Sheran Premathilake.

4th Row - From left: Thenu Vathmavi, Senanthi Dewalagama, Savindula Dias, Shaveen Silva, Yumeth Silva, Chathumini Peiris and Nishane Wickramasinghe.





Applications are called for National Colleges of Education



Institute of Business Process Outsourcing

NATIONAL YOUTH CORPS INITIATIVE

The National Youth Corps, acting under the purview of the Ministry of Youth and Sports, was established in 2002 under the Act of Parliament No. 21 of 2002 as an incorporated institution.

National Youth Corps, the foremost personnel development institution in Sri Lanka, empowers youth in personality and leadership as well as opening vocational training avenues for them.

At the end of the soft skills training based on discipline, leadership and personality imparted by the National Youth Corps to youth joining the institution, they can enroll for any field of vocational training they wish for and they can establish their professional lives through the Dambulla Hotel School run by the National Youth Corps or the Institute of Business Process Outsourcing (IBPO).

Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) is a sub-genre of Business Outsourcing. It is giving the operations and responsibilities of a business process to a third party supplier. As a business process outsourcing partner, we supply consumer experiences and back office operations to our employers.

In today's changing, highly competitive business environment, many business enterprises from small enterprises to large scale companies choose process outsourcing as new and inventive services could be acquired by doing this.

Taken broadly, business process outsourcing is followed in both main sectors in a company, namely front office operations and back office operations. BPO in the back office introduces basic business operations



ensuring the smooth functioning of a business enterprise such as accounting for outsourced professionals, processing payments, information technology services, human resources, regulatory compliance and quality certification.

On July 17, 2014, a training course for business process outsourcing was launched by the then Ministry of Youth Affairs and Skills Development and the National Youth Corps together with the BCI India and the trainers of the National Youth Corps and external trainers were selected as trainees.

Close to 13 of these trainees obtained internationally recognised qualifications as BPO Master Trainers after completing the 14-day training given by BCI India under Indian trainers and passing the tests conducted by BCI India.

With this training, the National Youth Corps jointly with the BCI India established the first State Institution for business process outsourcing named the Institute of Business Process Outsourcing (IBPO) under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Skills Development.

Trainees who obtained internationally recognised qualifications as BPO Master Trainers were utilized as trainers for the future training work of the IBPO and basic training is conducted



under four fields namely the consumer interaction professional, back office services, financial processes and technical support and trainees will be qualified as follows:

- CCIP - Certified Customer Interaction Professional
- CBSA - Certified Back office Services Associate
- CFPA - Certified Financial Process Associate
- CTSA - Certified Technical Support Associate

The first training course was launched by the IBPO in November 2014 and youth attached to Training Centers in the Western Province who followed the National Youth Corps Training Course were selected as trainees in this first training course. After training them, youth who are attending the National Youth Corps Centers island-wide were selected to undergo training at the IBPO.

Trainees are trained in BPO Basics during the first three months of the six-month training course and they are trained under Domains during the final three months. Course subject sections are covered in this period and training in information technology, English language, personality development and career guidance is given basically.

To enter into this training course, it is sufficient to have obtained a Credit Pass in the G.C.E. (Ordinary Level) Examination and a Simple Pass in Mathematics and studied for the G.C.E. (Advanced Level) Examination in any subject stream. After notifying the applicants and a selection test, trainees are selected to follow the IBPO Training Course after an interview. After subjecting the trainees who completed the training course successfully to a proper online and written test the successful trainees are awarded internationally and nationally recognised certificates.

Only the National Youth Corps maintain an IBPO for the first time in

side the state machinery and two six-month courses are conducted per year. To date, nine batches of trainees have successfully completed this course and achieved victory in their professional path.

Outsourcing accounting, financial services, customer services and information technology service from overseas to this country is the foundation of this field. When that is accomplished, Sri Lanka should be able to earn a huge amount of foreign exchange by providing such services from this country. Giving a broad knowledge of this field that is vastly developed even at present to Sri Lankan youth will be very productive for both them and the country.

The field of Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) based on information technology has already become a field growing fast in the country and generating the largest number of professional employment opportunities. Generation of international level knowledge and employment opportunities in organizations of international level are recognized as main reasons for this.

The confidence the international community has on the peaceful environment prevailing in Sri Lanka and the skills of our workforce is the reason for this outsourcing sphere based on information technology.

The skills of youth connected to this sphere are at a very high level. The reason for that is that, in many instances, they adhere to the structural processes of international organizations. Because of that, they can make successes of their professional lives easily in this country as well as abroad.

The Gazette Notification on admission of trainees to the National Colleges of Education for 2020 based on the results of the G.C.E. Advanced Level Examination of 2018 was published on September 4.

According to instructions, applications should be sent only online.

The applicants should access the www.moe.gov.lk website of the Ministry of Education and fill the form.

The deadline for the submission of applications is September 25.

Inquiries may be made via Telephone Nos. 0112787303 / 0112787385 / 0112787393 / 0112787399 / 0112787444 and also via ncoapplication@moe.gov.lk website.

This year, 4253 students will be admitted to 19 National Colleges of Education to follow 50 courses in Sinhala, Tamil and English.



Ministry of Youth and Sports



Following courses will be offered **free-of-charge**

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Certified Technical Support Associate - CTSA

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Advertorial

Indoscan joins hands with SLIM to restart Pharma industry



The Sri Lanka Institute of Marketing (SLIM) recently conducted a tailor-made workshop for the sales and medical delegates of Indoscan (Pvt) Limited, a leading importer and distributor of pharmaceutical products.

The exclusive training program was conducted by Dr. Pradeep Edward, an eminent Marketer who possesses extensive experience in the medical and pharmaceutical industry. This in-house training program was focused on three key areas; closing sales, improving negotiation skills, and bringing out the potential of the participants.

Determined to fuel the economy of the country affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, SLIM is shouldering the national responsibility of mentoring the local industries to take proactive measures in response to coronavirus, in order to become more resilient against future shocks and disruptions. SLIM has therefore implemented a special initiative named 'Restart Sri Lanka' to uplift the local corporates to the next level through streamlining their focus, attitudes, and orientate them on how to overcome such situations.

The Restart Sri Lanka initiative was introduced under the auspices of Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa. SLIM has conducted a series of tailor-made training programs and workshops of this type to empower the corporates and local SMEs.

Commenting on the workshop,

Ananda Samarasinghe, Chairman/Chief Executive Officer, Indoscan (Pvt) Ltd said, "I would like to extend my gratitude to SLIM for conducting this special in-house training program for our team members. Since SLIM is the national body for marketing, we always rely on the exceptional training programs curated and carried out by SLIM, which have proven to be effective in igniting the true potential of the attendees. This program imparted exceptional skills in selling to our employees and equipped them to employ those skills in a practical environment by thinking differently and being proactive. The staff were extremely satisfied with the training conducted by Dr Pradeep Edward."

"As the apex marketing body in Sri Lanka, SLIM is always focused on uplifting the local marketing fraternity. We aim to strengthen the sales and marketing teams of corporates by conducting tailor-made training programs that fulfill their unique training needs. We have an edge in providing training programs to the pharmaceutical industry as SLIM is also the conducting body of the Certificate in Pharmaceutical Marketing, which is the only professional course in Sri Lanka that covers Anatomy, Psychology, Marketing and Management," stated Roshan Fernando, President, SLIM.

Commenting on the program SLIM Vice President Nuwan Gamage said, "The corporate solutions

offered by SLIM have become much sought-after among corporates and they always send their employees to SLIM in order to sharpen their professional skills and enhance knowledge on sales and marketing. We offer a wide array of customised corporate solutions to address the needs of various professional groups.

SLIM never compromises with the quality of its education. We hope more companies will join hands with SLIM to train their staff."

Sanath Senanayake, Chief Executive Officer / Executive Director, SLIM said, "Although most trainings fail to connect its content to actual on-the-job application, SLIM is always focused on bridging the skills transfer gap. Corporate training is a critical part of any company's ability to continuously transform and compete in today's business environment. For 50 years, SLIM has been in the sphere of educating business executives — on new marketing trends, on new frameworks and on new skills which help marketers do their jobs and succeed in their respective industries."

SLIM conducts tailor-made corporate training programs and workshops to help corporates groom their employees to face the present challenging business landscape. These timely and relevant training programs are conducted by top-notch facilitators who have hands-on experience in various industries.

MAS to serve you better with Education First LLC Russia



Every year, thousands of Sri Lankan high school graduates face the task of choosing not only study fields of interest but also destinations to pursue their academic dreams.

In recent years, Russia has emerged as one of the most suitable destinations chosen by students in pursuit of high-quality education. Tasked with the motive to learn everything possible about education in Russia, we decided to have a face-to-face conversation with Mrs Inga Jeng and Mrs Svetlana Vaskina, the founding members of Education First LLC, an authorised agent representing Russian universities in Sri Lanka.

In a nutshell, why should students choose to study in Russia as opposed to other countries?

The educational sector is of paramount importance to the Russian government and its regular development and upgrading is top priority. The results speak for themselves, as thousands of graduates from Russian universities have gone on to participate, in very significant ways, in the developments of various sectors of the economies of their respective countries. The standard of education in Russia is very highly regarded and is deservedly compared to standards in the western world. The prices in Russia, however, are just a fraction of the fees payable in western countries. In other words, you are promised high quality education at very affordable prices.

What fields of study are the most popular amongst Sri Lankan students?

Most Sri Lankan students tend to choose the medical field more than any other fields. As a matter of fact, many practicing doctors in Sri Lanka today are Russian-trained. Other popular choices are engineering (air-space, civil, mechanical, electrical), law, information technology, tourism and management.

What are the mediums of instruction in Russian universities? Can students choose to study in other languages, like English?

Due to the large number of international students in Russia, it has become commonplace for most universities to offer the most popular courses in multiple languages. For instance, General medicine is offered in Russian, English or French.

According to your records, how well do Sri Lankan students, academically, in the universities you work with?

I would say with pride that Sri Lankan students are among of our favorite students. They are generally very hardworking and dedicated to their studies. Their high success rates never come as a surprise to anyone.

What universities are most popular amongst Sri Lankan students?

The three most popular universities amongst students, who want to study medicine are:

Sechenov University is the oldest (founded in 1758), biggest and most prestigious medical institution of higher education in Russia. Every year, more and more Sri Lankan students come to study General Medicine in this university. Not only is the University reputed as the most advanced medical school in Russia that is highly positioned in most prestigious global university rankings, but it is also famous for the biggest number of medical students worldwide.

RUDN University is the most international University in Russia. In there, students can study not only General medicine, but also engineering, IT, law, economics, tourism and much more. The University is also known for establishing the best Russian language programs for foreign students in Russia. In year 2018, the UI GreenMetric World University Ranking placed RUDN University #1 on the list of the "greenest universities" in Russia. The University can proudly say that it is the educational institution of choice of thousands of students from more than 150 countries worldwide. Graduates of RUDN University are regarded as highly qualified specialists of their respective fields and constitute a significant percentage of academic elites of many countries.

MAI is Russia's leading institute of higher education that serves to equip its students with thorough theoretical knowledge and practical skills in the field of aerospace engineering. The University recently became popular amongst Sri Lankan students because of the introduction of few English-medium programs, fully adapted to international students. Needless to say, that aerospace engineers educated in Russia are the most valuable specialists in the world and MAI plays a pivotal role in building and maintaining such a reputation. Studying in MAI is a privilege for any student.

What tips would you give to students and their parents to help them make right choice when it comes to future education?

As purpose of education is to have, in future, job that you will love, always think what kind of field never seems boring to you. As the job you choose will take most of your life so you should enjoy it.

Many Universities can provide programs that students are looking for. However, not every University diploma can be recognized in your home country. You need to make sure, you choose University, recognized by required Government institutions and organizations, such as Medical Council, Ministry of Education and so on. If you not sure how to do it, you need to ask your agent about it.

Speaking of agent, task of finding good agent is also very important. Very often, we witness situations, when students are just being left stranded somewhere far away from their dreams because of untrustworthy and highly ineffective agencies. Please beware of companies that make you promises that are too good to be true, sometimes using government officials, sometime by falsifying their relationships with universities that just simply don't exist. Make sure, you choose agency that has direct contract with University or have partner with direct contract, has right to represent University, to act on behalf of University with your admission procedure, to prepare your documents for visa invitation and right to assist you at the University upon arrival. And remember, there are no exclusive representation rights, granted by Russian Universities.

Why should students and their parents choose your company as opposed to other companies?

Our company was built by spe-

cialists with more than 20 years of relevant experience to counteract the problems and misconceptions created by the actions of untrustworthy and highly ineffective agencies that regularly break the hearts and dreams of students and their parents. Very often, we witness situations, when students are just being left stranded somewhere far away from their dreams by the agents, who give false promises, have no direct contact to University and have no idea of admission procedure. The main goals of our company are to serve as a guiding/driving force and a transition hub for the realization of the highest academic and professional dreams. We are a company that believes in reputations and we are proud to say that we are known for keeping our promises.

To put our purpose into context, our specialists has helped thousands of students through the years from different corners of the globe to gain admission into institutions of higher education in Russia. Our job goes even further as we work hand-in-glove with the students, to help deal with the day-to-day challenges of student life in a different country. Our greatest achievement is the positive way we touch our students, which is manifested by the priceless words of appreciation regularly received from the latter.

We make sure that our relationships with our students and their parents are based on mutual respect and honesty. Our professionalism is second to none and our high student and parent satisfaction is testament to that fact.


If I may mention, please beware of companies that make you promises that are too good to be true. Some are known for to promise golden mountains to their students, just to leave stranded somewhere along the way far away from their dreams.

Do you remain in contact with former students after graduation? If yes, how good are they doing professionally?

That's a great question! We actually strive towards staying in touch with our former students. We always want to be kept posted regarding their success and assimilation into the world of professional employment. We also ask about their problems and encourage them to propose suggestions that may help present or future students. In addition, we also encourage communication between graduates in their fields of work and present students. The former can provide valuable information on the ground that may help guide career choices and preferences of the latter.


How well to you interact with parents and guardian of students? Can they visit their children sometimes?

We absolutely think that parents have their children's best interests at heart and therefore, they must be listened to. For the simple reason, that their children are on the verge of going far away from home, parents always want to know every step of the way. We are always there to answer questions and offer assistance when necessary. Coming to the second part of the question, the answer is yes. Parents can, of course, visit their children. We also offer assistance in facilitating the process of traveling and accommodation of visiting parents.



Faculty of Management & Finance, University of Colombo

2020-2022 Intake



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OR

(II) A Special Degree in any Business or Management related discipline (including Commerce, Economics or Public Administration) from this University or any other recognized University

AND

a minimum of one (01) year post qualifying work experience in managerial capacity.

OR

(III) A Degree with a First Class or Second Class (Upper Division) Honours in any Business or Management related discipline (including Commerce, Economics or Public Administration) from any other recognized University

AND

a minimum of one (01) year post qualifying work experience in managerial capacity

OR

(IV) A Degree in any discipline and at least a Postgraduate Diploma in any Business or Management related discipline (including Commerce, Economics or Public Administration) from this University or any other recognized University and a minimum of one year work experience in managerial capacity.

OR

(V) A Degree in any discipline from this University or any other recognized University

AND

a minimum of two (02) years post qualifying work experience in managerial capacity

OR

(VI) Any other qualification acceptable to the Faculty Board and the Senate of the University of Colombo

OR

(VII) Any qualification not mentioned in classes (i) to (vi) above recommended by a qualification evaluation committee and approved by the Senate of the University of Colombo

AND

(2) has demonstrated management ability and potential for future career development in management;

AND

(3) has a good knowledge of English.

How to apply ?

Application forms and other related information can be obtained from the Postgraduate and Mid-career Development Unit (PGMCDU), Faculty of Management and Finance, University of Colombo, Colombo 03 or downloaded from <http://mgmt.cmb.ac.lk>. Application fee of Rs. 4,000/= should be deposited to University of Colombo main collection account at People's Bank using the reference number 312083500000. The duly filled application form and a copy of the deposit slip should be handed over to the PGMCDU on or before


30th September 2020

For further details

Mr. Chandana Wijekoon
Programme Coordinator

Faculty of Management & Finance,
Postgraduate and Mid-Career Development Unit
University of Colombo, Colombo 03

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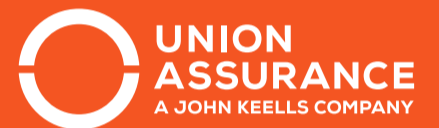


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Vice President – Sales & Marketing Health Sector

The incumbent will be responsible for executing all Health Sector objectives and provide strategic direction to ensure the segment is aligned with the organization's corporate business growth. As 'Vice President - Sales & Marketing Health Sector' you would also use effective organizational planning and development leadership to deliver targeted results for engagement, accountability, productivity, continuous improvement, growth and profitability while also demonstrating flexibility and capacity to support customer demand.

Key Accountabilities:

- Strategic direction to the segment and measuring performance with the final accountability to the P&L.
- Lead development and implementation of the segment framework monitoring and reporting, ensuring improved revenues and profitability.
- Identify areas in need of operational improvements and initiate change management to effectively implement process improvements and go-to-market strategies.
- Identify and investigate emerging markets applications to drive future growth within the business unit, aligning the highest potential with either available or new technology opportunities as appropriate.
- Develops a team that possesses proficiency and good knowledge of the business; its growth, sustainability, thriving capability and market ability.

Vice President – Growth Initiatives

As 'Vice President - Growth Initiatives' you will focus on establishing New Business Units deemed appropriate through growth initiatives, to expand and reach beyond the current operating segments. The incumbent will be responsible for identifying emerging markets and driving business growth, aligning the highest potential with new technology opportunities, whilst also contracting and executing the launch of new partnerships.

Key Accountabilities:

- Venture into New Sectors with new Product Offerings and build Brands.
- Draws out business plans and makes the feasibility studies for the new business, investigating the sustainability of the new business, and relating its demand to the suitable market.
- Build People Structures with capability and market ability for the Growth Initiatives whilst integrating the required Infrastructure.

Candidate Profile For The Above Two Positions:

- Proven experience of over 15 years' that includes senior management and strategic level roles; preferably in the Health Sector.
- Bachelor's Degree in Electrical/ Electronic Engineering, Science or equivalent with a Masters.
- Ability to align with key stakeholders within the industry, global operations/principals and sales, to understand key trends and markets, and implications for future roadmap and strategy.
- Able to build relationships across the industry, vendors and customers amplifying synergy, improving collaboration to effectively execute on company strategy.
- Demonstrated ability to manage multiple initiatives with various stakeholders.
- Strategic thinker, solutions-oriented leader with effective facilitation, coaching and interpersonal skills.
- Proven success in the development and execution of both core business and product expansion strategies.
- Successful track records of Sales & Marketing and network contacts in the Health Sector.

An attractive remuneration above industry standards including performance based incentives, will be available to the right candidate

Applications with a detailed Curriculum Vitae including a recent photograph and contact details of two non-related referees, quoting the reference number and position in the subject of the e-mail, should reach the following email address by **27th September 2020**

KPMG Executive Search (Private) Limited,
 32A, Sir Mohamed Macan Markar Mawatha, Colombo 03.
 E-mail: esearchmd@kpmg.com



Saegis Campus is a leading Non-State Higher Education Institute with "degree-awarding" status granted by the Ministry of Higher Education. Affiliated with the prestigious Canterbury Christ Church University - UK along with study-abroad programmes from Heriot-Watt University - UK and Deakin University - Australia, Saegis Campus offers an impressive portfolio of Postgraduate and Undergraduate Degrees and Higher National Diploma courses in business related disciplines, IT and English.

**JOIN OUR TEAM
POST OF REGISTRAR**

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Adhere to agreements made with foreign partnerships and academic regulations of the Campus.
- To be responsible for student enrolment and implement examination procedures.
- Ensure the integrity, accuracy, and security of all academic records of current and former students.
- Handle Senate/ Council meetings, prepare minutes and related secretarial work.
- Counsel and advise the students, faculty, and staff on academic matters.
- To be responsible for general administrative work of the Registrar's office.
- Ability to work on weekends.

QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE:

- A Postgraduate Degree (MA/MSc/MBA/PhD).
- Minimum 3-5 years' experience as a Registrar / Deputy Registrar / Senior Assistant Registrar or in a similar capacity at a recognized educational institute/campus/state university.
- Sound understanding of UGC and Ministry of Higher Education regulations applicable for non-state universities.

We will be following the University Grants Commission circulars & guidelines for the above recruitments.

The successful candidates will receive an attractive remuneration package and career advancement opportunities.

We invite you to forward your resume, with the contact details of two non-related referees to careers@saegis.edu.lk within 7 days of this advertisement, or post to the following address. Please indicate the position that you are applying in the subject line of the email or on the left-hand corner of the envelope.

Chief Operating Officer, Saegis Campus, No. 135, S. De S. Jayasinghe Mw., Kohuwala, Nugegoda.
 Email: careers@saegis.edu.lk | Telephone: 117430000
 Web: www.saegis.edu.lk | www.saegis.ac.lk



TEACHING VACANCY

JUNIOR SCHOOL VACANCIES (GRADE 1 – 5)

- MATHEMATICS
- ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE
- SCIENCE & GEOGRAPHY
- ASST. SPECIAL NEEDS TEACHERS

SENIOR SCHOOL VACANCIES (GRADE 6 UPWARDS TO LOCAL/LONDON A/L)

- HUMANITIES & SOCIAL STUDIES
- ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE
- ISLAM
- BUSINESS STUDIES & ACCOUNTING
- BUSINESS STUDIES
- MATHEMATICS & COMBINED MATHS
- ICT & COMPUTER STUDIES
- SINHALA LANGUAGE
- ASST. SPECIAL NEEDS TEACHERS

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Degree/Masters from a recognized university or trained teacher from a reputed training college.
- Minimum 3-4 Years Experience in teaching for London(Cambridge/Edexcel) & National Exams is a must for Senior School vacancies.
- Minimum 2 years experience for all other vacancies at reputed schools.
- Only those with an Excellent command of Written & Spoken English should apply.

If you are confident that you can match our expectations Send in your CV with the contact details of 2 non -related referees to reach us within 14 days of this advertisement. Please indicate the post applied on the envelope or in the subject line of the email.


ALETHEA School International School
careers@alethea.lk

ALETHEA GROUP OF SCHOOLS 15, SRI MAHABODHI ROAD, DEHIWELA | WWW.ALETHEA.LK

MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN KATUNAYAKE

We are looking for experienced, reliable and highly motivated individuals to be a part of this prestigious landmark project.

CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION EXPERTS	CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION SUPPORTING STAFF
<p>All Candidates must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be Below 65 years of age & in good health Corporate Membership (Charter) with Specified Years of experience is essential. Have experience in Construction Supervision of multi storied Buildings 	<p>All Candidates must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be Below 65 years of age & in good health 10+ years of experience in Construction Supervision of multi storied buildings
<p>1 SENIOR ELECTRICAL ENGINEER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duration: 39 Months BSc in Electrical Engineering or Equivalent 15+ Years Experience 	<p>6 INSPECTOR (MECHANICAL)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duration: 36 Months
<p>2 SENIOR POWER SUPPLY ENGINEER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duration: 21 Months BSc in Electrical Engineering or Equivalent 15+ Years Experience 	<p>7 INSPECTOR (ELECTRICAL)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duration: 30 - 36 Months
<p>3 SENIOR ELECTRONICS & TELECOM ENGINEER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duration: 22 Months BSc in Electronics & Telecommunications Engineering or Equivalent 15+ Years Experience 	<p>8 INSPECTOR (UTILITY)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duration: 38 Months
<p>4 SENIOR SYSTEM ENGINEER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duration: 19 Months BSc in Systems Engineering or Equivalent 15+ Years Experience 	<p>9 INSPECTOR (BRIDGE STRUCTURE)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duration: 36 Months
<p>5 ARCHITECT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duration: 36 Months BSc/MSc in Architecture or Equivalent 10+ Years Experience 	<p>NOTE: 5 Years+ experience in Airport construction field will carry added weight to your application.</p> <p>If you feel you are the ideal candidate we are looking for, please send your CV to ntpceylonhr@gmail.com along with the position on the subject line of the email. Alternatively, CV's can be sent through post to the address specified below.</p>



Head of Human Resources
NTP CEYLON (PVT) LTD
L2B, Crescat Residences, No. 75, Galle Road, Colombo 03, Sri Lanka.
Tel: +94 11 2 2397771
For more information please contact Ms. Asha Tel: +94 777 259 808

Vacancy

We, SDB bank are a leading licensed specialized bank that has recorded a sustainable growth over the past decades and have marked impactful presence in our chosen markets. To steer our accelerated expansion; we are looking for dynamic, self-motivated and career-oriented person to join the SDB Team to be a part of bank's growth story.

We are in the search for an individual who is passionate and has experience in Integrated Risk Management Sector of the Bank.

Chief Risk Officer

The Chief Risk Officer (CRO) develops, implements, monitors, and maintains an efficient and effective Risk Management Program supporting the Bank's strategic risk management approach to capital adequacy and asset and liability management of the Bank. The incumbent is accountable for risk management operations including the integration of risk concepts into strategic planning, and risk identification and mitigation activities. A main priority of the CRO is to ensure that the Bank is in full compliance with applicable regulations, analyze all risk-related issues, and recommend improvements, modifications, and new procedures where controls are needed. The position is directly reporting to CEO.

Duties & responsibilities :

- Oversee the Risk Management, Compliance, BSA/AML, CRA and Security functions
- Create an integrated risk framework for the entire organization; develop strategies and plans to anticipate, assess, and mitigate risks
- Implement and oversee the Risk Management Program with appropriate reporting to the BIRMC
- Administer information security and fraud prevention activities
- Oversee preparation of the Information Technology Risk and Security Assessment including a cyber-security assessment
- Administer the Business Continuity Plan and Vendor Management programs
- Prepare the annual Risk Assessment for submission to the BIRMC including Key Risk Indicator reports
- Evaluate compliance with policies, procedures, processes, laws and regulations
- Review risk assessments prepared by all areas of the Bank
- Recommend improvements, modifications, and new procedures to mitigate risk and address inadequate or weak controls
- Participate in strategic planning, capital stress testing, appropriate Credit Committees, ALCO and Audit Committee
- Keep informed of industry changes, trends, and best practices, and assess the potential impact on processes and procedures

Competency required :

- Use of critical thinking, logic, and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions, or approaches to problems
- Thorough analysis of information and use of logic to address complexity of data and information
- Monitoring and assessing the performance of the organization to make improvements or take corrective action
- Ability to effectively present information and respond to inquiries from the board of directors, senior management, regulator, government agents, attorneys, vendors, employees, and the general public

Experience and Qualifications :

- MBA from a recognized university
- A bachelor's degree specialized in accounting/Finance/Management from a recognized university
- In depth knowledge on accounting standards (SLAS/IFRS), international best practices in banking and BASEL guidelines
- Minimum 8 to 10 years of progressively responsible experience with risk, compliance, or legal in a bank or financial institution.
- Hands-on experience in risk function at a senior Managerial level
- High level of conceptual and analytical skills
- Demonstrate good communication and excellent organization skills and IT literacy

An attractive remuneration package commensurate with experience and fringe benefits in par with the industry standards is available for the right person. Interested candidates are invited to submit their curriculum vitae within 07 days of this advertisement to careers@sdb.lk mentioning the position on the subject line of the e mail. Kindly note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

SDB bank,
No. 12, Edmonton Road, Kirulapone, Colombo 06.
Email: careers@sdb.lk
Web : www.sdb.lk



SANASA Development Bank PLC is a licensed specialized bank, supervised by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. Fitch Rating BB+ (stable), Reg No: P962PQ.

SALES EXECUTIVES

- * G.C.E [A/L] and knowledge in computer literacy [Ms Office]
- * Individuals between 28-40 years of age at least 2-3 years experience in sales, in preferably LED Lighting industry.
- * Should be person with high interpersonal skills and willing to take challenges with minimum supervision.
- * Strong communication skills with ability to speak English, Sinhala & Tamil.
- * Willing to work long hours if required.
- * Those residing below areas will be given priority. **Colombo, Kalutara, Gampaha, Galle, Matara & Hambantota**

Please email your CV before 30th September 2020.
acc.lighting@bright.lk

BRIGHT LIGHTING (PVT) LTD

No: 315 R.A.De.Mel Mawatha, Colombo 03.



Musaeus College Colombo 07

Vacancies


Musaeus College, is the leading Government approved Private School for girls in Colombo.

We are looking for experienced and dedicated **females** with a passion for teaching, who possess relevant academic or professional qualifications from a recognized institution for the following vacancies.

- ❖ Assistant Teacher - Combined Maths - English Medium (A/L Classes)
- ❖ Assistant Teacher - Mathematics - (Cambridge and Edexcel Syllabus) Degree from a recognized University

An attractive remuneration package awaits the right candidates.

Please send your CV within 10 days of this advertisement to The Principal, Musaeus College, No. 58, Rosmead Place, Colombo 07 or by Email to vacancies@musaesus.lk (Please state the position applied for, on the top left corner of the envelope / subject line on e-mail)



Power Plant Operation Assistants

Sojitz Kelanitissa (Private) Limited is a BOI approved, Independent Power Producer, which owns and operates a 163 MW power plant located in Wellampitiya, Colombo. It's a subsidiary of the Sojitz Corporation, Japan. The Sojitz Group is engaged in a wide range of businesses globally, relating to automobiles, plants, energy, mineral resources, chemicals, foodstuff resources, agricultural and forestry resources, consumer goods and industrial parks in Japan and overseas.

We are looking for result-oriented, young, energetic and dynamic individual with positive attitude to join our team.

Requirements;

- NVQ level 5, NVQ level 4 or similar qualification (ex: ATI special, CGTTI) obtained from government or recognized private institutes with Mechanical/Electrical related background with or without work experience.
- Ability to communicate in English will be an added advantage.
- Preference will be given for those who have Computer literacy.

Upon successful completion of probation period (6 month) and based on performance levels, the company reserves the right to absorb the selected candidates for extendable 2 year Fixed term contract, as per the company's discretion.

A competitive compensation will be offered for the selected candidate.

Interested applicants may forward complete resume with two non related referees to reach the company within ten days of this advertisement to:

Team Leader – Operations
Sojitz Kelanitissa (Private) Limited
28, New Kelani Bridge Road
Wellampitiya

Web : www.sojitz.com/en
Telephone : 0114657400
Fax : 0112385099
e-mail : hr.skpl@sojitz-k.com

POST OF ACCOUNTANT

An establishment engaged in maritime and manufacturing trade requires the service of Accountant capable of financial and accounting sector of the Organization.

Requirements

- Associate member of Chartered Accountant or equivalent.
- At least 5 years of post qualifying experience in similar capacity.
- Service experience in manufacturing and or Mechanical Maintenance Sector preferred.
- Knowledge and experience in handling Account Software is essential and the capability of ERP implementation considered as added qualification.
- Salary negotiable.
- Age below 50 years.

Please forward your CV to : supremepetro19@gmail.com

Supreme Petro Lanka (Pvt) Ltd.,
No.3 A,
D.S. Fonseka Road,
Colombo 05.

VACANCIES

We are a leading Engineering Company in Electro Mechanical & Civil Construction specialized in the field of High voltage Engineering is looking for dynamic & competent personal for immediate recruitment in following category.

Technical Officer

NDT / NDES / HND with or equivalent qualification with over one year experience & Motor bike riding license. Applicants having experience in Mini Hydro Power Plant Construction and residing in Kalutara / Matugama area preferred. (Applicants without experience also considered for suitable placements)

Accounts Assistant

Chartered /CIMA / CMA Intermediate stage or equivalent with minimum 01 year experience and hand on experience with Quick Books. Age below 27 Years.

Apply within 7 days indicating your expected salary to
Finance Manager



ESTA INTERNATIONAL (PRIVATE) LIMITED
411 / 10, Attyagalla Mw., Welikada, Rajagiriya
Fax: 117 395703
E-mail : gamini@estaint.com

VACANCIES

A great opportunity for dynamic & efficiency persons and be a proud member of a leading establishment of real estate and property development sector.

PROJECT OFFICER/EXECUTIVE/ASST. MANAGER

- Age should be 30 - 40 years.
- Should have a valid riding license
- Persons who live in western province are specially considered
- Very attractive remuneration package
- Position will be considered according to the experience

CUSTOMER CARE OFFICER

- Age should be 20 - 35 years. (Male / Female)
- Should have a computer knowledge
- Persons who live within 15km to Nugegoda area specially considered
- Very attractive remuneration package

Please forward your resume with the names and contact details of two non-related referees within 7 days of this advertisement to reach: Head of HR, Metro Lands & Developers (Pvt) Ltd, No. 59A, Station Road, Delkanda, Nugegoda. or send email / Viber / WhatsApp hr@metrolands.lk ☎ 0702 827 937



METRO LANDS
www.metrolands.lk



Post of Coordinator of the Extension Courses in English (On Assignment Basis)

Department of English

University of Colombo

Responsibilities include :

Student registration and placement, administration of all Extension Courses in English, organizing examinations and award ceremonies, preparing budgets, liaising with officers of the University administration.

Qualifications :

A first Degree with English as a subject,
OR
A recognized Diploma in the English Language
AND
At least three years administrative experience in coordinating educational programmes.

Age : Below 60 years at time of application.
Closing Date : 28.09.2020
(No telephone inquiries please)

The Coordinator will be required to work on Saturdays and Sundays. Remuneration will include EPF/ETF contributions.

Applications should be forwarded to : Head, Dept. of English, University of Colombo Colombo 03

Registrar
University of Colombo

TEACHER VACANCY
 Looking for a female tutor for grade 5 maths and science (local syllabus English medium) who does home visits.
 Location - Colombo 8
 Contact - 071 7640086

VACANCY
 Accounts Clerk (with Purchasing knowledge)
 Female only.
 Age 22-30 years.
 Good knowledge of Accounts Systems.
MN HOMES DEVELOPER PVT LTD
 Rajagiriya.
 0760368604, 0114343881
 mnhomes.hr@gmail.com

DENTAL SURGEON VACANCY
 Needed Full time /Part time for a well established
Dental Clinic in Matara - Akuressa Town
 Contact -
 071-3851068 /077-2150500

NEGOMBO SOUTH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL Piliyandala Branch
 > Spoken English Instructress
 > Local Secondary (Gr 6-11)
 •Roman Catholicism •English Literature
 •Science •History •Sinhala
 > London O/L
 •English •Chemistry
 > Primary
 •Computer •Elocution •Roman Catholicism
 •Mathematics
 > Local A/L
 •General English
 > Pre school trainee teachers
 > Gr. 1,2,3,4 class teachers
 HR Manager,
 No.304/10,Wawanawatta,Piliyandala
 Tel : 0114382080 / 0773328312
 Email: nsispiliyandalahr@gmail.com


ALEXANDRA COLLEGE
 COLOMBO 10.

VACANCIES FOR TEACHERS (English Medium)
 Nursery Teachers
 Primary Teachers
 Post Primary Teachers
 • BAS • Maths
 • Health Science • ICT
 • History • Art
 • Civics • English Lit.
 • Geography • Islam
 Contact : 0769 - 184430 | 0777 - 235863

CORRECTION NOTICE
 Ministry of Plantation
 Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka
Tea Research Board
 Post of Superintendent (Contract Basis)
 St. Coombs Estate, Talawakelle.
 This refers to the above captioned advertisement published on page No. 56 of Sunday Observer on 06th September 2020. Please note that under "Educational Qualifications & Experience" following should be read as;
 Having passed the G.C.E. (O/L) Examination in six (06) subjects in one sitting with credit passes for four (04) subjects including language (Sinhala/Tamil) English & Mathematics.
 The other contents remain unchanged.
 The Director,
Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka,
 St. Coombs, Talawakelle.

VACANCY
Recruitment of Primary Teachers
 Sri Lankan young females who fulfill the following qualifications will be immediately recruited to be given a training of 6 months as Primary Teachers and directed for vacancies existing in every district within the island which are to be immediately filled.
Qualifications :-
 Sri Lankan young females aged between 17 - 28 who have passed 6 subjects including English at the G. C. E. (O/L) Examination can apply for this.
 • Applicants who are selected from an interview will be directed to one of our training centres situated in Nugegoda / Kurunegala / Kandy / Galle. Hostel facilities will be provided for distant trainees during their period of training.
 • After successful completion of training an Internationally accepted certificate will be awarded and will be directed for service in Primary or International schools.
 • You are requested to forward your application to the following address under registered cover within 14 days with a Rs. 15/= stamped envelope enclosed, with your address written on it. On the left hand top corner of the envelope you should write "Recruitment of Primary Teachers" and the training centre convenient to you out of Nugegoda / Kandy / Kurunegala / Galle.
 Director (Recruitment)
International Teacher Training Academy
 No. 224 A, Highlevel Road, NUGEGODA.

JUNIOR MARKETING EXECUTIVE
 • Well established Real Estate & Construction Company for our Office in Homagama is in search of dynamic person age below 35.
 • Preference will be given to those who are from Real Estate & Housing Industry
 • Could look forward with an unlimited income and a promising future
 • Please submit your CV before 25th September 2020.
sampathsdw@gmail.com

WANTED
 Below Persons Needed For a Textile Dyeing and Finishing Factory
 1) Welder
 2) Technician who could Handle water Pumps with Mechanical Seal & Mechanical Fitters
OACIANIC KNITTERS (PVT) LTD.
 Contact : Ruwan Fernando
 Mobile Number : 071 404 2310
Oacianic Knitters Pvt.Ltd.
 No.4, Kandawala Mawatha, Ratmalana

JOB OPPORTUNITIES
 A luxury hotel located in Nittambuwa is looking for experienced staff.
 (1) F & B Waitress
 (2) House Keeping, Room Attendant
 (3) gardener - Male
 Previous experience in hospitality is a pre-requisite.
HR Manager,
 Hotel Sanushi, No. 65/3, Pasyala Road, Attanagalla.
 E-mail: operations@sanushi.lk


VACANCY FOR CHINESE HOTEL, COLOMBO 05
 We are looking for Waiters / Waitresses and Housekeepers / Housemaids. Inexperience and school-leavers. Salary up to 40,000/-.
 Male and female.
No. 75, Dickmans Road, Colombo-05.
 Contact: 0112595880 (11.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.)
 0755628707

IMMEDIATE VACANCIES
Site Engineer / Technical Officer (Civil)
 required for sites in Galle & Matara.
 NDT/NDES/HNDE/NCT
 more than 2 years experience.
swarnaconstructions.sl@gmail.com
 0718-709961/2

DATA ENTRY CLERK
 Excellent computer literacy. Age below 35 years. Remuneration package according to qualifications and experience.
 • Previous experience working on ERP system is a distinct advantage.
 Please send CVs to :
hrdep1010@gmail.com


VACANCIES
MATHEMATICS, CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS TEACHERS
 With experience in teaching IGCSE & IAL - (Edexcel) London (O/L & A/L) English medium.
 Salary Negotiable.
 Newly passed out graduates will also be considered.
 Walk In Interview on 16th & 17th September 2020 from 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.
WILLEDEN COLLEGE INTERNATIONAL,
 172, Main Road, Battaramulla. Tel: 011-2864987
 willedencollegeinternational@gmail.com

A leading International School needs
Marketing Manager
 and
Marketing Executive
 with relevant qualification.
 Permanent job.
 Able to earn 100,000/= per month.
 Send the CVs
kinginternationalschool@gmail.com
 Contact No. 0771596754


UNIVERSITY OF KELANIYA
VACANCIES
 The University of Kelaniya will entertain applications from suitably qualified persons for the following posts up to 30th of September, 2020.
PERMANENT POSTS
Faculty of Computing and Technology
 1. Department of Applied Computing
 • Engineering Discipline
 Lecturer (Probationary) / Lecturer (Unconfirmed) / Senior Lecturer Gr. II/I
 • Science Discipline
 Lecturer (Probationary) / Lecturer (Unconfirmed) / Senior Lecturer Gr. II/I
 2. Department of Software Engineering
 • Computer Engineering Discipline
 Lecturer (Probationary) / Lecturer (Unconfirmed) / Senior Lecturer Gr. II/I
 • Computer Science Discipline
 Lecturer (Probationary) / Lecturer (Unconfirmed) / Senior Lecturer Gr. II/I
 3. Department of Computer Systems Engineering
 • Engineering Discipline
 Lecturer (Probationary) / Lecturer (Unconfirmed) / Senior Lecturer Gr. II/I
 • Computer Science / IT Discipline
 Lecturer (Probationary) / Lecturer (Unconfirmed) / Senior Lecturer Gr. II/I
 • Mathematics Discipline
 Lecturer (Probationary) / Lecturer (Unconfirmed) / Senior Lecturer Gr. II/I
How to Apply:
 Prescribed application forms and details regarding the above Posts could be obtained from the Deputy Registrar/Academic Establishments Division during office hours or could be downloaded from the University Website: www.news.kln.ac.lk. Requests for application forms by post should be accompanied with a self-addressed stamped envelope of 23x10 cm in size. All applications together with copies of relevant certificates should be forwarded to the Deputy Registrar/Academic Establishments, University of Kelaniya, Kelaniya, under registered cover to reach him on or before 30th of September, 2020.
 Candidates should submit separate applications for each post applied for. Incomplete, illegible or late applications will be rejected. The post should be indicated on the top left hand corner of the envelope.
 Applications from employees in the Government Departments, Corporations, Statutory Boards, UGC and Higher Educational Institutions should be channeled through their Heads of Institutions. The University reserves the right to shortlist the candidates.
Registrar
 University of Kelaniya,
 Kelaniya.
 11.09.2020

JAYARATNE GROUP OF COMPANIES

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER
 Country's premier funeral services provider is looking for a
Human Resources Manager
The ideal candidate should have:
 • A Degree in Human Resources Management or Professional Qualification in Human Resources Management.
 • Well experienced in a HR managerial position.
 • Sound knowledge of the Labour Law of Sri Lanka.
 • Prior work experience at the labour department will be an added advantage.
 • Excellent communication, Leadership and interpersonal skills.
 • Ideal candidate must be able to join immediately.
 Please forward your CV via email along with two non-related referees to the following email:
hrbox.division@gmail.com


RAJARATA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
MIHINTALE
VACANCIES
 Rajarata University of Sri Lanka will entertain applications from suitably qualified persons for the following posts up to 15.10.2020.
01. Sub Warden (Full-time) Grade II (Male)
Qualifications :- A graduate of a recognized University. Preference will be given to those with experience in administration and management of Hostels.
Salary Scale :- Rs. 42,885 - 18x660 - 54,765 p.m. U-MN3 (II)
Age :- Not more than 45 years
02. Security Inspector - Grade II
Qualifications :-
 I. (a) G.C.E. (O/L) Examination in 6 subjects at not more than 2 sittings with credit passes in 5 subjects. The credit passes must include Sinhalese / Tamil Language or Literature and Arithmetic / Commercial Arithmetic/Mathematics.
OR
 (b) Employees of the UGC or Higher Educational Institutions with not less than 5 years' satisfactory service and who have passed the G.C.E. (O/L) Examination in 6 subjects at not more than 3 sittings. The subjects passed must include Sinhalese/Tamil Language or Literature and Arithmetic/Commercial Arithmetic/Mathematics; and
 II. Not less than 5 years satisfactory service in the Police or Armed Service or security service in the UGC or a Higher Educational Institution or other recognized security organization.
 III. Should have actively participated in Sports.
 IV. Height: Not less than 5 feet and 4 inches Chest: Not less than 34 inches (Normal)
Salary Scale :- Rs. 30,725 - 17x300 - 35,825 U-MN1 (IIIA)
Age :- Not more than 45 years
How to Apply:
 Application forms and relevant details can be obtained either by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope 23x10 cm in size or visiting the www.rjt.ac.lk University website on or before 02.10.2020.
 The applicants of Public Service, Government Departments and Corporations should submit their applications through the respective Heads of Institutions.
 Certified photocopies of the certificates of Educational / Professional qualifications and Service Certificates if any should be sent along with the applications.
 The post applied for should be indicated on the top left-hand corner of the envelope. Applications received after the closing date, applications not in accordance with the format given in the University website and incomplete applications will be rejected.
Address:- Assistant Registrar, Non-Academic Establishment Branch, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, Mihintale.
Registrar
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka
Mihintale.
 13.09.2020


Sumathi Holdings (Pvt) Ltd
MANAGER - LOKX EXPRESS COURIER
Scope of Work
 • Development & expand of business through new customers & solutions.
 • Initiate and develop action plans to penetrate new markets.
 • Coordination of all courier matters & ensure total customer satisfaction.
 • Attend to the courier requirements of the internal companies.
 • Achieve revenue & other objectives in relation to sales.
 • Maintaining accurate records of all sales, waybills, pricing & cash receipts.
Requirements
 • A Degree / Diploma in Marketing or Management from a recognized institute
 • Minimum 3 Years' Experience in similar capacity.
 • Result Oriented with passion and drive to achieve Targets.
 • Superb interpersonal skills, including the ability to quickly build rapport with customers.
 • Excellent communication, presentation skill and ability to work independently.
 • Sound knowledge on Computer Literacy
 • Should have a valid riding License
 • Age below 40
 • The Selected Candidate is assured of an attractive remuneration package on par with industry standards based on qualifications and experience.
 Please forward your complete resume with contact details and two non - related referees to careers@sumathi.com within 10 days of this advertisement quoting.
 Sumathi Holdings (Pvt) Ltd.
 No. 491, Galle Road,
 Colombo 03. 0112352329

WE ARE "WATTS ENGINEERING" LOOKING FOR DYNAMIC CANDIDATE FOR FOLLOWING POSITIONS AT PILIYANDALA

TRAINEE ADMINISTRATION OFFICER
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Forward your CV : wattsengi@sitnet.lk
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We urgently require an efficient, honest and hardworking male or female with the following prerequisites to fill the above position.

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- English knowledge to read, write and speak
- Age between 20 and 25

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NO. 9, Kovil Street, Colombo 01.

Please phone the following number to arrange an interview. 071 0689011
operation@infomexconcreting.com

MANAGER

Newly opened restaurant at Athurugiriya looking for a Manager with knowledge of Accounts System is compulsory. Age below 50 years. Apply to: American Caterers Pvt Ltd, Templeburg Industrial Estate, Stage 2, Panagoda, Homagama. Contact: 0715354049, 0715354040 E-mail: americancater@gmail.com

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We are a leading spices manufacturing and distributing company situated in Panagoda, Homagama seeking for the post of Quality Controller (QC) with knowledge of Food Processing Techniques as well as Quality Control Methodologies.

Apply to: DILFOODS (PVT) LTD, Templeburg Industrial Zone, Stage 2, Panagoda, Homagama. Contact: 0715354049, 0715354040. Email: dilfoodsptltd@gmail.com

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• History / Geography	Ordinary Level	Tamil Medium
• Geography / Life Competency	Ordinary Level	Tamil Medium

Qualifications & Experience

- Must be a graduate or undergraduate in the field from a recognised university.
- Should be a Trained Teacher / Diploma holder in Teacher Education from a Teachers' Training College or College of Education.
- Should have a Professional Qualification related to Education with more than three (03) years teaching experience.
- Must be able to take charge of any Co-curricular or Extra Curricular Activities.
- Must be an innovative thinker with effective writing and presentation skills.

Please forward your Curriculum Vitae indicating the post applied for with the names and addresses of two non-related Referees within 07 days of this advertisement by post or email.

Principal
Zahira College
P O Box 861 | Colombo
Email: careers@zahiracollege.lk

www.zahiracollege.lk

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Design Engineer

Candidate Profile:

- BSc. Eng (Civil) or equivalent qualification
- Minimum 07 years of experience of which a minimum 05 years of experience should be in highway/pavement design works in road construction projects

Location: Colombo (Road Project)

Maintenance Engineer

Candidate Profile

- NDT/HNDE/NDES in Electrical/Mechanical or Building Services Engineering
- Minimum 05 years of working experience in the maintenance of high rise buildings
- Strong analytical and management skills

Key Responsibilities

- Control and manage Electrical, Plumbing, A/C, Fire, BMS & ELV systems for smooth operation of the highrise building
- Design and implement maintenance procedure and methodology
- Carry out preventive and predictive maintenance
- Comply with company, health safety and environmental policies & procedures
- Coordinate MEP services during interior fit-outs of tenants' offices

Location: Head Office, Colombo 05

Environmental & Social Officer

Candidate Profile:

- BSc. in Environmental Science/Agricultural Science or equivalent qualification from a recognised university
- Minimum 08 years of experience of which a minimum 05 year of experience should be in road construction projects
- Good communication skills (English/Sinhala)

Location: Colombo (Road Project)

Technical Officers

Candidate Profile:

- NCT (Civil)/Advanced Diploma in City & Guilds or equivalent qualification
- Minimum 05 years of experience of which a minimum 02 years of experience should be as a Technical Officer in road construction projects

Location: Northern Province (Road Projects)

The above positions provide excellent career progression opportunities in a professional environment, along with attractive remuneration.

If you can fulfill any of the above requirements, please send your application with contact details of two non-related referees to hr@maga.lk or to the address below on or before 21 September 2020.

Please indicate the position applied for as the subject of your e-mail or on the top left corner of the envelope.

Manager Human Resources
Maga Engineering (Pvt) Ltd
200, Nawala Road, Narahenpita, Colombo 05
Tel: 011 720 9879 | 011 280 8835-44 | E-mail: hr@maga.lk

PEOPLE'S BANK

The People's Bank, a premier bank in Sri Lanka with the largest customer base providing innovative financial solutions to its diversified clientele for over five decades and as a conducive environment for those who strive to achieve excellence and believe in professionalism. The bank is looking for a talented & dynamic individual to fill the following vacancy.

CHIEF MANAGER - IT INFRASTRUCTURE & OPERATIONS

The key responsibilities involved in the position of Chief Manager - IT Infrastructure & Operations among others are :-

- ❖ Assist IT Management by setting up, directing and effectively managing a team in IT Infrastructure and Operations.
- ❖ Implement and maintain IT infrastructure according to industry standards and best practices by maintaining uptime and security.
- ❖ Manage the frontline support for all Bank IT users.

Expected Qualifications

- ❖ Bachelor's degree in Information Technology/Engineering/Computer Science from a UGC recognized University/Institute.
- ❖ Professional certification related to network/server Eg. CCNP, RHCSA, MCSA.
- ❖ ITIL Foundation Certificate.
- ❖ PMP or project management qualification would be an added advantage.

Expected Experience & Knowledge

- ❖ Minimum 10 years overall experience in IT industry with minimum three (3) years in a middle management position.
- ❖ Good knowledge, understanding and exposure in BFSI Technologies and Systems.
- ❖ Good knowledge on hardware life cycle, implementation and operation in IT infrastructure.
- ❖ Good knowledge and exposure in networking, system and Data Center Technologies.
- ❖ Good knowledge and exposure in Information Security.
- ❖ Good knowledge and exposure in IT Service Management.

Age
Age preferably below 45 years as at closing date of applications.

Method of selection
Shortlisted applicants based on the stipulated qualifications and experience will be called for an interview.

Conditions of Employment
This position is equivalent to the grade of Chief Manager on contract basis for a period of 03 years.

Remuneration
An attractive and negotiable remuneration package commensurate with qualifications and experience will be offered to the selected candidate.

Applications
Please send details of achievements and experience relevant to the job applied for together with your curriculum vitae along with copies of certificates and contact numbers of two non-related referees. The post applied for should be stated on the top left hand corner of the envelope and should reach the address given below on or before 28.09.2020.

All applications will be treated in strict confidence and any form of canvassing will be regarded as a disqualification. All incomplete and Non-complying applications will be rejected.

The Bank reserves the right to decide the number of vacancies, postponement or cancellation of recruitment or on any other information not included in the advertisement.

Deputy General Manager (Human Resources)
People's Bank - Head Office
NO. 75, Sir Chittampalam A Gardiner Mawatha, Colombo - 02.



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DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA
State Ministry of Provincial Councils & Local Government Affairs
Transport Connectivity Assets & Management Project (TCAMP)
PROVINCIAL ROAD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (PRDP) COMPONENT
LOAN NUMBER - Cr. 5788 LK
REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI)
Hiring of Individual Consultants

The TCAMP-Provincial Road Development Project (TCAMP -PRDP) is implemented under the State Ministry of Provincial Councils & Local Government Affairs (SMPCLGA) through the support of International Development Association (IDA) & World Bank (WB) to rehabilitate a part of Provincial Road Networks in the nine provinces.

It is intended to build the capacity and to ensure close ownership at each province level, the role of 'the Engineer to the Contract' will be handled by the Chief Resident Engineer (CRE) of the Project Implementation Consultant (PIC) unit at each province and he / she will be appointed by the provincial road agencies of the respective provinces.

The Project Management Unit (PMU) of TCAMP - Provincial Road Development Project (TCAMP -PRDP) intends to hire individual consultants for the following posts on short/ long term basis under the direct supervision of the Project Director. The individual consultants will predominantly be responsible to deliver and accomplish the targets as per the Terms of Reference (TOR) in compliance with the project outcome.

The respective consultants must meet the following qualifications and experience requirements:

<p>1. RESIDENT ENGINEER CUM CONTRACT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT - 01 POST - (Northern Province) - 24 months</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose of the position is to supervise/ manage the Construction Contract in the province as per the relevant Conditions of Contract and the Consultancy Contract engaged with the employer to achieve the set objectives of the project. The Consultant, should have wide knowledge about FIDIC contract administration evaluate and settle variations and standard format of claims. Advise CRE on potential claims. Assist ARE /AQS in evaluating claims and variations. Assist CRE/ARE in responding to the contractors on contractual matters. Guide the employer in case of disputes by the contractor on claims settlement. Assist employer in establishing a dispute resolution board. Assist CRE in day-to-day construction supervision, monitoring schedule, preparing monthly certificates, reviewing and approving shop drawing and as-built-drawings. Issue Site Instructions in consultation with CRE. Timely inform the CRE on issues on quality of works, progress of work, and any other constraints affecting the work. Be familiar with various international standards for design and construction (FIDIC) including stage of works and method of construction such as temporary works, construction plans, schedules, construction method, assignments of equipment and personnel, testing and trials, and drawings. Ensure that the safeguards aspects under the project are being complied. Ensure that the specifications under the contract are being met, and quality is maintained. <p>Qualification & Experience</p> <p>Basic Qualification & Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shall be a Member of Engineering Councils of Sri Lanka. Bachelor Degree in Civil Engineering with corporate membership of reputed engineering institute and 20 years' experience. <p>Additional Qualification & Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Master/ Post Graduate Diploma in Civil Engineering. 15 years' of road works experience. 10 years' of road works experience in Foreign Funded Projects. Contract Administration including FIDIC contract administration and 08 years' experience as a Contract Engineer. Qualifications in Environmental / Accounting / Social Safeguard subjects will be an additional advantage.
<p>2. MATERIAL ENGINEER - (Two Posts) - 24 months - Anuradhapura & Badulla</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose of the position is to ensure the construction works is carried out in line with the Quality Assurance System as per the Specifications & the Conditions of Contract. Will undertake day-to-day supervision of compliance to material specifications and testing, supervise the contractors work, and certify the construction in accordance with contract conditions including acceptance standards of materials, approval of source supply, and material testing methods. <p>Qualification & Experience</p> <p>Basic Qualification & Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shall be a Member of Engineering Councils of Sri Lanka. Bachelor Degree in Civil / relevant Engineering field with 10 years' experience or National Diploma in Technology (NDT)/equivalent with 20 years' experience. <p>Additional Qualification & Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Master /Post Graduate Diploma in the relevant field is desirable. 10 years' of major road construction works experience. 08 years' of road construction works experience as Material Engineer in Foreign Funded Project. A knowledge about Quality Assurance System is an additional advantage.
<p>3. ASSISTANT QUANTITY SURVEYOR - 10 POSTS - (One for Each Province & One for PMU) - 24 months</p> <p>The purpose of the position is to check the Interim Payment Application submitted by the contractors and recommend and submit them to PMU for the payments having verified those are in line with the Specifications & the Conditions of Contract. Assistant Quantity Surveyor is responsible for engaging in ongoing management of site procedures and the timely assessment of contractual matters.</p> <p>Preferable Qualification & Experience</p> <p>Basic Qualification & Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Bachelor Degree in Quantity Surveying or equivalent with 04 years' experience or NVQ-Level 5 with 15 years' experience. <p>Additional Qualification & Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 03 years' of road works experience in Foreign Funded Project. 03 years' of works experience with FIDIC Condition of Contract in road projects.

Remuneration : Negotiable based on the qualifications & experiences and Price schedule submitted by the consultant.

Selection criteria :

The Consultant's Proposal shall comprise the following components;

- (a) Operational and technical part of the Proposal, including documentation to demonstrate that the **Consultant** meets all requirements.
- (b) Price schedule, completed in accordance with **Payment Terms** of the TOR.

Candidate who obtained the highest marks for technical proposal will be invited for interview and negotiation of his/her price proposal. If it is not satisfactory the next highest scoring will be invited. However, candidate who does not score equal to or more than 350 shall not be considered.

The individual will be selected based on the qualification and experience, in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement in investment project financing Goods, Works, Non Consulting and Consultancy Services -, July 2016, and Revised August 2018 on Approved Selection Methods consultancy services for the selection of Individual Consultants.

A more detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) document and other relevant documents for the consultancy services can be obtained from the following address or by mail : **tcamp.prdp@pclg.gov.lk**

Application procedure:

Interested candidates must provide **CVs & Price schedule** including information that demonstrates that their qualifications and experiences to perform the services (description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills, etc.) as per the Terms of Reference for these positions. Applicants who are in the Government / Public Sector should forward their applications through their respective Heads of Departments.

Interested Candidate may obtain further information and queries from the contract details provided below on public working days from **14th September 2020 to 05th October 2020 between 09:00 hrs and 15:30 hrs**. All applications should be submitted via registered post with the respective position indicated clearly on the top left corner of envelope and send on or before **06th October 2020** to the address mentioned below.

Chairman
Ministry Consultant Procurement Committee
State Ministry of Provincial Councils & Local Government Affairs
Ministry of Public Services, Provincial Councils & Local Government Building
"M" Floor,
Independent Square, Colombo 07.
Tel : 0112 674 037 Fax: 0112 674 037

13th September 2020.

VACANCIES



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- Software Engineering
- Data Science

- Computer Science
- Multimedia
- Computer Programming
- Mobile Application Development

FACULTY OF BUSINESS

- English Language

- Logistics Management

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

- Building Technology
- Digital Communication (Sound knowledge on 3D Max/ Sketch up/ Digital rendering)
- Building Science

- Design Communication (Competence in Hand drawing, Perspectives and Manual rendering)
- Acoustics

QUALIFICATIONS

SENIOR LECTURER

- A Bachelors Degree and a Masters Degree in an appropriate field of specialization from a recognized University or Higher Educational Institute. An earned Doctorate will be an added advantage.
- At least 5 years of teaching experience at the undergraduate/graduate level in a recognized University / Higher Educational Institution.

LECTURER

- A Bachelors Degree in an appropriate field of specialization with a first class from a recognized University or Higher Educational Institute.
- A Masters Degree and lecturing experience will be an added advantage.

TEMPORARY LECTURER

- A Bachelors Degree in an appropriate field of specialization with a first class from a recognized University or Higher Educational Institute.

Candidates should also possess strong interpersonal skills, have the ability to work independently and unsupervised, be resourceful, be committed and aspire to succeed, be self-motivated, be able to thrive in a fast and high pressure work environment and be prepared to work long and irregular hours.

Attractive remuneration packages beyond industry standards are on offer for the ideal candidate. Please apply via registered post with a cover letter which indicates your fields of expertise and a detailed curriculum vitae with the position marked on the top left hand corner of the envelope or email your CV to careers@nsbm.lk with the position applied on the subject line to reach us on or before **25th September 2020**.

VICE CHANCELLOR
NSBM Green University Town, Mahenwatta, Pitipana, Homagama






NSBM Green University Town | Mahenwatta, Pitipana, Homagama. | E mail : careers@nsbm.lk | www.nsbm.lk

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VACANCY

CENTRAL ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITY

(MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT)

The CEA wishes to invite applications from qualified and experienced candidates who are citizens of Sri Lanka, for the following post.

Applicants should be not less than 22 years and not more than 45 years. The age limit will not be applicable to applicants already in the state service. Proficiency in English, familiarity with government regulations and computer literacy are essential prerequisites. Applicants who are in the Government / Semi Government Sector should forward their applications through Heads of the Departments.

1) Post of Librarian - (MM 1-1) - (01 Post)

Qualifications & Experience

1. A Bachelor's Degree from a recognized University by the UGC and Pass in the Final Examination of Sri Lanka Library Association or equivalent qualification.

AND

A minimum five (05) years post qualifying experience in Executive Level in the field of Library Management after obtaining the first degree.

Salary : Rs. 53,175 - 10 x 1,375 - 15 x 1,910 - 95,575 P.M.

Fringe Benefits :

- Professional allowance as per the MSD Circular 05/2017.
- Reimbursement of Telephone Bills as relevant to the post.
- Distress loan.
- Encashment of Medical bills through a Medical Insurance scheme.
- Encashment of unutilized Medical leave.

General Instructions :

The applicants should visit www.cea.lk website to download the specimen application and should be forwarded by registered post on or before 28th September 2020 to reach the Director General via address given below.

Indicate the post applied for, on the top left-hand corner of the envelope & incomplete and late applications will be rejected.

Shortlisted applicants based on highest qualification & experience, will be called for an interview and selection will be based on performance at the interview. Copies of the certificates only to prove basic qualifications and experience should be attached with the application.

Director General
Central Environmental Authority
104, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha,
Battaramulla.

10.09.2020



SWAMI VIPULANANDA INSTITUTE OF AESTHETIC STUDIES, EASTERN UNIVERSITY, SRI LANKA

VACANCY

POST OF DIRECTOR

The Board of Management of Swami Vipulananda Institute of Aesthetic Studies, Eastern University, Sri Lanka, and the Council of Eastern University, Sri Lanka in pursuance of Section 7.1 published in Gazette Extraordinary No. 1395/22 of 03.06.2005 invites applications/ nominations for the post of Director from eminently qualified citizens of Sri Lanka to take over the leadership of the Institute.

The Institute is situated in Kallady, Batticaloa which is 4 km away from Batticaloa Town. Earlier it was known as Swami Vipulananda College of Music and Dance which was established in 1981 by the Ministry of Regional Affairs and Hindu Culture in memory of Swami Vipulananda (1892 - 1947) an accomplished Sage of Ramakrishna order and great savant of Batticaloa who was invited to be the first Professor of Tamil at University of Ceylon in the reorganization contribution of his literary and research work. In 2005, this college started its operation as Swami Vipulananda Institute of Aesthetic Studies after officially affiliated with the Eastern University, Sri Lanka by the University Grants Commission. The Institute has three departments viz. Department of Carnatic Music, Department of Dance, Drama and Theatre Arts and Department of Visual and Technological Arts. The Institute offers degree courses in Carnatic Music, Dance, Drama & Theatre Arts and Visual & Technological Arts.

The Director is a full time officer of the Institute and he/she is the Principal Executive Officer, Principal Academic Officer and Accounting Officer of the Institute. He/She shall be an ex-officio member of Board of Management. He/She shall be a Chairman of the Academic Syndicate. He/She shall be responsible for providing academic leadership, formulating, conducting and introducing management policies and implementing the decisions of the Board of Management and the Council, Eastern University, Sri Lanka.

Tenure : 03 years
Age : Should be below 62 years
Salary Scale : U-AC 5 (II) -Rs.117,350-13x2,700—152,450/- p.m.

(A candidate presently drawing a salary higher than this scale will be placed at the same salary drawn at present).

Other Benefits: Transport facilities will be provided for official purposes.

The prospective applicant/nominee shall be requested to submit a statement of vision for the development of the Institute, a brief account of what he/she proposes to achieve if appointed to the post of Director and a full Curriculum Vitae including the date of birth of the applicant.

Where the incumbent Director is an applicant or had held the post of Director of the Institute before, he/she shall give a report highlighting accomplishments during his/her first period of the office, in addition to the documents mentioned in the above paragraph.

Prospective applicants presently employed in the University Grants Commission, Higher Educational Institutions and such other Institutes should forward their applications through the respective Heads.

Application/Nomination with relevant documents as requested above should be addressed to The Vice Chancellor, Eastern University, Sri Lanka, Vantharumoolai, Chenkalady and sent under registered cover or hand delivered to reach on or before 16th October 2020 by 3.00 p.m.

The envelope containing the application / nomination with the required documents must be marked as "Post of Director SVIAS" on the top left-hand corner.

Applications/Nominations received at the Office of the Vice Chancellor after the closing date and time will not be entertained.

(Prospective Applicants/Nominees are invited to visit the University web site: www.esn.ac.lk)

Registrar and Secretary to the Council
Eastern University, Sri Lanka
Vantharumoolai
Chenkalady
11.09.2020

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Requirements

- Good communication & interpersonal skill
- Should have passed minimum GCE A/L with high qualification.
- Should be through with computer applications necessary to office activities
- Willing to work in Nuwara Eliya area (Accommodation provided)

Age : Above 40 , Salary : Negotiable

Please forward your CV with name and contact details of non-related referees by Email to following address within 7 days of this advertisement to.

Castle A G (Pvt) Ltd,
Manager Administration
No. 16, Rodney Street.
Colombo 08.

Mobile : 0703 100557

Email : [hrvacancy.colombo7@gmail.com](mailto:hvacancy.colombo7@gmail.com)

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Bishop's College, Colombo 03

VACANCY

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- ECONOMICS-ENGLISH MEDIUM

ORDINARY LEVEL

- MATHEMATICS - ENGLISH MEDIUM- GRADE 6-11

PRIMARY

- EASTERN MUSIC TEACHER
- WESTERN MUSIC TEACHER
- ART TEACHER

NURSERY TEACHER

Requirements:

- Degree/Diploma from a reputed university or institute
- Age Limit - below 50 years
- Minimum of 2 years of teaching experience as a teacher at school level.

Closing Date for applications - 27th September 2020.

Please provide a complete CV with application to:

The Principal
Bishop's College
#15, Boyd Place,
Colombo 03.

E-mail: hr@bishopscollegecolombo.com

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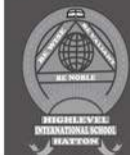
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Tel: 051-2222914, 2052345-6

e-mail: md.highlevel@gmail.com



Ace Healthcare (Pvt) Ltd.

VACANCY

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PROCUREMENT MANAGER

RESPONSIBILITIES

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- Discover profitable suppliers and initiate business and organization partnerships.
- Negotiate with external vendors to secure advantageous terms.
- Approve the ordering of necessary goods and services.
- Finalize purchase details of orders and deliveries.
- Track and report key functional metrics to reduce expenses and improve effectiveness.
- Collaborate with key persons to ensure clarity of specifications and expectations of the company.
- Foresee alterations in the comparative negotiating ability of suppliers and clients.
- Control spend and build a culture of long-term saving on procurement costs.

REQUIREMENTS

- 5 years or more Proven working experience as a Procurement Manager, Procurement Officer or Head of Procurement.
- Knowledge of sourcing and procurement techniques.
- Experience in collecting and analyzing data.
- Strong leadership capabilities.
- Logistic skills (import and export procedures)
- Degree in supply chain management, logistics or business administration would be an advantage.

An attractive remuneration package based on experience awaits the right candidate. Please forward your CV with name & contact numbers of two non-related referees along with the post you are applying within 7 days of this advertisement to
Manager, HR division, Ace Healthcare (Pvt) Ltd.

No. 72/A, Illimba Road, Kandana, Horana, Sri Lanka.

hr@acehealthcare.lk | 0112 620712/3/4

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<p>Matara Branch</p> <p>MATARA No.29, Upper Floor, Main Bus Stand 041 223 5412</p>	<p>Nugegoda Branch</p> <p>NUGEGODA 4th Floor Savsiri Complex, High Level Road 011 282 8114</p>
<p>Jaffna Branch</p> <p>JAFFNA No.06, Sirampirady, Off Stanley Road 077 616 4901</p>	<p>Maradana k/v Branch</p> <p>MARADANA No.383, D R Wijewardena Mawatha, Colombo 10 011 242 9336</p>
<p>Kataragama Branch</p> <p>KATARAGAMA Opposite Kataragama Bus Stand, Pussadewa Mawatha 047 223 5291</p>	

LAKE HOUSE **1949, 011 242 9342, 011 242 9333**
No 35, D R Wijewardena Mawatha, Colombo 10

VACANCIES
For a reputed HealthCare Company

STORES / SUPPLY CHAIN COORDINATOR
(For coordination between stores and sales)

- Fair knowledge of English, Computer literacy. (MS Excel/ ERP System)

STORES ASSISTANTS
(General warehouse work)

TRAINEE OPERATING THEATRE ASSISTANTS
(To handle surgical instruments and equipment)

- G.C.E (OL/AL), Should be able to work on shift basis. Good remuneration package based on aptitude.

Please send CVs to : hrdep1010@gmail.com



We are a Tea Exporting Group of Companies located at Kelaniya, invite an Energetic Conscientious young person to fill the following vacancy

Post of BANKING AND DOCUMENTATION ASSISTANT

- The responsibilities will include delivery and collection of documents from respective institutions and banking.
- Should brainstorm and select the most appropriate routes based on your work assigned.
- Age below 23 years
- Corresponding in English language will be an added advantage
- Should possess a valid motor bicycle licence.
- The selected candidate will be required to submit a valid grama sevaka certificate along with the police report from your residing area prior to your employment.

If you are confident that you are the right candidate for the right job, please forward your curriculum vitae with two non-related referees to reach us within fourteen days from the date appeared in the advertisement to;

Manager Human Resources Development
IMPERIAL TEA EXPORTS (PVT) LTD
121A, Biyagama Road, Kelaniya.
E-mail to career@impratea.lk



Ministry of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs

Notice

Recruitment of a **Assistant Composer** of the Buddhist Encyclopaedia on Contract basis

Applications are called from qualified Sri Lankan citizens for the above mentioned vacancy.

Application Closing Date 14.10.2020

I hereby notify that the relevant information for this recruitment has been published in the gazette on 23.09.2016

Secretary,
Ministry of Buddhasasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs,
135, "Dahampaya" Sreemath Anagarika Dharmapala Mawatha,
Colombo 07



Gurind Accor (Pvt) Ltd, fully owned Subsidiary of Browns Group, is a Glass Processor operating since 2006 in Sri Lanka catering to the Civil Construction, Furnisher, Refrigeration and automobile industries both locally and regionally. Having over 14 years of experience and a solid team of highly skilled staff at all levels, we have maintained continuously to be the best tempered glass supplier in Sri Lanka. Our objective is to supply tempered safety glass, double glaze units and other value added services at shortest lead time and competitive price while maintaining the quality standards.

We are on the lookout for an energetic, self-motivated individual to take up the role of

Manager - Business Development

The Role
The ideal candidate is responsible to promote our products and services to the Market in order to develop new sales prospects and to achieve stipulated target set by the company.

Qualifications and Experience

- Age below 45
- Ability to develop a strong customer relationship together with good interpersonal and professional skills
- Applicants with minimum of 05 years' experience in sales and marketing in Glass Processing, Building Material, Construction, Aluminium Fabrication industry are expected to apply
- Professional qualification in the stream of sales and marketing from reputed professional body will be an added advantage

The Selected candidate will receive an attractive remuneration package keeping in line with the current market standards.

If you think that you are the person we are looking for, send your CV to us with contact details of two non-related referees to following email address within 7 days of this advertisement.

Human Resource Department
Level 12, No. 19, Browns Capital Tower,
Dudley Senanayake Mawatha, Colombo 08.

Email – CharithaM@LOLC.com



Airport & Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited
'Make Happy Journeys'

VACANCIES FOR MANAGEMENT ASSISTANTS

We are looking for highly motivated individuals with right attitudes to fill the vacancies of Management Assistants.

If you are interested and possess the relevant qualifications & experience mentioned in our website: <http://www.airport.lk> > Corporate > careers. Please send in your resume prepared according to the specimen application given in the same website with copies of the relevant certificates to the following address on or before **September 21, 2020** by only registered post.

Please note that the applications without copies of the relevant certificates and forwarded in other modes and not in accordance with the application given in our Website will be rejected.

Please note that only short-listed candidates will be notified.

CHAIRMAN,
AIRPORT & AVIATION SERVICES (SRI LANKA) LIMITED,
BANDARANAIKE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT,
KATUNAYAKE.

WANTED
Cook / Housemaid
(Females Only!)

A well-known expat family in Colombo 08 is looking for an experienced, English-speaking cook/housemaid for longterm employment. Live-in or daily.

Qualifications required:

- Experience in an expat household as cook / maid / housekeeper
- Age between 28-50 years (not older!)
- Must speak & understand English, reading & writing English preferable
- Good cook: traditional Sri Lankan dishes and some Western dishes
- Good housekeeper: keep everything very clean & tidy, laundry, ironing
- Good organizer: be disciplined & self-motivated
- Good character: honest, mature, reliable, cheerful, not moody

What we offer you:

- High salary of no less than Rs.50,000.- for live-in
- Long-term job security
- 4 days leave / month
- Comfortable, separate living quarters & bathroom
- Benefits: health, year end bonus

Contact:
076 820 78 78 / 076 902 79 28 or 011 2 787 559

Walk-in interviews on
14th, 15th & 16th September, from 9-12 am
Bring all your certificates (Personal & work experience)
Covid free health certificate from PHI & Police report!
No.999/1, Church Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla



Urgent Vacancies (Contract Position)

The Mines Advisory Group (MAG) is a British non-governmental organization registered as a Charity undertaking humanitarian mine action around the world. MAG is working to save lives and build futures in Sri Lanka by reducing the risk presented by remnants of conflict. As part of MAG's commitment to safeguarding, this post is subject to background checks before an offer is confirmed.

MAG Sri Lanka is seeking applications from suitable candidates to below vacancies from the suitably qualified candidates within the close proximity of the position-based location.

Store Keeper/ Warehouse Officer (MAG Vavuniya base)

Essential Skills & Requirements

- Professional qualification in basic stores/warehouse management.
- 1 to 3-year experience in stores/warehouse asset management preferably in NGO setup.
- Should have a sound knowledge in Microsoft Excel, Word and email communication.
- Be proactive and a fast learner of new systems.
- Ability to organize, plan and work under pressure.
- Ability to keep clear and concise records.
- Fluent in English and Tamil (oral/written). Sinhala is an added qualification.

Finance Officer (MAG Vavuniya base)

Essential Skills & Requirements

- CIMA/ACCA or ICASL part qualified candidates are preferred.
- 2 to 3-year experience in a similar position with a NGO/INGO environment.
- Experience in any accounting package is an added advantage.
- Fluent in English and Tamil (oral/written). Sinhala is an added qualification.
- Strong knowledge and skills on working with Microsoft Excel and e-mail communication.
- Ability in multitasking and be Proactive.
- Should be a good team player and a good communicator.
- Flexibility to take over additional task relating to Finance.
- Travel within project location and Colombo office.

Field Human Resource Assistant (MAG Mannar/Vavuniya Field base)

Essential Skills & Requirements

- Should have completed certificate level course in Human Resource Management from a recognized institution.
- Should be familiarize with local labour law.
- Ability to work under pressure with high levels of concentration at work while meeting deadlines.
- Strong knowledge and skills on working with Microsoft Excel and e-mail communication.
- Ability to maintain up to date personal file folders around 400 employees.
- Should have a knowledge in translating HR related letters/documents in to Tamil/English/Tamil.
- Fluent in English and Tamil (oral/written). Sinhala is an added qualification.
- Good presentation skills.
- Be prepared to work in the field sites in northern/eastern province.

Salary will be based upon the MAG Salary Scale on a fixed term contract.
Please submit a CV to: Human Resources Coordinator: recruitment.lk@maginternational.org (Include position applied in the subject line) **Deadline: 4:00pm Sunday 20th September 2020**
www.maginternational.org

MAG is an equal opportunity employer. Women are highly encouraged to apply the above post



State Bank of India

VACANCY

BANKING ASSISTANTS

We are looking for fresh, energetic and qualified candidates for the post of Banking Assistant in SBI Sri Lanka.

Eligibility Criteria

- Passed GCE (A/L) Examination.
- Passed GCE (O/L) with 'A' for Mathematics / Business Studies & Accountancy and English.
- Age below 24 years as on 01st April 2020

Or

- A degree from UGC recognised Colleges/ Universities
- B' or above in both English and Mathematics / Business Studies & Accountancy in GCE (O/L)
- Age below 26 years as on 01st April 2020

Interested candidates should forward their resume on prescribed format available at our website under link <https://sl.statebank/careers> > Application for Recruitment of Banking Assistant – 2020, via E-Mail to shalini.candappa@sbi.co.in or by post to Country Head Office,
State Bank of India,
16 Sir Baron Jayatillake Mawatha, Colombo -01
on or before 21st September 2020.



ECU - Sri Lanka
First Managed Campus in Sri Lanka

LOOKING FOR PART-TIME LECTURERS

Fields of study :
Business
Engineering
IT/ Cyber Security
Creative Culture
Health Science

Requirement :
PhD

Attractive remuneration will be given

Please forward your CV to:
erath.karunaratne@acbt.lk Within 07 days and mention the subject applied for in the subject line

Address: 442, Galle Road, Colombo 03.
Web: www.acbt.net



The British School in Colombo

We are looking for an energetic, self-motivated and hardworking teachers to join our team in the following positions with immediate effect.

Drama Teacher – Junior School

- Relevant Drama teaching experience and qualifications.
- Candidates with experience of directing productions /performances is desirable.
- Energetic, caring and enthusiastic.
- A very positive attitude and willingness to work with pupils of all Drama ability and cooperate well with all staff.

Teacher of Mandarin/Sinhala Language (Temporary/Short Term - Senior School)

- Suitably qualified and experienced teacher of Mandarin preferably with Sinhala Teaching.
- Knowledge of Cambridge International Examinations specifications is highly desirable.
- Exceptional level of English.

Please email your CV to humanresources@britishschool.lk or post them to
Head of Human Resources,
The British School in Colombo,
No. 63, Elvitigala Mawatha,
Colombo-08.

Applications must reach us by **Friday 23 September 2020**



Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka

STAFF VACANCIES

Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka ensures through strategic planning, professional guidance and stringent surveillance under well established regulatory framework, the operational of safe secure efficient regular and environment friendly national civil aviation system that conforms to the national legislative requirement and the International Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs). Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka is looking for energetic enthusiastic and self-motivated personnel who have sound qualifications and extensive experience in the field of civil aviation to fill its vacancies in the following posts.

Additional Director General Post Code HM-2-2-ADG Number of Posts – 01
Remuneration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Salary - Rs. 93,020/- will be paid initially at recruitment (Salary Scale - Rs.93, 020 – 12 x 2,700 -125,420 –as per the MS Circular 02/2016) Other allowances – Cost of living allowance - Rs.7,800/- + Fuel allowance -140 l + Transport Allowance - Rs 50,000/- (if used own vehicle) + Special Technical Allowance (Please refer the CAASL Web site for requirements) - Rs. 280,000/- Other Benefits - Health Insurance Scheme, Accident Insurance Scheme, Death Grant Scheme, Bonus, Leave Encashment, Reimbursement of mobile phone bills
Qualifications and Experience
External Candidate
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> A Bachelor's Degree of not less than (03) three years duration, which is recognized by the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka; AND A Postgraduate Degree qualification (Masters') in the field of Aviation or Associate Membership of a recognized Professional Chartered Institute relating to Aviation or successfully completed courses in Aviation Security, Air Navigation Services, Aerodromes, Personnel Licensing, Aircraft Operations, Airworthiness (Managerial Level) of not less than eight (08) weeks conducted by the International Civil Aviation Organization; AND Minimum of twenty (20) years' experience in the field of Aviation at a Managerial Level in a Corporation, Statutory Board/ Institution or a reputed Private Institution.
Job Description : Please refer the CAASL Web site

Deputy Director General (Aeronautical Services Regulation) Post Code HM-2-1-DDG1 Number of Posts – 01
Remuneration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Salary - Rs. 91,645 /- will be paid initially at recruitment (Salary Scale - Rs. 91,645 – 12 x 2,700 -124,045 –as per the MS Circular 02/2016) Other allowances – Cost of living allowance - Rs.7,800/- + Fuel allowance – 140 l + Transport Allowance - Rs 50,000/- (if used own vehicle) + Special Technical Allowance (Please refer the CAASL Web site for requirements) - Rs. 285,000/- Other Benefits - Health Insurance Scheme, Accident Insurance Scheme, Death Grant Scheme, Bonus, Leave Encashment, Reimbursement of mobile phone bills
Qualifications and Experience
External Candidate
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> A Bachelor's Degree of not less than (03) three years duration which is recognized by the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka; AND A Postgraduate Degree qualification (Masters') in the field of Aviation or Associate Membership of a recognized professional Chartered Institute relating to Aviation or successfully completed courses in Air Navigation Services or Aerodromes (Managerial Level) of not less than eight (08) weeks conducted by the International Civil Aviation Organization(ICAO) ; AND Minimum of eighteen (18) years' service experience in the field of Air Navigation Services or Aerodromes at a Managerial Level in a Corporation, Statutory Board/ Institution or a reputed Private Institution.
Job Description : Please refer the CAASL Web site

Deputy Director General (Flight Safety Regulation) Post Code HM-2-1-DDG2 Number of Posts – 01
Remuneration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Salary - Rs. 91,645 /- will be paid initially at recruitment (Salary Scale - Rs. 91,645 – 12 x 2,700 -124,045 –as per the MS Circular 02/2016) Other allowances – Cost of living allowance - Rs.7,800/- + Fuel allowance – 140 l + Transport Allowance - Rs 50,000/- (if used own vehicle) + Special Technical Allowance (Please refer the CAASL Web site for requirements) - Rs. 285,000/- Other Benefits - Health Insurance Scheme, Accident Insurance Scheme, Death Grant Scheme, Bonus, Leave Encashment, Reimbursement of mobile phone bills
Qualifications and Experience
External Candidate
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> A Bachelor's Degree of not less than (03) three years duration, which is recognized by the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka; AND A Postgraduate Degree qualification (Masters') in the field of Aviation or Associate Membership of a recognized Professional Chartered Institute relating to Aviation or successfully completed courses in Personnel Licensing, Aircraft Operations, Airworthiness (Managerial Level) of not less than eight (08) weeks conducted by the International Civil Aviation Organization; AND Minimum of eighteen (18) years' service experience in the field of Personnel Licensing, Aircraft Operations and Airworthiness at a Managerial Level in a Corporation, Statutory Board/ Institution or a reputed Private Institution.
Job Description : Please refer the CAASL Web site

Deputy Director General (Corporate Management) Post Code HM-2-1-DDG3 Number of Posts – 01
Remuneration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Salary - Rs. 91,645 /- will be paid initially at recruitment (Salary Scale - Rs. 91,645 – 12 x 2,700 -124,045 –as per the MS Circular 02/2016) Other allowances – Cost of living allowance - Rs.7,800/- + Fuel allowance – 140 l + Transport Allowance - Rs 50,000/- (if used own vehicle) + Professional Allowance as per the MS Circular 05/2017 Other Benefits - Health Insurance Scheme, Accident Insurance Scheme, Death Grant Scheme, Bonus, Leave Encashment, Reimbursement of mobile phone bills
Qualifications and Experience
External Candidate
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> A Bachelor's Degree of not less than (03) three years duration in the field of Economics, Accountancy, Management, Commerce or Administration which is recognized by the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka; AND A Postgraduate Degree qualification (Masters') in the field of Economics, Accountancy, Management, Commerce, Administration or Associate Membership of a recognized professional Chartered Institute relating to Finance Management or Administration; AND Minimum of eighteen (18) years' service experience in the field of Finance, Management, Administration or Auditing at a Managerial Level in a Corporation, Statutory Board/ Institution or a reputed private institution.
Job Description : Please refer the CAASL Web site

Director(Aviation Security) Post Code HM-1-1-D1 Number of Posts – 01
Remuneration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Salary - Rs. 80,295 /- will be paid initially at recruitment (Salary Scale - Rs. 80,295 – 15 x 2,270 -114,345 –as per the MS Circular 02/2016). Other allowances – Cost of living allowance - Rs.7,800/- + Fuel allowance – 120 l + Transport Allowance - Rs 50,000/- (if used own vehicle) + Special Technical Allowance (Please refer the CAASL Web site for requirements) - Rs. 185,000/- Other Benefits - Health Insurance Scheme, Accident Insurance Scheme, Death Grant Scheme, Bonus, Leave Encashment, Reimbursement of mobile phone bills
Qualifications and Experience
External Candidate
Option 1
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> A Bachelor's Degree of not less than three (03) years duration which is recognized by the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka; WITH A Postgraduate Degree qualification (Masters') in the field of Aviation or Associate Membership of a recognized Professional Chartered Institute relating to Aviation or successfully completed courses (Managerial Level) of not less than six (06) weeks conducted by the International Civil Aviation Organization or similar Organization of International repute or any similar qualification which is recognized by the International Civil Aviation Organization; AND Minimum of ten (10) years' experience in the field of Aviation Security at Managerial level in a Corporation, Statutory Board/Institution/Government owned company or a reputed Private Institution.
Option 2
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Postgraduate degree qualification (Masters in the field of Aviation) or full Membership of a recognized professional Chartered Institute relating to aviation or successfully completed courses (Managerial Level) of not less than (06) six weeks conducted by the International Civil Aviation Organization or similar Organization of International repute or any similar qualification which is recognized by the International Civil Aviation Organization; AND Minimum of thirteen (13) years' experience in the field of Aviation Security at Managerial Level in a Corporation, Statutory Board/Institution/Government owned company or a reputed Private Institution.
Job Description : Please refer the CAASL Web site

Director(Aircraft Registration and Airworthiness) Post Code HM-1-1-D7 Number of Posts – 01
Remuneration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Salary - Rs. 80,295 /- will be paid initially at recruitment (Salary Scale - Rs. 80,295 – 15 x 2,270 -114,345 –as per the MS Circular 02/2016). Other allowances – Cost of living allowance - Rs.7,800/- + Fuel allowance – 120Ll + Transport Allowance - Rs 50,000/- (if used own vehicle) + Special Technical Allowance (Please refer the CAASL Web site for requirements) - Rs. 305,000/- Other Benefits - Health Insurance Scheme, Accident Insurance Scheme, Death Grant Scheme, Bonus, Leave Encashment, Reimbursement of mobile phone bills
Qualifications and Experience
External Candidate
Option 1
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> A Bachelor's Degree of not less than three (03) years duration, in the field Aeronautical Engineering or Mechanical Engineering which is recognized by the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka; WITH A Postgraduate Degree qualification (Masters') in the field of Aviation or Associate Membership of a recognized Professional Chartered Institute relating to Aviation or successfully completion of Flight Safety / Airworthiness Training Courses (Managerial Level) of not less than six (06) weeks conducted by the International Civil Aviation Organization or similar Organization of International repute or any similar qualification which is recognized by the International Civil Aviation Organization; AND Minimum of ten (10) years' experience as an Aircraft Maintenance Engineer at a Managerial level in a Corporation, Statutory Board/Institution/Government owned company or a reputed Private Institution
Option 2
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Full Membership of a recognized Professional Chartered Institute relating to Aviation or having followed a series of Aircraft Maintenance Training Courses which include Government Safety Inspector on Airworthiness Course (Managerial Level) of not less than (06) six weeks conducted by the International Civil Aviation Organization or similar Organization of International repute or any similar qualification which is recognized by the International Civil Aviation Organization; AND Minimum of twenty (20) years' service as an Aircraft Maintenance Engineer.
Job Description : Please refer the CAASL Web site

- The candidates should not be less than 35 years and not more than 55 years. The upper age limit will not apply to the candidates already served in Sri Lanka Air Force, Airport and Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Ltd, Local Airline or Flying Schools.
- Further information, Job Description, requirements for Special Technical Allowance and the Standard Application form can be downloaded from the CAASL official web site at www.caa.lk.
- Applicants are required to send copies of documentary evidence for qualifications and experience to prove your eligibility for the applied post/posts.
- Only the applications sent on the Standard Application forms will be entertained. Applicants who serve any of the Government organizations should apply through the Head of the Organization.
- Duly completed applications should reach this office on or before 28.09.2020 under registered post or can be forwarded by e-mail: employment@caa.lk and the e-mails will be acknowledged.
- Applications should be addressed to Director General of Civil Aviation & Chief Executive Officer, Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka, No.152/1, Minuwangoda Road, Katunayake and the title of the post being applied shall be marked on the top left hand corner of the envelope.
- Separate applications should be sent for each post, if more than one post is applied for.
- Only the candidates satisfying the eligibility criteria will be called for interviews/ tests.

Director General of Civil Aviation & Chief Executive Officer,
Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka,
No.152/1, Opposite Radar Tower,
Minuwangoda Road,
Katunayake.
13.09.2020



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Siyapatha Finance
(Finance Company of Sampath Bank Group)

Company No. P.B 917 PQ

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

SIYAPATHA FINANCE PLC.

PROPOSED INTERIOR WORKS AT SIYAPATHA FINANCE HEAD OFFICE, AT NO. 534 & 111, DUDLEY SENANAYAKE MAWATHA, COLOMBO 08.

- Siyapatha Finance PLC hereby invites eligible well experienced contractors in Interior Works to express their interest to undertake the above works, subject to the procurement procedure stipulated by the procurement committee of Siyapatha Finance.
- The scope of interior Works includes:
 - Fixed and loose Furniture (supply and installation)
 - Supply and installation Internal Partition and cable management partition system
- Interested contractors having minimum of **5 years'** experience in carrying out similar nature projects value not less than **Rs.100 Million** in a single project are eligible to submit the EOI documents.
 - Business Registration & Legal status of the company.
 - List of similar nature of projects successfully completed within last five years with client reference with total monetary values and the detailed scope assigned.
 - Current Commitments in hand for similar works.
 - Local Factory facilities & capacities.
 - Annual turnover & Certified Audited Statements of Accounts for last 3 years.
 - CIDA Registration reference for Interior works, furniture & fixtures.
 - Adequacy of Working Capital including source of Credit line.
 - List of Key Personals & management staff details.
- Duly completed EOI document should be clearly marked "**Registration of Contractors for Interior Works for Siyapatha Finance PLC**" on top left hand corner of the envelope and forward under registered cover together with payment of non-refundable deposit of Rs. 3,000.00 by cheque in favour of "Siyapatha Finance PLC" or deposit your money at any Sampath Bank PLC to the **Head Quarters Branch account no: 002930009930** and attach deposit slip with duly completed EOI documents form to reach the Manager Administration, Siyapatha Finance PLC, No. 46/12, Sayuru Sevana, Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 02, **on or before 1500 h on 18th September 2020**. When depositing money to above Account, (in the deposit slip please clearly mention "EOI for Interior Works"). Deposit slips not indicating above will be rejected or cancelled.
- Siyapatha Finance Plc. shall not be responsible for any expenses or losses which may be incurred by the applicant related to preparation and participation in this EOI.
- Siyapatha Finance PLC reserves the right to accept or reject any EOI document without adducing any reason at any time prior selection.
- Any form of canvassing by the applicant will become a disqualification for participating & evaluation of the EOI.
- Any EOI document received after above closing time will not be considered for evaluation.
- For further information or clarification contact Manager Administration on email **sampathg@siyapatha.lk**, during office hours, 0900 h to 1600 h

Manager Administration
Siyapatha Finance PLC

INVITATION FOR BIDS UVA WELLASSA UNIVERSITY AHEAD PROJECT



Take pride in Contributing to the National Development

The Uva Wellassa University is setting new trends in Undergraduate, Specialty, Corporate as well as Continuing Education by focusing on value addition to the national resource base. The academic programs of the University have been carefully designed to bring up a new generation of graduates competent in creating value to their employers. You could also become a partner in this great national endeavor.

Procurement Notice

The Chairman, Procurement Committee of Uva Wellassa University invites bids from eligible bidders to provide the following :

No.	Description	Tender No.	Value of Bid Security (Rs.)	Non Refundable Fee (Rs.)	Bid Closing Date and Time
01	Supply, Delivery, Installation and Commissioning of Laboratory Equipment for the Department of Biosystems Technology Faculty of Technological Studies	UWU/AHEAD/RA1/R3/FTS/GOODS/NCB/LE/02	279,000.00	3,500.00	05.10.2020 2.00 p.m.

A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any bidder up to 12.00 noon on 05.10.2020 on submission of a written application to the Deputy Director Procurement (AHEAD/OTS) and upon production of a receipt in respect of payment of a non-refundable fee to each tender to the AHEAD/OTS Office of the Uva Wellassa University between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on any working day or directly deposit cash to the Bank of Ceylon A/C No. 82592579 as mentioned in the above table. The bidder can also download the bidding documents from the University website : <http://www.uwu.ac.lk/procurement/>. Those who are obtaining bidding documents from the University website should submit the completed documents along with the original of the cash receipt / deposit slip. The payments could be made at any branch of the Bank of Ceylon in favour of AHEAD Project, Uva Wellassa University, A/C No. 82592579 as mentioned in the above table. (Bidders may also examine the bidding documents free of charge.)

Bids must be delivered or sent under registered post to reach on or before 2.00 p.m. on 05.10.2020 and bids will be opened immediately thereafter. Bidder or his authorized representative (with a letter of authorization) is allowed to be present at the time of opening of bids. The Tenders should be enclosed in a sealed envelope and should be marked relevant Tender No. on the top left corner of the envelope and should be sent either by registered post to the Chairman, Procurement Committee, Uva Wellassa University, Passara Road, Badulla or can be deposited in the Tender Box at the Registrar's Office of Uva Wellassa University.

Further details could be obtained from Deputy Director Procurement on Telephone No.055-3127378.

Chairman
University Procurement Committee (Major)
Uva Wellassa University
Badulla

12/09/2020

Ansell

TENDER FOR CANTEEN SERVICES

Sealed offers are hereby invited from experienced caterers to operate the staff canteen of Ansell Lanka, located in the Biyagama Export Processing Zone.

Ansell Lanka is a multinational company employing around 3000 people in Sri Lanka. Employees of Ansell Lanka receive a meal subsidized by the company and the successful applicant should be able to cater to the employees working on shift basis (three shifts a day and seven days a week). Breakfast, lunch, dinner and a midnight supper will have to be supplied on a predetermined, fixed menu and also tea for all company employees (supplied free of charge by the company). All services are required to be rendered under the very strict conditions of hygiene guidelines set by the company.

The canteen is fully equipped with cold room facilities, deep freezers, fridges, gas cookers, food warmers, crockery, cutlery and kitchen utensils required to provide an efficient service. Gas, electricity and water will be supplied free of charge.

Apart from this, we have a pastry shop located inside the canteen, which is operated from 8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. on all 7 days. Food sold here is not subsidized and the employees will pay and buy food items.

Interested parties should quote for both the main canteen and the pastry shop.

Relevant documents can be obtained between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on normal working days until 25th September 2020. A refundable deposit of Rs.25,000/- and non-refundable document fee of Rs.5,000/- payable in cash will be charged per set of documents.

Interested parties must provide adequate information on their experience in operating industrial catering, canteen/restaurants, facilities they currently possess that will enable them to provide an efficient service and any other information that would assist the Ansell Lanka Management in the selection process. Those who are already in the industry will be given preference.

Additional information can be obtained during normal office hours by calling 0117 765 472 or 0117 765 421. Interested parties could contact Erantha - 0771 385 927 or Rumesh - 0767 491 358 for tender document collection. Tender closing date will be on 15th October 2020 at 4.00 p.m.

All offers must be submitted to the tender box kept at Ansell Lanka finance department in a sealed cover, addressed to the Senior Manager Procurement, Ansell Lanka (Pvt) Ltd., Biyagama Export Processing Zone, Biyagama.

SENIOR MANAGER – PROCUREMENT

Ansell Lanka (Pvt) Ltd.

Biyagama Export Processing Zone, Biyagama, Malwana.
0117 765 472, 0771 385 927 or 0767 491 358
www.ansell.com



PROCUREMENT NOTICE Litro Gas Lanka Limited National Competitive Bidding (NCB)


Upgrading Litro Gas Points of Sale – Cage Branding Project 2020 IFB No: LGLL/MKT/094/NCB/2020

Litro Gas Lanka Limited invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Upgrading Litro Gas Points of Sale (POS). Details are as follows:

Item Number	Description of Goods	Quantity/ Unit
1	Upgrading Points of Sale – Cage Branding	350

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB).
- Multiple options/Alternatives will not be allowed. (All Bidders should comply with the purchaser's specifications only)
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Procurement Unit T.P:011-2327714 and inspect the Bidding Documents at the **Litro Gas Lanka Limited (First Floor)** from **15th September 2020 9:00 am to 3:00 pm on working days until 06th October 2020**.
- Bidders should have a valid business registration along with the experience of executing similar types of work for at least **5 years** and a Minimum Working Capital or Credit Facility requirement as stated in the bid document. Necessary documentary evidence should be submitted to fulfil the above said requirements along with the submission of the bid document.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language could be purchased by interested Bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below, from **15th September 2020 to 06th October 2020 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm on working days**, upon the payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs.3,500 (Rupees of three thousand and five hundred only). The method of payment will be in cash and should be paid to the cashier at **Litro Gas Lanka Limited (First Floor), 267, Union Place, Colombo 02**.
- A Pre-Bid meeting will be held at **10:00 am on 24th September 2020** at Litro Gas Lanka Limited (First Floor), No: 267, Union Place, Colombo 02.
- Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before **06th October 2020 at 3:00 pm**. "Upgrading Litro Gas Points of Sale – Cage Branding Project 2020 (IFB No: LGLL/MKT/094/NCB/2020)" Should be written on the top left hand corner of the envelope. Late bids will not be accepted. Bids will be opened soon after closing of bids on the same day at 3.00pm at **Litro Gas Lanka Limited Head office, Fourth Floor**. Bidders or their authorized representatives are requested to be present at the opening of bids.
- All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security obtained from any Commercial Bank approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. The amount of the Bid Security value is 1% of Bid value inclusive of VAT and should be valid until 02nd February 2021. The bid security should be written in favour of Litro Gas Lanka Limited, No:267, Union Place, Colombo 02.

The Chairman,
Departmental Procurement Committee,
Litro Gas Lanka Limited,
267, Union Place, Colombo 02.
T.P. - 011-2327714 Fax - 011-2327698



INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY

TENDER NO. SJC/01/2020
CONSTRUCTION OF FOUR STORIED SPORT COMPLEX BUILDING HAVING FLOOR SPACE AROUND 12250 SQFT AT ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE COLOMBO-10

Prequalification applications are invited by St. Joseph's College from reputed Civil Engineering Contractors having completed two building projects each of value LKR 70 million during last five years.

Prequalification application documents could be obtained from the Old Boys' Union Office during school days between 9.00 am and 1.00 pm from 14.09.2020 until 23.09.2020 by paying LKR 1000 per set.

Completed prequalification documents should be submitted by 1.00 pm on 24.09.2020 in sealed envelopes with Tender Number clearly marked on the top left hand corner and hand over to OBU Office.

Further information can be obtained from Shehan Fernando (Snr. Vice President SJC- OBU) on telephone No. 0773070397.

The Rector
 St. Joseph's College
 Colombo 10



ETI Finance Limited

Public Auction Sale Of Unredeemed Pledged Gold Articles

Articles pledged up to 30th April 2019, 31st May 2019, 30th June 2019 & 31st July 2019 at the following branches of ETI Finance Ltd. Which were not redeemed or renewed on or before 25th September 2020, will be sold by Public Auction at Head Office. Auction will be commenced at 9.30 a.m in each day.

Pledged Date	Pledged Branches	Place & Date Of Auction
30-04-2019 31-05-2019 30-06-2019 31-07-2019 Up to	Ampara, Ambalangoda, Badulla, Bandarawela, Eheliyagoda, Embilipitiya, Galle, Tissamaharama, Kegalle, Kurunegala, Matara, Monaragala, Welimada, Rathnapura, Avissawella, Bambalapitiya, Battaramulla, Dematagoda, Gampaha, Grandpass, Homagama, Horana, Kalutara, Kadawatha, Kaduwela, Kandana, Kiribathgoda, Kotahena, Kottawa, Piliyandala, Maharagama, Malay Street, Maradana-143, Maradana-435, Pettah, Moratuwa, Mt. Lavinia, Negombo, Nugegoda, Panadura, Ward Place (Col-07), Borella (D.S.S. Mw), Wellawatta-307, Wellawatta- 99, Sea Street, Mathugama, Dambulla	No-114, Ward Place, Colombo - 07 Borella Branch 28-09-2020, 29-09-2020, 30-09-2020, 02-10-2020,

All Participants should produce their National Identity Cards.
 The Company reserves the right to cancel, amalgamate or postpone the Auction without any further notice.

No. 114, Ward Place, Colombo 07
 Telephone No: 0117534200, Fax No: 0112674435



COLOMBO DOCKYARD PLC

Sealed bids are invited for the following used auxiliary engines and vehicles

SALE OF USED AUXILIARY ENGINES (SMCD/T/18/2020)

S/No	Description	Quantity
1	Used Auxiliary Engines STX-MAN 6L 16/24-660KW @1200 RPM	14 Nos.
INSPECTIONS	Will be available for the inspection at CDPLC yard premises from 14.09.2020 to 21.09.2020 at 13.00 Hrs to 15.00 Hrs. (Except on Saturday).	
APPLICABLE TENDER DEPOSITS	Non Refundable - Rs. 5,000.00	Refundable - Rs. 25,000.00

SALE OF USED VEHICLES (SMCD/T/19/2020)


S/No	Vehicle No.	Make/Model	Country of Origin	Year of Manufacture
01	252-78xx	TOYOTA Double Cab	Japan	1998
02	252-89xx	ISUZU Crew Cab	Japan	1999
03	WP GQ-11xx	MITSUBISHI L300 Van	Japan	2001
04	WP UF-56xx	BAJAJ Platina Motor Cycle	India	2008
INSPECTIONS	Will be available for inspection at Colombo Dockyard Quarters at No. 676/6, Bloemendhal Road, Colombo 15 from 14.09.2020 to 21.09.2020 at 13.00 Hrs to 15.00 Hrs (Except on Saturday)			
APPLICABLE TENDER DEPOSITS	Non Refundable - Rs. 1,000.00	Refundable - Rs. 2,500.00		

Tender Forms : Can be obtained after pay above tender deposits in cash could be made with the Accountant at Dockyard General Engineering Services (Pvt) Ltd, No. 223, Jayantha Mallimarachchi Mawatha, Colombo 14 from 14.09.2020 to 21.09.2020 (Between 09.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. on week days, Saturday from 09.00 a.m. to 12.00 Noon only).

All offers should be dropped in to the Tender Box is made available at the above address indicating our tender reference "SMCD/T/18/2020 for Aux. Engines" or "SMCD/T/19/2020 for Vehicles" on the top left hand corner of the envelope, on or before 16.00 Hrs. on 21.09.2020.

Offers received after the closing time and by post shall not be accepted

For further information, please contact:
General Manager (Supply Chain Management)
Colombo Dockyard PLC
Graving Docks, Port of Colombo, Colombo 15.
Tel : 011-2429000 & 011 2429059



TENDER NOTICE

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இலங்கை மத்திய வங்கி
CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

Tender Number	09/04/150/2020/001
Tender Description	Valuation of Land and Buildings of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka - 2020
Bid Closing and Opening	Date: 2 nd October 2020 Time: 1430 Hrs.
	Location: Ground Floor, Head Office Building, Central Bank of Sri Lanka, No 30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo 01.
Pre-bid Meeting	Date: 23 rd September 2020 Time: 1000 Hrs.
	Location: Ground Floor, Head Office Building, Central Bank of Sri Lanka, No 30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo 01.

For further information, please refer <https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/tenders> or contact Deputy Chief Accountant on 011-2398518 or Senior Accountant on 011-2477143.



INVITATION TO BID

SUPPLY OF PLANTING MATERIALS

(ITB-GCF-2020-64)

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Sri Lanka wishes to call for Invitation to Bid from qualified suppliers to submit bids for the following LOTS.

LOT NO.	ITEM TO BE SUPPLIED / DESCRIPTION	NUMBER OF PLANTS	REFUNDABLE BID SECURITY (LKR)
LOT 1	Budded-orange (Wood apple - orange budded & Bibile Sweet budded) and Lime seedlings	105,813	250,000.00
LOT 2	Mango (TJC & Kartha-Kolomban), Soursop and Pineapple	104,165	125,000.00
LOT 3	Banana (Kolikuttu) - root suckers and (Cavendish) - Tissue Cultured	36,661	75,000.00
LOT 4	Other perennial crops (Pomegranate, Wood-apple, Guava, Papaya, Jak & Breadfruit, Amberella, Drumstick, Thibbatu, Jasmine, Nelli, Tamarind, Passion fruit, Dragon fruit, Sevandara, Sera)	122,578	125,000.00
LOT 5	Minor export crops (Arecanut, Pepper, Betel, Turmeric (suckers & rhizomes), Ginger (suckers & rhizomes) and Cinnamon)	70,486	60,000.00

This procurement process is being conducted through Online Tendering System of UNDP and detailed instructions can be accessed from www.lk.undp.org procurement > procurement notices.

Bid Submission deadline appearing on e-Tendering portal will be FINAL and prevail on the ones appearing on other websites.

Proposals submitted via email or by hard copies will not be accepted.

Head of Procurement/Administration
 United Nations Development Programme
 202-204 Bauddhaloka Mawatha
 Colombo 07,
 Sri Lanka.

UNDP reserves the right to accept or reject any bid. The procurement process will be governed by the rules and regulations of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).



INVITATION FOR BIDS

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இலங்கை மத்திய வங்கி
CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, COMMISSIONING AND MAINTENANCE OF 2 NOS. OF FIREWALLS FOR THE CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

1. Sealed quotations are invited for the purchase of 2 nos. of firewalls for the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL) from tenderers who have supplied and are maintaining the tendered brand(s) of firewalls in Sri Lanka during the 3 years ended on 30. 06. 2020. The tenderers should be accredited agents for the offered brand.

Tender Details

Bid Security	Bank Guarantee/Bank Draft of Rs. 50,000/=
Issuing Bidding Documents	0900 Hrs. – 1500 Hrs. From 09 September 2020 – 29 September 2020 Mail Room, Ground Floor CBSL Head Office Building, Colombo 01
Bid-Closing Time & Date	1430 Hrs. – 30 September 2020

2. Bidding documents may be inspected **free of charge** and collected by producing a letter of request made on a business letterhead.

3. For further details, you may contact

- a. Senior Assistant Secretary/Procurement – Tel: 0112398754 (For procurement matters)
- b. Senior Assistant Director/IT – Tel: 0112477124 (For technical matters)

The Secretary
 Central Bank of Sri Lanka, No. 30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo 01

www.oadz.lk

it's what you want



TENDER NOTICE

The State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, Colombo 01 invites quotations from registered and previous sources for following items for open market sales and tenders will be closed at 1.15 p.m. on the dates given below. (E.mail /Fax offers as well as FOB offers are not acceptable)

Item	Quantity	Tender No.	Closing on
Item Code No : 320101P99 Glucose (Monohydrate) BP for Oral use OR Dextrose (Monohydrate) USP for oral Use in 25kg	60,000kg	RES/25/09/A/2020	25.09.2020
Item Code No : 311253V99 Examination Gloves Rubber Latex Disposable, Medium 7.5" in 100 Nos	36,000 Packs	RES/25/09/B/2020	25.09.2020

These tenders are administered by the provisions of the "Public Contract Act No. 3 of 1987" and therefore, in the event bidder is to retain an Agent, Sub-Agent, Representative, Nominee for and on behalf of the tenderer shall register himself and such Public Contract in accordance with Section 10 of the Public Contract Act and produce such valid Certificate of Registration in the course of any transaction relating to the tender or Act any stage in the duration of the tender.

Tenders will be closed at the office of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation at 1.15 p.m. on the dates indicated against each tender and will be opened immediately thereafter. Tenderers or their authorized representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of Tender.

The Chairman - Procurement Committee
State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka
75, Sir Baron Jayathillake Mawatha,
Colombo 01.
Phone : 00 94 11 2 320 356 - 9



Take pride in Contributing to the National Development

The Uva Wellassa University is setting new trends in Undergraduate, Specialty, Corporate as well as Continuing Education by focusing on value addition to the national resource base. The academic programs of the University have been carefully designed to bring up a new generation of graduates competent in creating value to their employers. You could also become a partner in this great national endeavor.

Procurement Notice

The Chairman, Procurement Committee of Uva Wellassa University invites bids from eligible bidders to provide the following :

No.	Description	Tender No.	Value of Bid Security (Rs.)	Non Refundable Fee (Rs.)	Bid Closing Date and Time
01	Design and Furnish Elementary Laboratory of Department of Biosystems Technology, Faculty of Technological Studies, Uva Wellassa University	UWU/G/NCB/20/01	200,000.00	3,500.00	05.10.2020 2.30 p.m.
02	Design and Furnish of Fluid Mechanics and Thermodynamics Laboratory of Department of Engineering Technology, Faculty of Technological Studies	UWU/G/NCB/20/04	200,000.00	3,500.00	05.10.2020 2.30 p.m.
03	Supply, Delivery, Installation and Commissioning of Laboratory Equipment for the Faculty of Technological Studies	UWU/G/NCB/20/02	405,000.00	7,300.00	05.10.2020 2.30 p.m.

A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any bidder upto 12.30 p.m. on 05.10.2020 on submission of a written application to the Deputy Bursar (Supplies & Stores) and upon production of a receipt in respect of payment of a non-refundable fee to each tender to the Shroff of the Uva Wellassa University or directly deposit cash to the Bank of Ceylon A/C No.3114820 as mentioned in the above table. The bidder can also download the bidding documents from the University website : <http://www.uwu.ac.lk/procurement/>. Those who are obtaining bidding documents from the University website should submit the completed documents along with the original of the cash receipt/ deposit slip. The payments could be made at any branch of the Bank of Ceylon in favour of Uva Wellassa University, A/C No.3114820 as mentioned in the above table. (Bidders may also examine the bidding documents free of charge.)

Bids must be delivered or sent under registered post to reach on or before 2.30 p.m. on 05.10.2020 and bids will be opened immediately thereafter. Bidder or his authorized representative (with a letter of authorization) is allowed to be present at the time of opening of bids. The tenders should be enclosed in a sealed envelope and should be marked relevant Tender No. on the top left corner of the envelope and should be sent either by registered post to the Chairman, Procurement Committee, Uva Wellassa University, Passara Road, Badulla or can be deposited in the tender box at the Registrar's Office of Uva Wellassa University.

Further details could be obtained from Deputy Bursar (Supplies & Stores) on Telephone No.055-2226475.

Chairman
University Procurement Committee (Major)
Uva Wellassa University
Badulla
13/09/2020



MAGA NEGUMA ROAD CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT COMPANY



The Chairman of Procurement Committee of MNRCE now invites sealed bids from interested bidders to sell below disposal vehicles & machineries.

No	Location	Vehicle no	Category	Model	Year of Manufacture	Yard	Refundable Deposit
01.	Peliyagoda	01) LF - 7249	Tipper - Leyland	Commet	2008	A	10,000.00
		02) LF - 7251	Tipper - Leyland	Commet	2008	A	10,000.00
		03) LG - 2392	Tipper - Leyland	Commet 1613	2008	A	10,000.00
		04) LJ - 3847	Tipper - Leyland	Commet 1613	2011	A	10,000.00
		05) LJ - 3861	Tipper - Leyland	Commet 1613	2011	A	10,000.00
		06) MPV - 002	Paver - Mitsubishi	MF 24	-	A	10,000.00
		07) MRV - 009	Double Drum Roller - Sakai	TW 500P	2001	A	10,000.00
		08) MRV - 020	Double Drum Roller - Hamm	HD 90	-	A	5,000.00
		09) MAC - 001	Air Compressor - Air Man	PDS 175	1987	A	2,500.00
		10) MAC - 002	Air Compressor - Air Man	PDS 175	1987	A	2,500.00
		11) MAC - 010	Air Compressor - Air Man	PDS 175	1987	A	2,500.00
		12) JP - 6395	Jeep - Mahindra Bolero Invader		2005	A	5,000.00
		13) SF - 6911	Hand Tractor - Sunfaang (5195 N)	GN 12	2008	A	5,000.00
02.	Angulana	14) MMG - 106	Motor Grader - Changlin	PV 165 H	2004	B	35,000.00
		15) MMG - 107	Motor Grader - Changlin	PV 165 H	2004	B	35,000.00
		16) MMG - 109	Motor Grader - Changlin	PV 165 H	2004	B	35,000.00
03.	Ganewalpola	17) MMG - 101	Motor Grader - Changlin	PV 165 H	2004	C	35,000.00
		18) MMG - 102	Motor Grader - Changlin	PV 165 H	2004	C	35,000.00
		19) MMG - 108	Motor Grader - Changlin	PV 165 H	2004	C	35,000.00
		20) MMG - 110	Motor Grader - Changlin	PV 165 H	2004	C	35,000.00
		21) MMG - 111	Motor Grader - Changlin	PV 165 H	2004	C	35,000.00
		22) MEX - 112	Excavator - Hitachi	UH07-5	2000	C	25,000.00
		23) SF - 6912	Hand Tractor - Sunfaang (5195 N)	GN 12	2008	C	5,000.00
		24) MMG 112	Motor Grader - Changlin	PV 165 H	2004	C	35,000.00
04.	Anuradapura	25) MMG - 103	Motor Grader - Changlin	PV 165 H	2004	D	35,000.00
		26) MMG - 104	Motor Grader - Changlin	PV 165 H	2004	D	35,000.00
05.	Weeravila (Hambanthota)	27) MMG - 105	Motor Grader - Changlin	PV 165 H	2004	E	35,000.00

Inspection Period

2020.09.14 to 2020.10.05 (9.00am to 4.00pm / without September 18th)
Week days only (Except Saturdays, Sundays & Poya days)

Place of Inspection

- 1.Yard A - MagaNeguma - Head Office, No 81/4, New nuge Road, Peliyagoda, Kelaniya
- 2.Yard B - Maga Neguma -RDA Work Shop, Railway Station Road, Angulana, Moratuwa
- 3.Yard C - Maga Neguma - Premix Plant, Ganewalpola, Kekirawa
- 4.Yard D - RDA Work Shop, Dahaiyagama Junction, Anuradhapuraya
- 5.Yard E - Maga Neguma Asphalt Plant- Sedawatta, Weeravila, Hambanthota

Non-Refundable Deposit & Issuing the Tender Documents

Bidding Documents may be obtain from Procurement Division by paying non-refundable bid fee of 2,000/- to cashier at finance division of head office located at below address.

Tender opening

Sealed offers addressed to the General Manager, Maga Neguma Road Construction Equipment Company, No 81/4, New Nuge Road, Peliyagoda, Kelaniya, should be sent by registered post or deposited in the tender box kept at the office of General Manager before 2.00pm on 06.10.2020. Envelope containing the bids should be marked "Disposal Vehicles & Machineries for Sale" on the top left hand corner. Bidders or their authorized agents are permitted to be present when bids are opened.

Pre Bid Meeting

Pre bid meeting will be held on 29th September 2020 at 11.00am.
Further information and time of inspection could be obtained from Transport Manager on 071-6847103

MNRCE shall reserve the right to accept or reject any of the offers received.

General Manager

Maga Neguma Road Construction Equipment Company

No 81/4, New Nuge Road, Peliyagoda.
Tel 011-2914121-2, Fax 011-2914214
Email – mnrce supply@yahoo.com

BMICH

SWRD BANDARANAIKE NATIONAL MEMORIAL FOUNDATION THE OWNER AND MANAGEMENT ARM OF THE BMICH INVITES PROPOSALS FOR THE BELOW CONSULTANCY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) FOR WEBSITE DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT & HOSTING

The BMICH seeks the assistance of recognized web developers to design and develop a website for Bandaranaike Centre for International Studies (BCIS), the academic arm of SWRD Bandaranaike National Memorial Foundation to serve as a gateway to promote its academic programmes.

REQUIREMENTS

- The new website should be user and mobile friendly.
- The target audience will include the general public specially students and professionals.
- New website's visual style has to be professional and appropriate for an academic institution.
- Website should accompany a comprehensive Content Management System (CMS)
- Should be flexible to modify the design when a new event has to be published and the design should be flexible to accommodate new pages.
- The design should allow changing the interface templates as and when required.
- The website should be based on International Standards similar to W3C for HTML and should be compatible with various browsers including IE, Mozilla Firefox, Chrome, Safari, Opera etc.
- The website should allow the user to syndicate, aggregate and set up the notification of data using RSS feeds.
- It should provide a search module for efficient information retrieval.
- The website should have Search Engine Friendly (SEF) URLs and be fully SEO compatible.
- New website should incorporate necessary state of art security features against hacking, defacement and provide for secure links for users news reporting to BCIS.
- Option should be available for either to directly host or suggest third parties to provide hosting services.
- Digital publishing solution to all publications and books
- Solution to make payments via online gateway integration facility.

EXPERIENCE

- Experience - Expertise in developing websites for education sector will be an added advantage.
- Key Skills - Ability to handle customizations when and where required.

HOW TO APPLY

- Please forward detailed proposals along with contact details on or before 28th September 2020 to reach the Finance Manager, BMICH, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 07.
- The decision of the selection panel will be final.



REGISTRATION OF CONTRACTORS

Contractors required immediately by a leading local retailer for island wide showroom expansion and refurbishment, under the below categories:

- Interior decoration and civil work
- Signage and branding

Company profiles, including past projects, should be posted to P.O.Box No. O-10027, C/O Sunday Observer, Lakehouse within 14 days of the advertisement.



Rajarata University of Sri Lanka Mihintale Notice

Re-opening of the University for Academic and Examination Test Purposes

Academic and Examination Affairs of the following Faculties of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka which were closed down earlier due to COVID - 19 Pandemic, facing Sri Lanka will be opened for Academic and Examination purposes, as described below.

1. Social Sciences and Humanities Faculty

It is hereby notified that for students (male/female) undergoing studies for B.A. (Special) Degree during the Academic year 2015/2016 and for B.A. (General / Special) Degree in the Academic Year 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 (General/Special) Degree Course only Lectures, Reviews and Examinations will commence on 16.09.2020.

2. Faculty of Management Studies

It is further notified that Academic Studies of the freshers of the Academic Year 2019 in the Faculty of Management Studies will commence on 28.09.2020 and Academic Studies for the students (male/female) of the Academic Year 2016/2017, 2018 only will commence on 16.09.2020.

All the students (male/female) who have hostel facilities in the above Faculties should call over before 4.00 p.m. on 15.09.2020 at the relevant hostels.

The freshers (male/female) of the Academic Year 2019 of the Faculty of Management Studies should have to report to the hostels on 27.09.2020.

Registrar
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka
Mihintale



DO YOU WANT YOUR PET DOG TO BECOME A HERO

Sri Lanka Police has decided to accept generous donation of dogs to be employed as Police Dogs after begins trained on the following.

- 1) Training field
 - 1) Obedience
 - 2) Explosive
 - 3) Narcotic
 - 4) Tracking of Criminals
 - 5) Dog Show
- 2) The Dog should conform to the following specifications.
 - I. Age Over 06 months up to 01 year
 - II. Be in good health
 - III. Should be a of good breed such as
 - German Shepherd
 - Doberman Pincher
 - English Spaniel
 - Belgian Malinois
 - Coker Spaniel
 - Labrador

The donor can reclaim the dog after the dog has completed 08 years of service in the Sri Lanka Police. If you are willing to donate a dog, Please fill up the following application and send it to the address given below.

The application

Name of the donor & address :

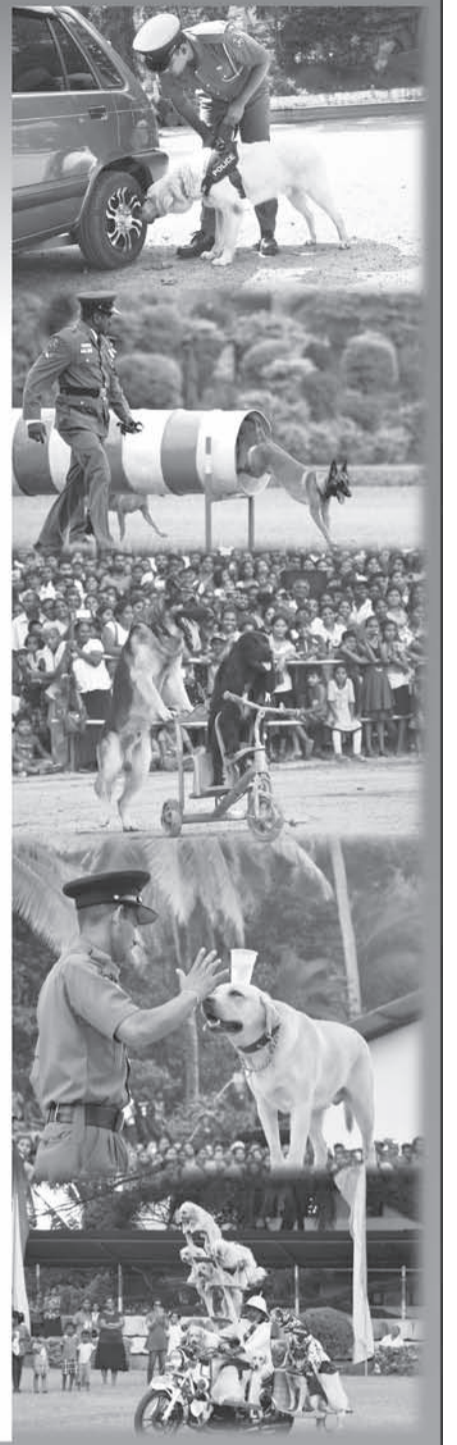
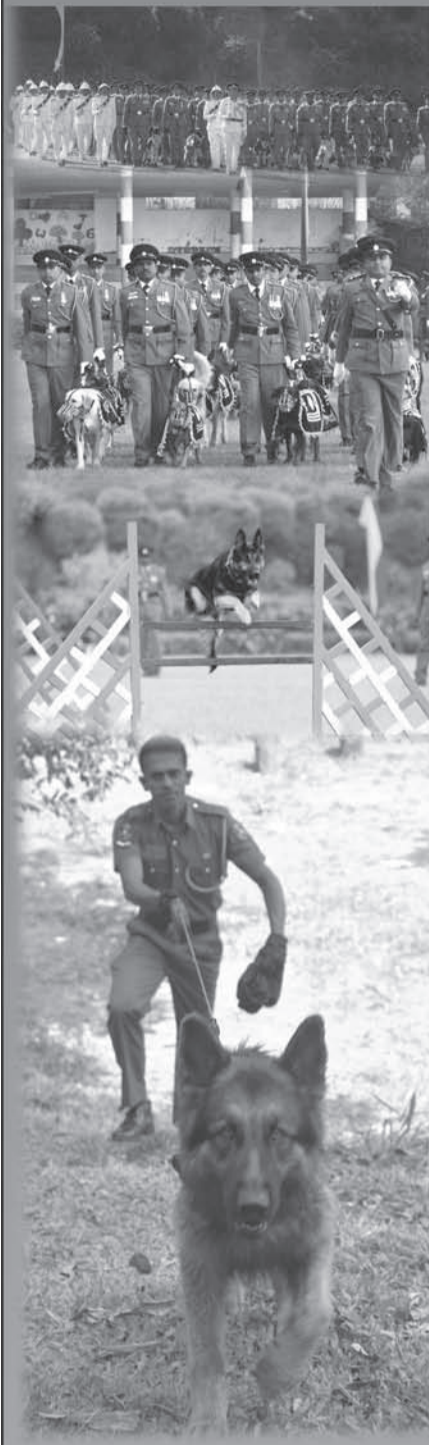
Telephone No :

Date of birth of dog :

Breed :

Do you want to reclaim the ownership of the dog after 8 years of service ?
Yes/No

The Director
Police Kennels Division
Asgiriya - Kandy
Tel : 081-2233426 (Director)
Fax : 081-2233429
Email : dir.kennelshq@police.lk



Sri Lanka Insurance BID NOTICE

CALL FOR BIDS TO SELECT SUPPLIERS FOR THE FOLLOWING SERVICES

	Name of Bid and Bid No.	Non-Refundable Fee (Rs.)	Bid Security Requirement (Rs.)	Eligibility Requirements	Pre Bid Meeting Date and Time	Bid Closing Date and Time	Collecting of Bidding Documents
1	SLIC/ICT/008/2020 - SUPPLY OF 350 NOS. DESKTOP COMPUTERS	10,250/-	500,000/-	Bidder should be a Registered Supplier to The Government of Sri Lanka Bidder should be OEM of Computer Hardware or Authorized Business Partner/ system	23.09.2020 @ 02.30 pm SLIC 8th Floor Meeting Room	06.10.2020 @ 1.00 pm	14.09.2020 to 05.10.2020 from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm (weekdays)
2	SLIC/ICT/009/2020 - SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF CCTV SYSTEMS FOR NUWEGODA, 288 CITY OFFICE, GALLE, JAFFNA, BADULLA	1,350/-	40,000/-	Bidder should be a Registered Supplier to The Government of Sri Lanka	16.09.2020 @ 03.00 pm SLIC 8th Floor Meeting Room	29.09.2020 @ 1.00 pm	14.09.2020 to 28.09.2020 from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm (weekdays)

- Bidding documents will be issued from the Procurement Department of Sri Lanka Insurance Head office on production of a request letter on a business letterhead together with the proof of eligibility at a none refundable fee as above.
- Bidding documents may be inspected free of charge at the Procurement Department of Sri Lanka Insurance Head Office during normal working hours.
- Bidder should have not been blacklisted previously.
- Selected suppliers should provide the Guarantee/Bond as stated below.

- a) A Performance Bond to the value of 10% of the total contract sum, with validity over the stipulated contract period should be provided within two weeks of the confirmed order
- b) If advance payment needed, a bank Guarantee equivalent to 30% of the total contract value should be taken with validity period of over 90 days.

- Bidder should have a reputed corporate clientele with their references.
- Late bids will be returned unopened.
- Bidding documents can be obtained from below mentioned address.
- The final decision in this regard will be with Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation Ltd.

Contact Details - 011 235 7964

AGM Procurement & Property Management
Procurement Department
Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation Ltd
08th Floor
No.21, Vauxhall Street
Colombo 02.
Web: www.srilankainsurance.com
Email: deshapriyag@srilankainsurance.com
Company Registration Number - PB 289



Invitation for Bids (IFB) UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

Refurbishing Smart Class Rooms 3.3, Room No. 223, Faculty of Arts
(AHEAD/RA2/ELTAELSE/FOA/WORKS/04/i)

Refurbishing Smart Class Rooms 3.3, Room No. 128, Faculty of Arts
(AHEAD/RA2/ELTAELSE/FOA/WORKS/04 /ii)

Refurbishment of Training Room - 1, Faculty of Management & Finance,
University of Colombo - (AHEAD/RA2/ELTAELSE/FMF/WORKS /01)

1. The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka has received a loan from the International Development Agency of World Bank toward the cost of AHEAD project and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the contract for Refurbishing Smart Class Rooms 3.3, Room No. 223, Faculty of Arts, Refurbishing Smart Class Rooms 3.3, Room No. 128, Faculty of Arts and Refurbishment of Training Room - 1, Faculty of Management & Finance, University of Colombo.
2. The Chairman - Regional Procurement Committee on behalf of the University of Colombo invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Refurbishing Smart Class Rooms 3.3, (Room No. 128), (AHEAD/RA2/ ELTAELSE/FOA/WORKS/04/i), Refurbishing Smart Class Rooms (3 .3) Room 223 (AHEAD/RA2/ELTAELSE/ FOA /WORKS/04/ ii) Faculty of Arts and Refurbishment of Training Room - 1, Faculty of Management & Finance, (AHEAD/RA2/ ELTAELSE/FMF/WORKS/01), University of Colombo with the Estimated Cost mentioned in the following table (excluding VAT) and the bids will be closed at 2.30 p.m. on 08th October 2020.
3. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
4. Interested Bidders may obtain further information from Deputy Director / Engineering - AHEAD Project (Tel. 011-2586445) and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the OTS Office of the University of Colombo (College House premises) between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on working days.
5. A complete set of bidding documents in English Language could be purchased by the interested Bidders on submission of a written request to the Deputy Director/Procurement, AHEAD Project from 14th September 2020 to 07th October 2020 during working hours by producing the receipt of payment of the non-refundable Tender Fee as per the following table to Account No. 505170600013 to any People's Bank. Bidding documents will only be issued to the Bidders on production of the above documentary evidence.
6. Bid Validity Period up to 08th January 2021.
7. All Bids must be accompanied by an unconditional, on demand Bid Security from any commercial bank registered under the Central Bank of Sri Lanka as specified in the following table in favour of Vice Chancellor, University of Colombo. Bid Bond should be valid up to 05th February 2021.

Package No.	Description	Bid Security Rs.	Non-refundable Fee Rs.	Cost Estimate Rs.
01	Refurbishing Smart Class Rooms 3.3 Room No. 223, Faculty of Arts (AHEAD/RA2/ELTAELSE/FOA/WORKS/04/i)	50,000.00	3,000.00	5,000,000.00
02	Refurbishing Smart Class Rooms 3.3 Room No. 128, Faculty of Arts (AHEAD/RA2/ELTAELSE/FOA/WORKS/04/ii)	50,000.00	3,000.00	5,000,000.00
03	Refurbishment of Training Room - 1, Faculty of Management & Finance, (AHEAD/RA2/ELTAELSE/FMF/WORKS/01)	50,000.00	2,500.00	4,100,000.00

visit university website <http://www.cmb.ac.lk> to inspect the document.

8. Pre-Bid meeting will be held on 23rd September 2020 at Board Room 1, College House, University of Colombo.
9. Sealed bids shall be submitted on the forms available with the Bidding Documents. Duly completed bids together with the duplicate and the bid security should be inserted in a sealed envelope or packet and the top left hand corner of each envelope or packet should be marked with the name of the tender. (Bid security should be submitted along with the original bidding document).
10. Sealed bids may be sent either by registered post to the address given below or be deposited in the tender box at the College House near the office of the Registrar on or before 08th October 2020 at 2.30.hrs . No bids will be accepted after closing of bids.
11. Bids will be opened immediately after the closing of bids at College House, Board Room No. 1. Bidders or their authorized representatives are requested to be present at the opening of Bids.
12. The Chairman of the Regional Procurement Committee reserves the right to accept any one bid or reject any or all Bids without giving any reason and its decision will be final and conclusive.

CHAIRMAN - REGIONAL PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE
University of Colombo,
No. 94, Cumarathunga Munidasa Mawatha,
Colombo 03.



SRI LANKA ARMY

INVITATION FOR BIDS

SALE OF USED VEHICLES AND GENERAL GOODS

The undermentioned unserviceable Vehicles and General Goods of the Sri Lanka Army will be offered for sale by calling tenders.

TENDER DETAILS AND CONDITIONS FOR THE BIDDERS

1. Tender Time Schedule (Except weekends and public holidays)

LOCATION	VEHICLES / GENERAL GOODS	LOT NOS. FOR VEHICLES/ GENERAL GOODS	PERIOD OF BID SUBMISSION	DATE & TIME OF BID OPENING
1st Regiment Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps, Army Cantonment, Panagoda, Homagama	Truck, Prime Mover, Van, Single/Double Cab, Jeep, Tractor, Tractor Trailer, Bowser Trailer, Hand Tractor, Hand Tractor Trailer, Three Wheeler, Motor cycle and General Goods	01 to 117 (Vehicles)	From 0900 hrs on 16.09.2020 to 1000 hrs on 29.09.2020	At 1030 hrs on 29.09.2020
		01 to 24 (General Goods)	From 0900 hrs on 16.09.2020 to 1000 hrs on 30.09.2020	At 1030 hrs on 30.09.2020
2nd Regiment Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps, Army Camp, Ranasewapura, Anuradhapura	Bus, Truck, Prime Mover Trailer, Single/Double Cab, Jeep, Water Bowser, Tractor, Tractor Trailer, Hand Tractor, Hand Tractor Trailer, Three Wheeler, Motor cycle and General Goods	01 to 102 (Vehicles) 01 to 11 (General Goods)	From 0900 hrs on 16.09.2020 to 1000 hrs on 12.10.2020	At 1030 hrs on 12.10.2020
3rd Regiment Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps, Army Camp, Mahasenpura, Minneriya	Truck, Van, Single/Double Cab, Jeep, Tractor, Tractor Trailer, Water Bowser Trailer, Hand Tractor, Hand Tractor Trailer, Motor cycle and General Goods	01 to 58 (Vehicles) 01 to 13 (General Goods)	From 0900 hrs on 16.09.2020 to 1000 hrs on 13.10.2020	At 1030 hrs on 13.10.2020
5th Regiment Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps, Army Camp, Kankesanthurai	Bus, Single/Double Cab, Jeep, Prime Mover, Tractor, Water Bowser Trailer, Tractor Trailer, Hand Tractor Trailer, Three Wheeler, Motor cycle and General Goods	01 to 35 (Vehicles) 01 to 13 (General Goods)	From 0900 hrs on 16.09.2020 to 1000 hrs on 06.10.2020	At 1030 hrs on 06.10.2020
6th Regiment Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps, Army Camp, Kokavil, Kilinochchi	Jeep, Tractor, Water Bowser, Water Bowser Trailer, Motor cycle and General Goods	01 to 07 (Vehicles) 01 to 09 (General Goods)	From 0900 hrs on 16.09.2020 to 1000 hrs on 07.10.2020	At 1030 hrs on 07.10.2020
7th Regiment Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps, Army Cantonment, Nandikadal, Mullaitivu	Truck, Single Cab, Water Bowser Trailer, Motor cycle and General Goods	01 to 16 (Vehicles) 01 to 14 (General Goods)	From 0900 hrs on 16.09.2020 to 1000 hrs on 08.10.2020	At 1030 hrs on 08.10.2020
Engineers Service Central Workshop (Habarakada), Army Camp, Habarakada, Homagama	Generators, Water Pump and General Goods	01 to 03 (General Goods)	From 0900 hrs on 16.09.2020 to 1000 hrs on 30.09.2020	At 1030 hrs on 30.09.2020
16 Workshop Sri Lanka Engineers Regiment (Maththegoda), Army Camp, Maththegoda, Polgasowita	Scrap land vehicles (Backhoe Loader, Dozer, Vibratory Roller, Motor Grader, Wheel Loader, Excavator and General Goods)	01 to 30 (Scrap Land Vehicles) 01 to 02 (General Goods)	From 0900 hrs on 16.09.2020 to 1000 hrs on 30.09.2020	At 1030 hrs on 30.09.2020

2. Time Period for inspection of abovementioned Vehicles/General Goods and issuing of Tender Forms is scheduled to be from 0900 hrs on 16.09.2020 to 1500 hrs on 28.09.2020 (Except weekends and public holidays).

3. Bidders who have been listed as "defaulted contractors" are not eligible to submit bids.

4. Tender forms can be obtained from the office located at the above mentioned Army Cantonment / Camps on payment of a **non-refundable fee of Rs. 500/=** (Rs. Five Hundred) to the cashier stationed on site. Bidders are allowed to bid any number of lots and are required to forward separate tender forms for each lot, (Eg: Vehicle tender form can not be used for bidding of General Goods) **One tender form should carry only one bid. If bid for more than one lot, it is required to forward separate tender forms for each lot. The bids that contravene the above conditions will be rejected.**

5. Refundable deposit specified in the relevant application form to be paid to the cashier and the original copy of the receipt should be attached with the respective tender applications. **Any bid not accompanied with original receipt will be rejected.**

6. Bidders should indicate the lot number of the Vehicles/General Goods (which is displayed on the front side of each Vehicle/General Goods) in the tender form as well as on the top left-hand corner of the envelope as shown below.

a. Lot No.----- b. Tender Opening Date ----- 2020 c. Category (Vehicle/General Goods) -----

7. Sealed bids may be submitted through registered post or hand delivered. Hand delivered bids should be deposited in the relevant tender boxes provided separately for used Vehicles/General Goods at the Cantonment/Camps shown below from 0900 hrs to 1600 hrs on weekdays (except weekends and public holidays). Hand delivered bids should be entered in the register book placed at the office before depositing in the relevant box. Bids deposited in the irrelevant box will be rejected.

LOCATION	PLACE OF THE TENDER BOX	MAIL ADDRESS	VENUE OF THE BID OPENING
1st Regiment Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps, Army Cantonment, Panagoda, Homagama.	Security Force HQ (West) Army Cantonment Panagoda, Homagama (Near the Main Gate)	President of Tender Board 1st Regiment, SL Army Ordnance Corps Army Cantonment Panagoda, Homagama	Bodhirajaramaya Army Cantonment, Panagoda, Homagama
2nd Regiment Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps, Army Camp, Ranasewapura, Anuradhapura.	2nd Regiment, SL Army Ordnance Corps (Near the Main Gate)	President of Tender Board 2nd Regiment, SL Army Ordnance Corps Army Camp, Ranasewapura, Anuradhapura	2nd Regiment SL Army Ordnance Corps, Army Camp, Ranasewapura, Anuradhapura
3rd Regiment Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps, Army Camp, Mahasenpura, Minneriya	3rd Regiment, SL Army Ordnance Corps (Near the Main Gate)	President of Tender Board 3rd Regiment, SL Army Ordnance Corps Army Camp, Mahasenpura, Minneriya	3rd Regiment SL Army Ordnance Corps, Army Camp, Mahasenpura, Minneriya
5th Regiment Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps, Army Camp, Kankesanthurai	5th Regiment, SL Army Ordnance Corps (Near the Main Gate)	President of Tender Board 5th Regiment SL Army Ordnance Corps Army Camp, Kankesanthurai	5th Regiment SL Army Ordnance Corps, Army Camp, Kankesanthurai
6th Regiment Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps, Army Camp, Kokavil, Kilinochchi	6th Regiment, SL Army Ordnance Corps (Near the Main Gate)	President of Tender Board 5th Regiment SL Army Ordnance Corps Army Camp, Kokavil, Kilinochchi	6th Regiment SL Army Ordnance Corps, Army Camp, Kokavil, Kilinochchi
7th Regiment Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps, Army Cantonment, Nandikadal, Mullaitivu	7th Regiment, SL Army Ordnance Corps (Near the Main Gate)	President of Tender Board 7th Regiment, SL Army Ordnance Corps, Army, Cantonment, Nandikadal, Mullaitivu	7th Regiment SL Army Ordnance Corps, Army Cantonment, Nandikadal, Mullaitivu
Engineers Service Central Workshop (Habarakada), Army Camp, Habarakada, Homagama	Engineers Service Central Workshop (Habarakada) (Near the Main Gate)	President of Tender Board Engineers Service Central Workshop (Habarakada) Habarakada, Homagama.	Bodhirajaramaya Army Cantonment, Panagoda, Homagama
16 Workshop Sri Lanka Engineers Regiment (Maththegoda), Army Camp, Maththegoda, Polgasowita	16 Workshop Sri Lanka Engineers Regiment (Maththegoda) (Near the Main Gate)	President of the Tender Board 16 Workshop Sri Lanka Engineers Regiment (Maththegoda) Army Camp, Maththegoda, Polgasowita	Bodhirajaramaya Army Cantonment, Panagoda, Homagama

8. All applications must be duly completed and enclosed with an envelope. The enclosed envelopes must be personally dropped into the correct boxes placed at the locations mentioned in Paragraph 7 or must be sent by registered mail before the due date and time. **Late tenders after due date and time will be rejected.**

9. **It is mandatory for bidders or their authorized representatives (with a duly authorized letter by the bidder to be present at the occasion of public bid opening along with their NIC/ Passport/ Driving License to prove their identity.**

10. Other considerable factors.

a. Bidders who purchase tariff free vehicles and unregistered vehicles are required to pay relevant tariff to the Department of Motor Traffic in order to register the vehicles. The details of the relevant vehicles will be informed by Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps.

b. It is the responsibility of the bidder to check and ensure the accuracy of vehicle chassis/ engine numbers (except for Scrap Vehicles) along with the documents given by the representatives of the respective Army Camp before taking the vehicles away. (Sri Lanka Army is not responsible for any issues that may arise after the removal of vehicles from the camp premises)

c. Details of General Goods included in each lot will be issued with Tender Application.

11. All Bidders are required to submit their tender forms as per the stipulated conditions indicated in the **respective tender forms** and this **paper advertisement**. The final authority with regard to the tender will be with the Chairman, Tender Board. For further details, please contact **011-2987525** during office hours on working days and visit Army website: www.army.lk

COMMANDER OF THE ARMY

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 banians / Banyams (Wests)	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

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Date:	13 th September 2020
Title of the Project:	Health System Enhancement Project
Contract No. and Title of the Procurement:	APDRF/PMU/PRO/G5/12/2020 Procurement of Next Generation Sequencing System
Deadline for Submission of Bids:	Before 1000 Hrs on 6 th October 2020

1. The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka has received financing from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the cost of **Health System Enhancement Project**, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this financing to payments under the contracts named above. Bidding is open to bidders from eligible source countries of ADB.
2. The Ministry of Health (the Purchaser) invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the procurement of following Goods. A brief description of the types of goods are below:

Lot No.	Brief Description of Goods	Quantity
1	Next Generation Sequencing System	1

3. **The Successful Bidder** must deliver Goods to the locations mentioned in the delivery and completion schedule in the Bidding Document. Also, delivery must be completed within 60 days from signing of contract.
4. **Open Competitive Bidding (OCB)** will be conducted in accordance with ADB's Single Stage: Single Envelope bidding procedure and is open to all bidders from eligible countries as described in the Bidding Document. The eligibility rules and procedures of ADB will govern the bidding process.
5. Only eligible bidders with the following key qualifications should participate in this bidding and the qualification criteria are more completely described in the Bidding Document:
- Minimum average annual turnover of LKR 200.00 Mn. calculated as total payments received by the Bidder for contracts completed or under execution over the last 3 years.
6. To obtain further information and inspect the Bidding Documents free of charge from 0900Hrs to 1500Hrs on working days, the bidders should contact:

The Project Director,
Health System Enhancement Project,
No. 3/19, Kynsey Road,
Colombo 8, Sri Lanka.

Telephone Number: +94 112 697 173 / +94 112 056 535

Fax: +94 112 697 163

E-mail: hsep.pmu@gmail.com

7. A pre-bid meeting shall take place at 1000 Hrs on 24th September 2020 at above address conducted by the Employer. All bidders are strongly advised to attend this pre-bid meeting.
8. To purchase the Bidding Document in English, eligible bidders should submit a written request/application to the address above requesting the Bidding Document for the **Procurement of Next Generation Sequencing System** for the Health System Enhancement Project and pay a non-refundable fee as indicated in the Table below on or before 1500 Hrs on 5th October 2020.

Description of the Procurement	Non-refundable Fee
Next Generation Sequencing System	LKR 20,000.00

9. The method of payment will be in the form of bank draft or cashier's certified cheque in favor of the **"Project Director - Health System Enhancement Project"** or in cash, from 0900Hrs to 1500 Hrs on working days or pay by direct deposit to bank account number 7040309 at Bank of Ceylon.
10. The Bidding Document may also be sent by air mail for overseas delivery and surface mail or courier for local delivery with an additional fee of US\$ 100 and LKR 5000.00 respectively in addition to the non-refundable fee stated under Para 8. No liability will be accepted for loss or late delivery.
11. Bids shall be delivered to the address given in Para 6 above **on or before 1000 Hrs on 6th October 2020** together with the Bid Security as specified in the bidding document. If the Bid Security is submitted in a form of a Bank Guarantee, it shall be issued using the format given in Section 4 of Bidding forms by a commercial bank approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka in favor of **"The Project Director - Health System Enhancement Project"**. Late Bids will be rejected and returned unopened.
12. The Bids shall be valid for 90 days from the date of bid opening. The Bid Security shall be valid for 118 days from the date of bid opening.
13. Bids will be opened immediately after the deadline for bid submission in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
14. The Health System Enhancement Project of the Ministry of Health will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of bids.

Chairman, Project Procurement Committee,
Health System Enhancement Project,
No. 3/19, Kynsey Road,
Colombo 8, Sri Lanka.

Telephone Number: +94 112 697 173 / +94 112 056 535

Fax: +94 112 697 163

E-mail: hsep.pmu@gmail.com

INVITATION FOR BIDS

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

BID FOR DESIGN, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF FIRE DETECTION AND FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS FOR BLOCK 04 OF DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA

CONTRACT NO : DHQC/FP & FD 04/2020

1. **The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC) on behalf of the Ministry of Defence** invites competitive sealed Bids from eligible and qualified Bidders for Design, Supply and Installation of Fire Detection and Fire Protection Systems for Block 04 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla and as described below and estimated to cost LKR 380 Million (Excluding VAT).

The work consists of Design, Supply and Installation of Fire Detection and Fire Protection Systems for Block 04 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda.

2. **The Construction period is 300 Days.**
3. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
4. To be eligible for the contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted. Bidders shall have Construction Industry Development Authority Grading EM1 in the Specialty of Electrical and Mechanical Services (EM) Under Sub-Specialty Fire Detection, Protection and Suppression (FDPS).
5. Minimum Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award shall be,

Qualifications	Minimum Qualification Requirements
(i) Average annual turnover value of Fire Detection, Fire Protection and Fire Suppression works of any five years successfully performed in last ten years.	LKR 456 million per year
(ii) Experience in Design, Supply and Installation within last ten years). (2010 to 2019)	At least 5 Nr. Fire Detection and Protection Systems successfully completed within last 10 years. Minimum value of one number of such systems shall not be less than LKR 95 million.
(iii) The minimum amount of liquid assets and /or credit facilities (after setting apart for other contractual commitments) and exclusive of any advance payment which may be made under this Contract	not less than LKR 114 million
(iv) Ability to provide the maintenance services by the Bidder himself or by an authorized agent nominated by the Bidder in Sri Lanka for the supplied system during its service period	Compulsory

6. Interested bidders may obtain further information from **The Director - Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka** and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the above address from **14.09.2020 until 09.10.2020 From 09.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs.** during a working day.
7. A complete set of Bidding Documents (except Volume 1A) in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to **Accountant (Procurement), Ministry of Defence, No 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 03, Sri Lanka from 14.09.2020 until 09.10.2020 from 09.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs.** during a working day upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **LKR 50,000.00 (Sri Lankan Rupees Fifty Thousand)**. The method of payment will be by Cash.
8. A pre bid meeting will be held at **10.00 hrs. on 22.09.2020** and a site visit will be held on same day after the pre bid meeting at the Project Management Unit of Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
9. Bids shall be delivered to the address below or shall be deposited in the Bid box placed at the address below at or before **11.00 hrs. on 12.10.2020**, late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
10. Bids shall be valid from **12.10.2020 to 07.02.2021** (119 Days from the date of closing of Bids).
11. All bids shall be accompanied by a "Bid-Security", of **Sri Lankan Rupees Five Million Seven Hundred Thousand (LKR 5,700,000.00)** obtained from a bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, in the form of an unconditional and on demand bond and shall be valid from **12.10.2020 to 07.03.2021** (147 Days after opening the Bids). Beneficiary of the Bid Security shall be Secretary, Ministry of Defence.
12. Bidders are strongly advised to present the registration certificate under the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987 (when relevant), before purchasing the Bidding Document from Defence Headquarters Complex Project.
13. Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to the Director General (Account & Finance) Ministry of Defence, the Name and the NIC/Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

The address referred to above is :

The Chairman,
Ministry Procurement Committee (MPC),
Ministry of Defence,
No. 15/5, Baladaksha Mawatha, Colombo 03,
Sri Lanka.

Tel : 0094-011-2390719

Fax : 0094-011-2390720

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United Nations Development Programme



INVITATION TO BID

Designing, Supplying, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Solar Net Metering System for the United Nations Office in Colombo Sri Lanka.

(ITB-UNDP-2020-65)

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Sri Lanka wishes to invite you to submit a bid to this Invitation to Bid (ITB) for Designing, Supplying, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Solar Net Metering System for the United Nations Office in Colombo Sri Lanka.

This procurement process is being conducted through Online Tendering System of UNDP and detailed instructions, and link to the tender can be accessed from www.lk.undp.org > Procurement > Procurement Notices.

A pre bid meeting and site visit will be conducted on 16th September 2020, 9.30 am (Sri Lanka Time) at UN Conference Room, 202-204, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7. Only two representatives from a company will be permitted to participate in the pre bid meeting. Kindly confirm your participation through 0777303446 before 15th September 2020, 4pm Sri Lanka time.

Please be advised that visitors to the UN Compound shall strictly adhere to the COVID-19 safety regulations. Parking facility within the UN Compound is limited.

Bid Submission deadline appearing on e-Tendering portal will be FINAL and prevail on the ones appearing on other websites. Note that system time zone is in EST/EDT (New York) time zone.

Bids submitted via email or by hard copies will not be accepted.

Head of Procurement/Administration
United Nations Development Programme
202-204 Bauddhaloka Mawatha
Colombo 07, Sri Lanka.

UNDP reserves the right to accept or reject any bid. The procurement process will be governed by the rules and regulations of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

PURCHASE OF 65MM DIA HARDWOOD TIMBER (TEAK) - 3M LENGTH - NOS 420 and 95X100MM SIZE HARDWOOD TIMBER (TEAK) - 3M LENGTH - NOS 85

DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA

CONTRACT NO : DHQC/PROC/2020/TIMBER/30

The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC) (M) on behalf of the Ministry of Defence now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for **Purchase of 65mm dia Hardwood Timber (Teak) - 3m Length - Nos 420 and 95x100mm Size Hardwood Timber (Teak) - 3m Length - Nos 85 for Blocks 04 of Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda** as described below and estimated to cost **LKR 17 Million** (excluding VAT).

The goods consists of Purchase of 65mm dia Hardwood Timber (Teak) - 3m Length - Nos. 420 95x100mm Size Hardwood Timber (Teak) - 3m Length - Nos 85 for Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda.

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
- To be eligible for the Contract award, the successful bidder **shall not have been blacklisted and shall have a valid business registration in Sri Lanka. Documentary evidence, supporting the Bidder's experience and track record shall be established with the Bid.**
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from, **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC)(M), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same address from **14th September 2020 until 04th October 2020 from 0900 hrs to 1600hrs during working days.**
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC) (M), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** from **14th September 2020 until 04th October 2020 from 0900 hrs to 1600 hrs** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Three Thousand Five Hundred Sri Lankan Rupees (LKR 3,500.00)**. The method of payment will be in Cash/Bank draft in favour of **Director, Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project.**
- Bids shall be valid from **05th October 2020 to 02nd January 2021 both days inclusive (90 days).**
- All bids shall be accompanied by a **Bid-Security of One Hundred Seventy Thousand Rupees (LKR 170,000.00)** shall be issued by a commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. This Bid-Security shall be in the form of an unconditional, on demand bond and shall be valid up to the date of Bid Opening from **05th October 2020 to 01st February 2021** with both days inclusive **(120 days).**
- The **pre-bid meeting** will be held at **1030 hrs** on **22nd September 2020** at the Project Management Unit of Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
- Bids shall be delivered to the address below or shall be deposited in the tender box placed in the below address at or before **1000 hrs** on **05th October 2020**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- Bidders are strongly advised to present the registration certificate under the Public Contracts Act No. 3 of 1987 when relevant, before purchasing the Bidding Document from Defence Headquarters Complex Project.
- Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to the Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, the name and the NIC/ Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the Bid opening.


The address(es) referred to above item (08) is;

**The Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee (PPC) (M),
Defence Headquarters Complex Project,
Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta,
Battaramulla.**

**Tel : 0094-011-2787047
Fax : 0094-011-4209885
E-mail : pmudhq@gmail.com**

**The Housewives' companion
Classifieds on
Daily News**

SRI LANKA PORTS AUTHORITY



INVITATION FOR BIDS

PAVING WORKS AT PRINCE VIJAYA QUAY IN PORT OF COLOMBO - PHASE II


(CONTRACT NO. SLPA/CD/PVQ/03)

- The Chairman- Department Procurement Committee, Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA), on behalf of the Chairman, SLPA invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the construction of **"Paving Works at Prince Vijaya Quay in Port of Colombo - Phase II" (Contract No. SLPA/CD/PVQ/03)**. Work under this contract will comprise mainly improving and re-surfacing of asphalt road and service corridor.
- To be eligible for contract award;
 - The Bidder shall meet the **CIDA (previously known as ICTAD) Registration Grade C3 Contractor or above, specialized in Road Construction.**
 - A valid certificate of registration issued under section 8 of Public Contract Act No: 03 of 1987, which shall be obtained by the bidder applying online from the web site, eroc.drc.gov.lk
- Pre Bid meeting followed by a site visit will be held at **10.30 hrs.** on **29.09.2020** at the Technical Library, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, 45, Leyden Bastian Road, Colombo 01.
- Bidding Documents will be issued between **9.30 hrs and 14.00 hrs** on working days from **15.09.2020 to 26.10.2020** (both days inclusive) by the Chief Engineer (Contracts & Designs), Contracts & Designs Division, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, No: 45, Leyden Bastian Road Colombo - 01 on a payment of non-refundable tender fee of **Rs. 20,000.00** (inclusive VAT) and submission of a written request. Bidding Documents may be inspected free of charge at the same office.
- Bids shall be valid up to **120 days**
- Bidding Document enclosed in a securely sealed cover and marked **"Paving Works at Prince Vijaya Quay in Port of Colombo- Phase II (Contract No. SLPA/CD/PVQ/03)"** on the top left hand corner, shall be sent by registered post addressed to the Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, C/O Chief Engineer (Contracts and Designs), Contracts and Designs Division, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, No. 45, Leyden Bastian Road, Colombo 01 or placed in the Tender Box kept in the office of the Chief Engineer (Contracts and Designs) on the above address.
- All bids must be accompanied by a Bid security of Rs. **1,700,000.00**. Bid Security shall be valid up to **23.03.2021**.
- The time frame for completion of Works shall be **300 days**.
- Bids in duplicate shall be submitted by **14.00 hrs** on **27.10.2020** and the Bids will be opened immediately after closing of the Bids. Bidders or their authorized representatives are requested to be present at the opening of Bid.
- Any Further particulars may be obtained from Chief Engineer (Contracts & Designs) on the above address. (T.P. 011 - 2380517)

All above have been published online from the web site, eroc.drc.gov.lk

**The Chairman- Department Procurement Committee,
Sri Lanka Ports Authority,
No. 45, Leyden Bastian Road,
Colombo 01.**

SRI LANKA PORTS AUTHORITY



Invitation for Bids

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All above have been published online in the web site, eroc.drc.gov.lk

**The Chairman - Department Procurement Committee,
Sri Lanka Ports Authority,
No. 45, Leyden Bastian Road,
Colombo 01.**

INVITATION FOR BIDS



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இலங்கை மத்திய வங்கி
CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

TENDER FOR SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT, INSTALLATION, CONFIGURATION, TESTING, COMMISSIONING AND TRAINING OF THE ACTIVITIES RELATED TO AN INTEGRATED IT SYSTEM TO THE CENTRE FOR BANKING STUDIES (CBS) OF THE CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA (CBSL)

- Sealed quotations (including financial proposal) are invited for software development, installation, configuration, testing, commissioning and training of the activities related to an Integrated IT System (CBS Interactive Website – CBSIW and Institute Management System – IMS) for CBS from interested institutions who have fulfilled the minimum eligibility criteria given below:
 - Should be a company registered and operating in Sri Lanka.
 - Should have successfully implemented bespoke software in at least two institutions in Sri Lanka and should have been engaged in maintaining similar software in Sri Lanka during the 5 years ended 30.06.2020.
 - Should have a project team including project managers, team leaders, software developers, quality assurance personnel and other technical experts who possess relevant academic, professional qualifications and experience.
 - Should have positive net worth and be in profits at least for two years out of the last three years.

Tender Details

Non-Refundable Tender Deposit	Rs. 1,000/=
Bid Security	Bank Guarantee of Rs. 100,000/=
Issuing Bidding Documents	0900 Hrs. – 1500 Hrs. From 11 September 2020 – 02 October 2020 Mail Room, Ground Floor, CBSL Head Office Building, Colombo 01
Pre – Bid Meeting	1000 Hrs - 22 September 2020
Bid-Closing Time & Date	1430 Hrs. – 05 October 2020

- Bidding documents may be inspected free of charge and collected by producing a letter of request made on a business letterhead and by paying a non-refundable cash fee of Rs. 1,000/=.
- For further details, you may contact Senior Assistant Director/IT Tel: 0112398617 or Senior Assistant Secretary/Procurement – Tel: 0112398754

The Secretary - Central Bank of Sri Lanka
No.30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo 01



TENDER NOTICE SRI LANKA NAVY

SALE OF UNSERVICEABLE VEHICLES

The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, Sri Lanka Navy, P.O. Box 593, Colombo 01 hereby invites "Sealed Tenders" during office hours until 1400 hrs on 07th October 2020 for the sale of unserviceable vehicles. Tender details and conditions for the Tenderers are indicated below.

- Tenderers are permitted to submit Tenders for one or more vehicles available for sale. However, prices should be quoted for each vehicle separately.
- Tender Forms could be obtained from Senior Staff Officer (Stores Management) at SLNS 'Gemunu', Welisara, Ragama during any working day from 0900 hrs to 1600 hrs from 14th September 2020 to 06th October 2020 on payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 500.00.
- The refundable deposit is also to be paid in cash as mentioned below to the Director (Finance) at Sri Lanka Navy Headquarters and receipt/voucher should be submitted to obtain the Tender Forms from Senior Staff Officer (Stores Management) at SLNS 'Gemunu', Welisara, Ragama. The refundable deposit shall be forfeited for Tenderers who do not accept (Forego) the Tenders after being awarded or failure to remove the LOT (vehicle) during the specified time period.

Complete Vehicle (Light and Heavy) Rs. 15,000.00

Vehicle No.	Type of Vehicle	Year of Manufacture
NAHA 1146	Car	1996
NAHA 1142	Car	2000
NAHA 5182	Car	1999
NAHA 5179	Car	1999

Scrap Materials (Light and Heavy Vehicles) Rs. 7,500.00

Vehicle No.	Type of Vehicle
NAHA 1409	Car
NAHA 1406	Car
NAHA 1410	Car
NAHA 1411	Car
NAHA 1412	Car
NAHA 1408	Car
NAHA 1413	Car
NAHA 1407	Car
NAHA 5998	Defender
NAHA 5286	Tractor
NAHA 8059	JCB
NAHA 8060	JCB
NAHA 6332	Truck
NAHA 6242	Truck

Lot 01 (Scrap Motor Cycle - 10) Rs. 2,000.00
Lot 02 (Scrap Hand Tractor - 02, Scrap Defender - 01) Rs. 2,000.00
Lot 03 (Scrap APC - 02) Rs. 2,000.00

- Unserviceable vehicles available for sale can be inspected at the 'Naval Disposal Yard', SLNS 'Gemunu', Welisara, Ragama from 14th September 2020 to 06th October 2020 on any working day between 0900 hrs and 1600 hrs. Personnel who wish to enter Naval Premises with regard to the above tender are required to carry their National Identity Cards or valid Identity Cards.
- Tender will be accepted until 1400 hrs on 07th October 2020 and will be opened immediately thereafter at Sri Lanka Navy Headquarters, P.O. Box 593, Colombo 01.
- For further details, please contact Senior Staff Officer (Stores Management) T.P. 011-7193375.

CHAIRMAN
DEPARTMENT PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE
SRI LANKA NAVY HEADQUARTERS,
P.O. BOX 593,
COLOMBO 01.

Wanted Distributions

We are currently looking for distribution opportunities in the Galle District. We primarily prefer to distribute the builders' hardware items. If you are looking to expand your distribution in Galle and if you offer great ROI, please contact **0773947802**

SALE OF USED VEHICLES

- Grand Cherokee - 2004
- KIA Sorento - 2003

Can be inspected on working days at:
Maskeliya Plantation PLC
No: 310, High Level Road, Nawinna,
Maharagama

Contact: **Mrs. Ayanthi: 076 7 866 583**
Thilina: 071 5 811 339

Non Refundable Tender Charges - Rs. 250.00
Sealed Bids to be sent to the above Address on or Before 10th Oct 2020
Please indicate as "Bids for Vehicles" on the top left hand corner of the envelope



NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL SRI LANKA

REGISTRATION OF SUPPLIERS FOR THE YEAR 2021

01. Applications are hereby invited by the Chairman, National Research Council (NRC), from authorized agents of manufactures, local manufacturers, suppliers and civil engineering contractors/ consultants who wish to register themselves with the National Research Council for the Supply of Goods and Services during the Year 2021.

02. If Registration is sought for more than one category, separate applications should be sent for each category and all the applications to be sent in one envelope. If an applicant (mostly local agent) requests for registration for more than one principal, a separate application should be submitted for each such principal.

03. The payment of registration fee (Non-refundable) (as per Section 5) should be made along with applications to the National Research Council bank Account No "192935" - "Bank of Ceylon - Borella Super Grade". The paying in slip should be attached with applications and the company should be mentioned in the relevant slip. Cheques or Bank drafts or Money orders will not be accepted. Applications on the contrary will not be considered.

04. Applicants who seek registration should obtain a set of application forms from the Accountant, National Research Council, 120/7, Vidya Mawatha, Colombo 07 from **14th September 2020 to 28th September 2020**, during office hours (9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.) on presenting the Bank slip, depositing application fee (non-refundable) of Rs. 1000/- to the National Research Council Bank Account "192935" - "Bank of Ceylon - Borella Super Grade". Applications will not be issued after **28th September 2020** under any circumstances.

05. **Categories (Cat.) and registration fee (RF) (non-refundable) of Goods and Services.**

Cat.#	Cat. Description	RF Amount (Rs)
A.1	Medical Equipment and Laboratory Equipment (More than or equal to 10 Million and less than 50 Million)	12,500.00
A.2	Medical Equipment and Laboratory Equipment (More than or equal to 2 Million and less than 10 Million)	3,500.00
A.3	Laboratory Chemicals and Glassware	3,500.00
A.4	Office & IT Equipment (Fax Machines, Photocopy Machines, Duplicating Machines, Laminating Machines, Overhead Projectors, Computers, Printers, Servers, UPSs, Multimedia Projectors, Networking, Networking & Related Accessories, etc.....)	1,000.00
A.5	Stationery and other office requisites	1,000.00
A.6	Furniture and fittings	1,000.00
A.7	Clearing Services	1,000.00
A.8	Laboratory Services (sequencing, etc....) and other	1,000.00
A.9	Transport Services	1,000.00
A.10	Cleaning Material, utensils & other Accessories	1,000.00
A.11	Courier service (Local & overseas)	1,000.00
A.12	Printing Services (spiral Binding, Perfect Binding, Photocopying & Scanning)	1,000.00
A.13	Waste Management services (Electronics waste, paper etc....)	1,000.00
A.14	Other Services (Foods and Beverages, Catering Service, Refreshment & Lunch, Natural Water Bottles, Milk Powder, Sugar, Tea Leaves, Toilet Papers, Water Bottles)	1,000.00
A.15	Minor Vehicle Repairs (A/C repairs, electrical repairs, minor engine repairs, etc.)	1,000.00

06. Duly completed application forms together with all the necessary documents should be sent by Registered Post to:

The Chairman,
National Research Council,
120/7, Vidya Mawatha, Colombo 07.

07. The envelope containing application marked "REGISTRATION OF SUPPLIERS-2021" should be addressed to The Chairman, National Research Council, 120/7, Vidya Mawatha, Colombo 07 and sent by post to reach National Research Council on or before **28th September 2020**.

08. National Research Council will not take any responsibility/ liability if any delay in post/mail. If a supplier fails to submit the required information/ documents together with the application as requested, that application will not be validated and will not be refunded (both registration fee & category fees).

Chairman
National Research Council,
120/7, Vidya Mawatha,
Colombo 07.

Telephone : 011-2675176
E mail : dilushi@nrc.gov.lk / admindesk@nrc.gov.lk

Fax : 011-2675136
Web : www.nrc.gov.lk

Daily News Classifieds, the Housewives' companion



About our daughter, professionally qualified BA English (University of Kelaniya), LLB UK, MSc (currently reading) daughter, born April 1978, 5'5", fair, pretty, young looking, currently working as an English Lecturer in a reputed graduate school in Colombo. Academically & professionally qualified, caring, employed son from a respectable family is sought by B/G/K respectable retired teacher mother (Colombo suburb). All family members are university graduates. Please reply with family details and horoscope. mproposalsmj@gmail.com OB150712

About our, B/G 33 + yrs. 5'7" height slim & fair MBBS Doctor working in a Government Hospital. Parents seek a suitable partner for their daughter. Email: avp remadasa@gmail.com or write personally. OB150914

About 1986 M.B.B.S. Doctor pretty 5'3" only child in family, mother and father Government Principals, retired, house lands vehicle millions assets. anurap1977@gmail.com OB150769

Academically and professionally compatible well mannered partner sought for 1980 born daughter 5'3" MBBS/MD Doctor continuing postgraduate training. Mixed family father S/B/K, mother Tamil Hindu Vellalar. Please reply with horoscope and family details. pro poseddaughter2020@gmail.com OB150798

Academically and professionally qualified caring son is sought by dual citizen parents from Canada for 1990 born, height 5'3" well accomplished only child. She is graduated from Canadian University, professionally employed in provincial government and inherits assets in both countries. Horoscope matches Kuja 1,4,7, 8 & 12. Reply with horoscope, family details and contact numbers to: spduwa@gmail.com OB150656

Academically and professionally qualified caring son is sought by Govi Buddhist professional parents living in Sydney, Australia for their 28 year old daughter who is 5'4" tall, very pretty, fair, well accomplished and employed as a lawyer. Residents of Australia are preferred. Please reply with family details and horoscope to karurasa001@gmail.com OB150892

Academically and professionally qualified kind hearted partner is sought for the 27 year, 5'3" smart and well-mannered daughter with means, brought up with Sinhala Buddhist values, studied in a leading school Colombo. She is a qualified Chartered Accountant with 1st class Management Degree from a local university, reading for Masters while being employed in a leading group of companies. We are a Sinhalese Buddhist Karawa respectable family living in Colombo suburbs. Only the younger sister is also equally qualified in the Commerce and Finance field. Please write with a copy of horoscope to dhan aseelaf@gmail.com OB150985

Academically and professionally qualified son is sought by parents, living in Australia for their daughter born and educated in Australia age 28 height 5.4" pretty graduate working in the finance sector. Preferably looking for a similar background son to introduce leading to a marriage. Pl reply with full family details and horoscope. Email - Leo49888@hotmail.com OB150909

Academically and professionally qualified son is sought by respectable Bodu Govi parents living in Colombo for their daughter born 1983/09 holds BSc and MSc and working as an IT Lecturer. Please reply with family details and horoscope. mrj.mp57@gmail.com OB150617

Academically and professionally qualified son is sought by respectable Buddhist parents from Colombo for their youngest daughter born in 1992 March. She is 5'2" pretty fair studied in an International School Colombo, at present she is holding a managerial position in our family business. Reply with horoscope and family details to email: horoscopes7890@gmail.com OB150153

Academically and professionally qualified well mannered son from a respectable Govi / Buddhist family is sought by Govi / Buddhist Kandyan respectable parents from Colombo, for their slim, pretty daughter born 1993 5'5" studied at leading girls' school in Colombo. She is working in a law firm. She holds L.L.B. (UK) Attorney-at-Law. Please reply with horoscope and family details to kuja11, 2, 4, 8, 12) E-mail - anuki2829@gmail.com OB150949

Academically and professionally qualified well mannered son is sought by Govi / Karawa Buddhist parents from Colombo suburb for their slim pretty MBBS Doctor daughter 28 years 5'3". Please reply with a copy of horoscope and family details. gbmp7@gmail.com OB150959

Academically and professionally qualified well mannered son is sought by G/D respectable parents from Galle for their daughter born in 1978, 5'2" working as a Quantity Surveyor (asset - house in Galle City). OB150896



Academically and professionally qualified highly employed in IT field teetotaler son of moral values is sought by Bodu Govi recently retired respectable educated parents in Colombo suburbs for fair slim pretty well-mannered only child Software Engineer daughter born 1989, 5'1" educated in leading girls' school Colombo, IT graduated from private university. Inherits substantial assets. Reply with family details, horoscope and contact numbers from the first letter. sadani naran794@gmail.com OB150903

Academically and professionally qualified well-mannered son from a decent family is sought by B/G/K parents for their eldest daughter pleasant slim 5'2" born in 1995, excellent character with assets. She is graduated from a state university in Economics (Special) with a first class, studied in a leading girls' school in Colombo, works in a semi-government institute. Provide full details including the horoscope. Preferred Western Province. OB150939

Academically and professionally qualified well-mannered son is sought by G/B parents from Colombo District for daughter January 1990, 4'10" qualified with MBA, BSc, HNDE, working as a government employee. Reply with family details, horoscope. shashit.hilini2@gmail.com OB150934

Academically and professionally qualified well-mannered son is sought by respectable Buddhist parents from Colombo for their eldest daughter born in 1988. She is 5'4" pretty fair slim qualified and well-occupied daughter. Please reply with family details and the horoscope to: hscope783@gmail.com OB150159

Academically and professionally qualified, kind, caring, well-mannered son is sought by Govi Buddhist parents for their daughter 27 years, 5'6", pleasant, fair, slim, educated in a leading school in Colombo, brought up with Buddhist Sinhala values. Holds a BSc, MSc, MA and currently reading for a PhD in UK. Reply with family details & horoscope. Email: proposal0025@gmail.com OB150849

Academically and professionally qualified, well mannered son from Sri Lanka or overseas sought by retired B/G parents from Kandy for their 5'1" daughter (only child) Born in 1980 December and studied at leading girls' school Kandy, higher Studies from Australia. MBA qualified. Working in a reputed company in Colombo. Kuja 8. Please reply with horoscope and family details. prp236155@gmail.com OB150955

Academically qualified highly employed in IT field teetotaler son of moral values is sought by Bodu Govi recently retired respectable educated parents in Colombo suburbs for fair slim pretty well-mannered only child Software Engineer daughter born 1989, 5'1" educated in leading girls' school Colombo, IT graduated from private university. Inherits substantial assets. Reply with family details, horoscope and contact numbers from the first letter. sadani naran794@gmail.com OB150903

Academically qualified son is sought by S/B parents for their only daughter. She is USA born, 5'2", slim, pretty, 29 yrs, graduated reputed universities with BSc & MSc (Biology). Currently working as a Scientist. Prefer someone who is studying or living in USA. Email: redbirdfly03@gmail.com OB150586

Academically (BSc Mgt NSBM) & professionally qualified well-occupied, age 29 + 1990 5'0" daughter, parents, well-connected G/B seek a suitable son. Reply with family details & horoscope. 037-2230033. OB150861

Academically & professionally qualified well-mannered (teetotaler/non-smoker) tall, smart loving & caring son from a respectable family is sought by affluent Sinhala Buddhist established educated business parents for their eldest daughter 25 years (born in 1995), 5'8" tall, pretty, attractive, slim, independent, humble soul with an extremely outgoing personality who is brought-up with Sinhala Buddhist values. She is an academic & professional graduate who has completed her higher studies with a Master's, various other professional qualifications & currently employed at Sri Lanka's prestigious private sector organization. When replying to this advertisement, please reply with your personal family background details and horoscope. matrimonialproposals3@gmail.com OB150973

Academically / professionally qualified, well brought-up son with Sinhala Buddhist values and sober habits is sought by Kandyan G/B Australian citizen parents, to be introduced for our elder daughter leading to a marriage. She turned 34 yrs. 5'5", fair, pretty, slim, PhD (Medical Science). Now she is Research Associate attached to a leading Research Institute in USA. Ideally he should be G/B with similar background. Reply with full details and horoscope. Email only: laranalu86@outlook.com OB150638

Academically, Professionally qualified, well-mannered son (Below 27 years) from a respected family is sought by parents (Kandyan/Govi/Buddhist) from Colombo suburb for younger daughter 1997 (23Y/8M). She is fair and smart with good personality, currently in the final year of MBBS in a State Medical College. She has done schooling abroad and entered Medical College under foreign students' category. Father, professional and currently having own business practice abroad. Son, an engineer is currently working abroad. Email: pro phmsh@gmail.com OB150662

Affluent respectable Buddhist Karawa / Govi parents from South living in Colombo suburbs seek an academically and professionally qualified son below 30 years from a respectable family for their elder daughter 5'6" tall born in 1996 Jan. Pretty fair studied in leading Buddhist School in Colombo, Hon. Graduate in International Business Management. Works in a leading Group of Companies as an Executive. She inherits substantial assets. Non-malefic horoscope of migrating. Please reply with full family details and horoscope, contact numbers in first letter. E-mail: marriagepro1996@gmail.com OB150109

A God fearing, financially stable, educated, compassionate, tall gent who serves the needy is sought for a vivacious 43 year old, educated, Karawa Christian lady from a good family who is 5 ft 4", pretty, with a well rounded figure. Must have a positive mind and sense of humour and like children, animals, dancing. Widowers with children will be considered. bluerosewriters@gmail.com OB150859

A professional son sought by respectable Kelaniya, B/G, parents for 1981, fair, pretty, 5'5", IT professional (BSc/MSc), bank employed daughter, divorced brief marriage (innocent party) no kids, owns assets. mprop bride18@gmail.com OB150636

A respectable family, sought by mother a well-mannered educated good looking son for their daughter living in Thanamalwila 29 years height 5'1" obtained Degree in Bachelor of Arts at University of Jayawardenapura. Reply with horoscope contact information and family details to: kusunikumara962@gmail.com OB150650

A respectable & well connected B/K family from Colombo seek an academically qualified & well established caring son for our younger daughter born in 1984, pretty, charming, MBBS Doctor. Currently working in a government hospital in Colombo. Suitable son must be well conversant in English. Reply with family details & the horoscope. Please email to araliya22@yahoo.com OB150648

A suitable kind partner sought by sister for her younger sister B/G born in 1991, 5'4" beautiful, educated, well-mannered girl, working in a leading Financial Institution. Pls. reply with family details & contact details. Preferably from Uva Province. (chathu.senevirathne86@gmail.com) OB150654

A suitable kind son who is above 5'5" in height and was never married, born after December, 1987 from a respectable Karawa or Govi family, employed in Sri Lanka as a Doctor, Bank Executive, Accountant, Civil or Mechanical Engineer is sought by Buddhist Karawa parents for their bank executive daughter who holds a degree in business administration, an MBA and professional qualifications in banking from the Institute of Bankers. She is 27 plus, 5'3", slim and pleasant. A valuable residential property and other assets will be gifted to her. A son from Colombo, Gampaha, Kalutara, Galle or Matara District preferred. Please send family details and son's horoscope by post or email: apar tnerformarriage@gmail.com OB150760

A suitable partner sought by B/G parents from Galle for their daughter. Fair complexioned born in 1992-5'6". She has completed Management Degree from State University and currently working at a State Bank. Reply with horoscope to: milanmantha@yahoo.com OB150778

A suitable partner (preferably Doctor / Engineer) is sought for very pretty Doctor (MBBS-SL) daughter, 1991, 5'3", by business parents, caste immaterial. proposals 2020med@gmail.com OB150891

A suitable well established partner (below 40) is sought by G/B parents for their daughter 1984 born, 5'3" MBA holder working in Australia. Australian PR or citizen preferred. Reply with family details and horoscope. Email: marriage4380@gmail.com OB150935

A suitable well established partner (below 40) is sought by G/B parents for their daughter 1984 born, 5'3" MBA holder working in Australia. Australian PR or citizen preferred. Reply with family details and horoscope. Email: marriage4380@gmail.com OB150935

A suitable well established partner (below 40) is sought by G/B parents for their daughter 1984 born, 5'3" MBA holder working in Australia. Australian PR or citizen preferred. Reply with family details and horoscope. Email: marriage4380@gmail.com OB150935

A suitable well established partner (below 40) is sought by G/B parents for their daughter 1984 born, 5'3" MBA holder working in Australia. Australian PR or citizen preferred. Reply with family details and horoscope. Email: marriage4380@gmail.com OB150935

A well established business owned B/G respectable parents from Colombo seek an academically and professionally qualified son with sober habits with sound family background without encumbrances, age below 29 for their well accomplished fair and pretty daughter with assets born in 1994, 5'3" studied at a leading school in Colombo, professionally qualified, holds a MBA from a leading foreign university, working in a managerial capacity in a renowned private institute. Reply with horoscope and family details to drd19613@gmail.com OB150864

BG 1988 Jan, 5'1" Wadduwa fair and pretty. Masters degree holder in business, employed in the Corporate Sector seeking a professional partner from a good family background. Reply with CV and hope. OB150862

Bodu Govi Doctor mother from Gampaha District seeks an academically qualified decent partner for her 5'1" MBBS Doctor attached to a Govt Hospital born in 1983. OB150775

Bodu Govi parents from Colombo seek an educated well-mannered son living in England for their daughter born in 1991 August, 5'6" in height, employed as an Accountant in the UK upon completion of her BSc, MSc from Universities in UK. Please respond to proposaldght2019@gmail.com attached with horoscope of proposed son. OB150926

Bodu Govi parents in Colombo seek suitable partner for their pretty slim daughter born in 1991, brought-up with Buddhist values. Height 5'2", age 29 completed special Degree in State University and Masters in Social Science presently training as a Development Officer in Government Sector. She inherits monthly income from a commercial building, house, new car. Only sister is married to an Engineer and lives in U.K. Kuja 4th House. usha34perera@gmail.com OB150969

Bodu Govi parents seek academically qualified son for daughter born Dec. 1989, graduate in languages, reading for master's Assistant Manager at leading company. Compatible Rahu Sikuru 1st house. kand yhm123@gmail.com OB150758

Bodu Govi parents seek a suitable Doctor/Engineer partner for their 1990 pretty slim 5'2.5" Intern Medical Officer daughter. mprop450@gmail.com OB150761

Bodu Govi parents from South residing in Colombo suburbs seek an educated graduate son for daughter 5', 1987 June, graduate English teacher, father Specialist Doctor. Rahu 1, Kethu 7. proposalgle@gmail.com OB150905

Bodu Govi, Karawa mixed parents in Gampaha district seek a good pleasant educated and working above executive level or a popular business son for their eldest absolutely pretty fair beautiful daughter 1992 Nov., 5'5", who is working in government (corporation) sector and degree holder currently reading for masters in government university in MBM. She owned land property (100 perch) in Gampaha area. Her only sister is a QS and she is also a degree holder. 033 5713788 after 7.00 p.m. OB150876

Buddhist Dewa retired State Bank Manager father and Teacher mother seeks religious art loving Doctor, Engineer, Banker, Accountant son for College of Education Science Teacher (English medium) 26 years height 5'. Follows Degree in Rajarata University. Please reply with name contact number and horoscope. OB150681

Buddhist Vishwakula parents in Sydney, Australia are looking for a son to suit their daughter who is MBA Business Analyst. She is pretty and slim, born in 1989 June. Caste and religion immaterial. Please reply with a copy of the horoscope with date of birth and place. h mangala@gmail.com OB150710

Burgher Single Catholic parent seeks educated good looking English speaking broad minded employed son for daughter 32 years 5ft tall pre-school teacher. Reply with horoscope and contact details to: romainepatricia264@gmail.com OB150549

Business / Halagama / B parents seek a suitable partner for their lovely graduated daughter 27 years, 5'4" assets available. luckyfortune93@gmail.com 0817915736. OB150922

B/G mother from a respectable Buddhist family seeks an academically and professionally qualified, well mannered partner from a respectable family for her daughter 1995, 5'3", Software Engineer, presently employed inheriting considerable wealth. Reply with family details and horoscope. Email - rrmira@gmail.com OB150964

B/G parents from Colombo seek educated, below 34 suitable partner for their, fair, pretty, January 1991, 5' elder daughter, M.Sc., IT Engineer. Employed as an IT Engineer outside Sri Lanka, currently living in Australia, temporarily. Please respond with family details, horoscope and contact number 0112-700026 pjay91lk@gmail.com OB150951

B/G parents from South residing in Colombo suburbs seek an educated graduate son for daughter 5', 1987 June, graduate English teacher, father Specialist Doctor. Rahu 1, Kethu 7. proposalgle@gmail.com OB150905

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B/G parents seek an academically professionally qualified employed Sinhala Buddhist partner for their fair and pretty age 26 yrs. 5'3" studied at Colombo School and has completed degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering and is now following in her Masters at the University of Moratuwa. And Studying for CIMA Finals. Inherits assets from Colombo suburb. Please reply with horoscope. Email: shanthilalada bare@gmail.com No brokers. OB150690

B/G parents seek an educated son for their Chartered Architect 31 years 5'6" daughter. Send all details with horoscope. She owns assets of 2 storey house and new car. proposalmk53@gmail.com OB150685

B/G respectable parents seek academically and professionally qualified well-mannered son for their fair pretty slim daughter born 1982 December 5'7" height, brought-up with Buddhist values and working in a leading International School as a Science graduate (BSc) owns valuable properties and financial assets. Reply with full details and horoscope. Rahu 7, Puwasala Nekatha. propmarriage@gmail.com OB150751

B/G retired parents seek a suitable son for their daughter. She was born in 1984 July. She is 5'5" tall & slim & fair. She holds BSc Engineering, with CIMA and MBA and presently holding a managerial position in London branch of an international firm. She is legally separated from a marriage lasted only for 3 months. Please reply with family details & horoscope. mpks14@gmail.com OB150961

B/G retired professional parents near Colombo seek partner for daughter 37, 5'2" fair pretty slim caring studied at leading school, Colombo post-graduate management position in reputed company brought-up with Buddhist values, inherits house, assets. Reply with horoscope. (Registered not married also please reply. the marriage83@hotmail.com OB150765

B/K parents seek a professionally qualified and a well-mannered son for our daughter 32 years, 5'5" fair, slim, graduate and CIMA qualified working at Multinational company in Sri Lanka as a Manager. Owns a car. Kindly respond with family details contact No. and horoscope to pereradeva@hotmail.com OB150887

B.K.G parents Govt. Servants seek partner for only child fair slim pretty 5'3" born in 1994 studied at a leading Catholic School in Colombo passed a course in Banking at Institute of Bankers, considerable assets fully furnished modern upstairs house car etc 0382289505. Email: nemdu1994@gmail.com OB150778

Catholic Govi parents seek an educated partner for their eldest daughter born in 1981, 5'7" tan in complexion, educated in a leading girls school in Colombo, and has completed BSC & MSC in Information Technology, has own house and car, widowed with a five year old son, both living with parents. Please reply with full details. posal1939@gmail.com OB150735

Christian Tamil parents seek a kind and understanding partner for their pretty daughter 5'2", 29 years old Pre-School Teacher legally separated after 02 months of marriage and innocent party. Race immaterial. 0812420061. OB150730

Colombo BG sister looking for qualified handsome husband for pretty, fair, kind, divorced sister age 55 years. Working in a respectable place as a Coordinator. Please reply with details and contact numbers. OB150884

Colombo Buddhist parents seek educated well-mannered gentleman for professionally qualified very attractive daughter 5'4" 33 years presently living overseas. Respond with family details, Phone number and horoscope yarra87@gmail.com OB150675

Colombo B/K 1966 unmarried, pretty, looks young, 5' height, Airline Supervisor, possessing house/vehicle, brother seeks educated well-mannered employee/businessman. yama ha507@gmail.com OB150872

Colombo father Tamil Buddhist mother Sinhalese Buddhist looking for partner only daughter M.FIL/Phd (Reading) with LLM/UK, LLM LLB UK qualified Lecturer at Universities born in 1989. 0112-519764. OB150780

Colombo Roman Catholic pretty kind hearted LLB Lawyer Postgraduate 1986 5'3" below 40 Doctor, Engineer, good educated handsome person, millions house and properties her own Kuja 02. 0115685642 anurap1977@gmail.com OB150957

Colombo Sinhala Buddhist Vishwa professional parents seek well brought-up educated partner for their slim beautiful daughter 26 yrs. 5 ft. currently employed in a reputed software company returned from USA in June with bachelor's and Master's. Please reply with family details and copy of horoscope. Contact after 6 p.m. 011-2556726. Email: mplb9420@gmail.com OB150559

Col G/B parents seek a professional partner working, in Sri Lanka for their daughter born in 1989, 5'6", fair, slim, BSc Finance (first class), ACMA, CGMA, MBA, PIM working as a Financial Analyst. Legally separated from a short proposed marriage. Inherits valuable assets. Reply with family details & horoscope. auspr0p2017@gmail.com OB150777

Dear parents, I'm seeking a smart, educated suitable partner for my attractive 5'2" daughter born in 1983. We are Sinhala Buddhist, caste is immaterial, looking for an open minded, culturally balanced companion from professional/business background. Her academic background is in finance & management. She was educated in a private school & obtained both the undergraduate & Masters Degrees from a foreign university and has been working in Sri Lanka since returning from abroad. Inherits substantial assets. If interested, please respond with your son's details along with social media profile and horoscope. We maintain confidentiality in all matters & would appreciate same from you. Best wishes, father. proposalc364@gmail.com OB150731

Dehiwala B/G parents seek suitable son for 31 years, 5'7" fair Visakha educated, graduate, employed daughter she is divorced from 3 months unsuccessful marriage as plaintiff no family or other encumbrances only brother married replies with H/C. OB150773

Entrepreneurial family with Businesses in US and Sri Lanka based in NJ, USA seek a suitable professionally qualified well-mannered son for their 24 years daughter. She is 5'6" tall, slim, attractive, MBA final year, works for an IT firm in NJ as an Executive. Son must be currently living and working in US or Canada. E-mail: wijepeter@gmail.com OB150875

Friend seeks a gentleman for an independent, devout Roman Catholic girl 35 years, height 5'7". Working as a Senior Manager at a leading private company in Colombo. Educated at a private Catholic School in Dehiwala, very kind, caring and generous person. Pls contact on : gjmith@skchemsolutions.lk OB150728

Gampaha, Bodu Govi, age 23, pretty, fair and slim, 5'2", brought up with Buddhist values, graduated in Management, working as an Executive in a reputed company, inherits valuable assets. Professional parents seek, educated and professionally qualified, well-mannered son. Reply by post or email with son/family details with horoscope copy. Email: jayas820@gmail.com. Phone: 0332262606. OB150844

Govi Buddhist born 1992, 5'7", slim, fair, MBBS qualified Graduate daughter facing the ACT 16 Examination. She possesses an unblemished character, parents seek a suitable partner. Father a renowned wealthy entrepreneur, mother in charge of a garment industry, brother student. Respond with horoscope and other relevant details. Our daughter will inherit a substantial dowry. OB150888

Govi Buddhist Kuli-yapitiya closely elder sister seeks educated employed partner with sober habits willing to stay in from North Western Province for her younger sister 39 years Graduate Development Officer, owns many properties. OB150584

Govi Buddhist retired parents from Down South seek a suitable partner for their daughter 28, Hons graduate working in a leading Pvt commercial bank, 5'4", fair good looking and accomplished. Elder daughter MBA qualified Hons. graduate, holding a top post in the Pvt sector, married to a Chartered Engineer, brother an Engineer married to an Engineer too domiciled in Australia. Reply with horoscope. OB150878

Govi/Catholic parents from Gampaha District seek professionally qualified partner for their daughter, 1985 born 5'6" in height with fair complexion Graduate, MBA, ACMA, working for a reputed Company. Reply proposal.perera@yahoo.com Tel. 0112226720. OB150974

G/B mother from a respectable family in Galle seeks an academically qualified, good looking partner with sober habits for her daughter, 32, 5'2", BA and MBA. She is good looking, well broughtup and inherits assets. Reply with family details and horoscope. Email : marriagepropo1988@gmail.com OB150901

G/B parents seek a suitable partner for their pretty Graduate daughter who is a student Counsellor in a leading International School. She is 5'2" tall & 34+ years of age, Shani in the 7th House Kuja in the 8th. Please reply with details. hswar namala@gmail.com OB150551

Kandyan Bodu Govi, respectable parents seek professionally and academically qualified son for their 1986, BSc, MSc, English medium government teacher, fair, slim, cash dowry and property available. Reply with TP number. maproposjs@gmail.com OB150877

Kandyan G/B parents from respectable family seek an academically professionally qualified G/B partner for their daughter BSc. (Hons). Software Engineer currently reading for MSc. born in October 1991, fair, slim, pretty, 5'6" tall, educated in leading School in Kandy. Non-malefic H/C. n mally780@gmail.com OB150572

Kandyan G/B parents with Radala connections seek a suitable partner of similar status for their daughter born in March 1992. She studied in a private girls' school in Kandy and currently holds a managerial position in a leading company. She has other qualifications and accomplishments as well. Please reply with horoscope and all family details to: b rproposal2019@gmail.com OB150966

Kandy born 92 height 5'6" pretty fair executive administrative officer daughter of reputed company in Western Province. Teacher mother seeks suitable partner. Parents please reply. OB150547

Kandy MSc. qualified professionally employed only daughter 29 yrs., 5'2", GB mother seeks educated partner. Reply with family details and horoscope. san d.jaya@yahoo.com OB150596

Malabe Sinhala Buddhist lady 56 young looking medium built no children living single having assets seeks gentleman for settlement in life, preferred from Colombo. Reply lovely2roses@yahoo.com OB150565

Malay parents seek a professionally qualified partner below 30 for their only daughter 26 fair and slim having a first class degree in financial Maths from a foreign University and CFA / She holds a responsible position in a leading foreign bank. slmalay@hotmail.com OB150575

Matarata Sinhala Govi Buddhist family seeking an academically and professional qualified son for their youngest daughter who is slim fair and brought up with Buddhist values. Proposed daughter is 1990/12 born 5'3" height and an MBBS Doctor working in a government hospital. Doctors and Engineers preferred. Please reply with family details and horoscope. Email: mrgrp2017@gmail.com OB150791

Moor Muslim mother from Colombo seeks a partner for her only daughter who is a manageress in a Cargo firm in Abudhabi (UAE) She is 28, 5'4" pretty and very fair studied in a ladies college in Colombo up to A/L, fluent in English. willing to find a Sri Lankan partner to live in Europe or any other country, the groom should be qualified Muslim good looking and below 32. Email: hafga77@gmail.com OB150553

Moor parents from Colombo living in Saudi Arabia seek a religious, educated, professionally qualified groom from a respectable family for their A/L English educated, 21 year old, 5'3" tall, pretty, fair daughter who wears the abaya and nikab. (Her Nikah / Engagement was cancelled and annulled after a brief period of four months due to incompatibility and the wedding was called off). Please send email to: meeqaat6412@gmail.com OB150912

Moor parents seek a professionally qualified groom for their educated daughter age 24 medium complexion height 5'3". 2672446. OB150555

Moor respectable, well-connected parents Colombo seek suitable partner for daughter IT Graduate + AAT 30, 5'2" fair, pretty religious. She owns valuable assets. Migrate possible. nikah757@gmail.com OB150871

Mother from an affluent and well respected Govigama Buddhist family seeks for a kind-hearted 25 years old daughter not highly academically qualified but with an aptitude for art and design, a caring educated partner from a well respected family of a similar background. Horoscope essential. Contact: propd29@gmail.com OB150930

Mother seeks a well-educated decent faithful boy from a decent Sri Lankan family. Must be a kind-hearted loving person who knows the value of marriage, willing lifetime journey with God. Must be a non-smoker, non-alcoholic. Seeks height above 5'9", age below 30. We are Australian Citizens, willing dual citizenship in future. Girl is faithful Christian, 5'3", 24 years, slim beautiful, brought up with Sri Lankan values and culture, a new engineer, passed out from a leading University in Australia with First Class in Civil Engineering. Works as a Civil Engineer in a leading engineering consultancy in Brisbane. Parents well-educated, both engineers. Email: ja y.ranas@yahoo.com OB150941

Muslim professional lady, single, age 42, height 5'4", looking for a life partner to settle down. Very fair in complexion and smart outgoing character. Requirements of the groom: age 40-45, single, educated, tall and most importantly who respects women. Also needs to be very honest. Prefer to have a businessman or a professional with a good monthly income to have a quality life. Divorces please do not respond. Dowry seekers and people who want to time pass please do not waste time in replying. Preferred religion, Islam, Tamil. Other religions are too welcome. Foreigners too welcome. lind amalinda2018@gmail.com OB150644

Negombo B/G educated business parents seek Doctor Engineer son for MBBS fair pretty 30, 5'4" daughter. Only sister Doctor in Australia. Assistance to settle or study abroad. Email: kumararathne madhavi@gmail.com OB150846

Our daughter, fair and slim, 5'4" height. Beauty, glamour and style. She has it all. Calm, composed and kind-hearted nature. Age 39, looks 25. G/B professional family seeks a tall, well built, handsome partner, below 48 years who is residing abroad or Sri Lanka an educated businessman, who is established and fluent in English, from a similar background. Differences immaterial. Divorced innocent party will be considered. H'cope with contact numbers essential. E-mail : nic ebridles123@gmail.com OB150634

Our 32 year old daughter seeks a free-spirited fun loving adventurous and open minded gentleman to build a life with. She is a doctor by profession, who is living and working in the UK. Please get in touch for more information. Reply with horoscope. da pesi20@gmail.com OB150677

Parents seek a qualified partner below forty for daughter 34, 5'2", pretty, BSc qualified registered nurse with dowry. 031-2252931, 031-3315696. OB150897

Parents seek professionally qualified, non-smoking, Sinhala-Buddhist partner with a sociable personality (who would settle down in Sri Lanka), for their 30 yr. old daughter, 5 ft. tall, slim, fair, family-oriented, who studied at a leading Girls' School in Colombo and working as a Doctor (MBBS) in Government Service. Caste immaterial. Reply with a copy of horoscope and family details. Email : n sdt90@hotmail.com OB150869

Parents seek suitable decent life partner for their 1991 born pretty, kind, academically qualified daughter living in Australia. abey sekaresumithra@gmail.com OB150667

Ratnapura B/G retired parents from government service seek academically and professionally qualified, teetotaler son for their pretty, slim, kind-hearted daughter born in 1986, height 5'2". She is a MBBS Doctor, graduated from Faculty of Medicine, Karapitiya. Please reply with horoscope and family details. Email: rpr asadinik@gmail.com OB150950

Reputed business family from Southern Province seeks an educated simple affectionate son for their only daughter 32 years, 5'3", Kuja 7, foreign educated entrepreneur owns substantial assets. Reply with horoscope and family details. E-mail: anilkoththagoda@gmail.com OB150945

Respectable Bodu Deva mother (Galle) seeks a suitable partner for her pleasant looking daughter, Government English medium Science Teacher 5'6" 1992. p ropoduwa@gmail.com OB150847

Respectable, professional G/B parents from Colombo seek a suitable partner for our attractive, slim, well accomplished daughter, born December 1985, 5'4" Sri Lankan Medical Graduate employed (MD) in USA, well-mannered and brought up with Buddhist values. Those residing in US or willing to migrate preferred. Please reply with family details and horoscope. Email only: kprop20@gmail.com OB150592

Roman Catholic Colombo Tamil parents fluent in Sinhala seek son from U.K. for daughter who resides in UK, graduate aged 31 plus height 5'2", working in U.K. Caste immaterial. jo jo_sl6@hotmail.com OB150855

Seeking (33-38) Hindu Vellalar, well placed, educated in reputed institute, groom for slim fair Hindu (32, 5'5") bride, who graduated from university of Colombo. (E-mail: wedding.proposal@gmail.com) OB150881

Sinhala B/K parents seek well-mannered caring academically and professionally qualified son for their youngest daughter presently in Australia. She is medium complexioned, slim and attractive, born in 1991, 5'4", educated at a leading school in Colombo and also completed Postgraduate Masters degree from reputed university in Australia. She is legally separated from proposed registration. Please reply with family details and horoscope to email only. proposalj91@gmail.com OB150889

Sinhala Catholic parents from Western Province seek a qualified and well-mannered son for their convent educated academically & professionally employed daughter born in November 1992, 5'3" in height. Please respond to: dtmconsultations@gmail.com OB150670

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Sinhala parents (professional & retired) in Colombo looking for an academically professionally qualified truly caring and understanding son for our 38 kind and caring daughter. She is academically qualified and employed. Legally separated after a brief incompatible marriage. No encumbrances. Inherits substantial assets. Reply with horoscope. k umamp2020@gmail.com OB150979

Sinhalese Buddhist/Karawa retired parents residing in Canada seek professionally qualified well mannered son for their eldest daughter born in 1985, currently studying in a state medical faculty, Sri Lanka. Completing MBBS in 2021 brought up with Sri Lankan Buddhist values. Please reply with family details, horoscope, contact number to: proposa l.can.sl@gmail.com OB150980

Sinhalese Catholic parents seek a suitably educated handsome well-mannered son with good values for the educated daughter well-employed in New Zealand. She is 24 yrs., fair, pretty and 5'4". Please reply with full details. mpetro210@gmail.com OB150646

Sri Lankan Canadian B/G parents, who brought up their children, according to Sinhalese/Buddhist values, seek academically / professionally qualified person/established businessman with pleasant personality, sober habits, below 30 yrs., 5'11" or above for their professionally qualified, kind-hearted, well-mannered, pretty, slim daughter 27 yrs., 5'8", works as an Account Payable Manager in a reputed Company, in Toronto Canada. Delayed reply with copy of horoscope & email address to proposal2020c@hotmail.com OB150562

S/B mother looking for a well brought up, educated son for an Engineer daughter, 29 yrs 5'3", currently working in USA. A son currently living in USA/Canada is preferred. Please contact with family details and a copy of horoscope to: n. wsiri60@gmail.com OB150829

Udarata B/G parents seek a well-mannered N/S, T/T professionally qualified well-employed, well-mannered charming daughter born in Feb. 1994 who is a BSc Graduate (1st Class), CIMA passed finalist. Employed in a leading private sector organisation in Colombo. Please reply with family details & horoscope. kpherath9@gmail.com OB150851

Well-mannered and educated son is sought by B/S/G parents for their well chartered, slim, fair, pretty, Senior Lecturer (BSc, MSc, PhD) daughter (1980). Valuable assets available. E-mail: maproposals2020@gmail.com OB150642

Well-mannered professionally qualified son with sober habits & willing to migrate to England is sought by B/K parents of respectable family in Colombo suburbs for their daughter, MBBS currently engaged with postgraduate studies in Australia is expecting to move to the U.K. soon. Born in Aug. 1990, 5'4" pretty fair. Please reply with family details & horoscope to: mrdpropvl1990@gmail.com OB150745

We are a B/G respectable family, mother seeks a well-mannered partner for her 54, 5'2" educated pretty looks like 40, very attractive unmarried daughter. (Personnel Executive Officer) Differences immaterial. balasuriyak12@gmail.com OB150836

1980 Homagama, Bodu Govi height 5'3" Colombo Hospital MBBS Doctor parents seek a partner please reply with family details horoscope with telephone number. OB150724

1982 R/C fair 5'6" Convent & foreign educated leading to BSCs assets substantial monthly income owns an apartment car Colombo based respectable family. john terrence2015@gmail.com OB150722

1984 Sep Aus PR .5'3" BG family seeks MBBS Doctor or Engineer son willing to migrate to Australia. Our daughter is a Medical Scientist Ph.D. daya2591@gmail.com OB150853

1985 Colombo B/K 5'6" middle complexion pleasant foreign MBBS Doctor, only child with assets parents seek suitable partner. Send horoscope. mproposals8512@gmail.com OB150786

1987 height 5'1" Govi Buddhist mother seeks suitable partner for BSc Engineer daughter. prop osalksk@gmail.com OB150660

1987 January born convent educated Degree and MBA holder height 5'4" working in a private bank as an Executive, mother seeks very kind hearted educated and working son. 0112956617. OB150842

1990 height 5'3" Govi Buddhist parents seek suitable partner for nursing officer daughter. proposalksk@gmail.com OB150658

1990 May Ratnapura B/G 5' unblemished beautiful daughter Lawyer, father (businessman) mother (Teacher) and Executive brother seek an educated, decent, virtuous partner. Non-malefic horoscope. an omaalwis.lr@gmail.com OB150600

1990, GB respectable parents from Colombo suburbs, seek a professionally qualified son for their daughter, MBBS Doctor. Please send the horoscope to email: w wdag2019@gmail.com OB150857

1992 Western Province April born Lecturer (English) of a State University. Currently following MA, Sinhala Buddhist. Govi/Deva 5' 6 1/2" tall slim, pretty, fair religious well-mannered daughter. Respectable business parents are seeking an educated religious well-mannered son. Elder daughter with a medical degree married to Engineer. Please reply with family details and horoscope. Email: harenderawijayasiri@gmail.com OB150833

1993 April born Bodu Govi slim 5'5" daughter educated at a Colombo reputed school, will be graduating in December, mother seeks academically qualified and employed son for her daughter. (Res. in Kegalle) reply with horoscope. OB150774

1996 August born slim pleasant employed graduate from a respectable Sinhala Buddhist family. Parents seek a smart and educated son from a business family. m.20 20.proposals@gmail.com OB150750

1999 Jan. born B/G 5'1" height slim fair pretty 3rd year law student excellent character and having valuable assets, studied in a leading girls' school in Colombo. Parents seek suitable partner. Preferably Medical Engineering/bank executives from Western Province. Please reply with family details & contact No. Telephone 0112361488. premara thnedhammika@gmail.com OB150772

32 years Govi Buddhist parents seek same caste educated employed partner for their pretty slim daughter height 5'4" Science Graduate working overseas as A/L Physics Teacher of International School, Horoscope with Dosha Bhanga Shani Mangala Yoga. ram.gm5.proposals@gmail.com OB150831

Moor respectable family from Colombo seeks a religious bride for professionally qualified, handsome, 5'10", sober son working as a Software professional, 39. Email: proposalgro om2020@gmail.com OB150611



About our son: Professionally qualified, BSc (Moratuwa), MSc (UK) Engineer son, born August 1983, 5'7" handsome working as an Electronics & Telecommunication Engineer in Europe. Academically and professionally qualified caring, pretty daughter from a respectable family is sought by B/G/K respectable retired teacher mother (Colombo suburb). All family members are university graduates. Please reply with family details and horoscope. mproposals1983@gmail.com OB150714

Academically and professionally qualified kind and pretty daughter is sought by respectable B/G parents from Colombo suburb for their 6 feet tall fair handsome younger son born in 1993 November graduated from University of Moratuwa and working as an Electrical Engineer at a leading government sector company in Sri Lanka. Please reply with horoscope and all the relevant details to: jayanthi.at hukorala52@gmail.com OB150687

Academically and professionally qualified pretty daughter living in the UK is sought by B/G professional parents for their son living in the UK. He has a degree from a prestigious university in the UK and other professional qualifications. He is a dual citizen and well employed in London. He is handsome smart 5'9" tall, 37 years old. Please reply with full family details, horoscope and contact numbers. Email: agpmkn@yahoo.co.uk OB150577

Academically and professionally qualified well-mannered pretty daughter with Sinhala Buddhist values from a decent family preferably Doctor or Engineer (residing, employed in USA) is sought by respectable Sinhala Buddhist Deva family residing in Colombo for their highly qualified handsome son. He is Chartered Electrical Engineer graduated from US University works in USA. 33 years 5'4" height NS/TT, kind personality only younger brother is an Engineer. Caste immaterial. Please reply with horoscope, family details and contact information to: mpartner17@yahoo.com OB150708

Academically qualified pretty daughter, living in Australia or willing to migrate sought for their son. He is BSc and MBA qualified Project Manager / Business Analyst, Australian citizen working for Australian company. He is 55 years, younger looking and 5'10" in height and handsome. He had unsuccessful marriage and got divorced. Have two children and they live with the mother. We are Buddhists, Govigama family. Caste immaterial. Reply with family details, horoscope and a photograph of the proposed daughter to mangala2021@gmail.com OB150916

Academically qualified pretty slim kind daughter is sought by Buddhist Karawa well-to-do respectable parents in Colombo suburbs for their slim smart handsome son 32, 5'8" non-smoker teetotaller PhD in Science (Australia) currently working as a Senior Lecturer in a Government University, Sri Lanka. Inherits substantial assets. Brother MBBS Doctor. Caste immaterial. proposalmarriage8790@gmail.com OB150971

Academically qualified pretty & tall partner sought by Catholic parents from USA for their academically & professionally qualified son 33 years of age handsome, height 6'2". He is employed by a reputed international consulting firm as a Manager. Reply with family details. Email: marriagep575@gmail.com OB150838

Academically professionally qualified daughter sought for B/G, 37, 5'5", PhD, Senior Lecturer migrations considered. mprose345@gmail.com OB150784

Academically qualified well-mannered pretty daughter is sought by very respectable Bodu Govi family living in Colombo suburbs for their son born in 1992 July, 5'6", working as an executive in a reputed company. He owns substantial amount of assets and financially very stable. A non-smoker and teetotaller. Please send details with a copy of horoscope to mproposal1921@gmail.com OB150898

Academically qualified, fair slim, pretty, well-mannered, Christian daughter, employed or unemployed is sought by respectable Govi, Christian parents with means living in Colombo suburbs for their handsome, 5 ft. 10 in. tall, 29 year old, only son educated in a leading Colombo School. He is a qualified Engineer holding a Senior Managerial position in the private sector inheriting substantial assets. Please forward full family details to mps kp1990@gmail.com OB150640

Affluent parents from a respectable Govi family from Western Province seek an academically qualified daughter for their 43 years old handsome well accomplished kind-hearted son, Manager in highly reputed Apparel Company in Sri Lanka, legally separated from the previous marriage. Please contact with HC copy. (Pisces ascendant is special). kelum26@yahoo.com OB150568

An educated beautiful fair slim daughter below 40 is sought by GB mother for MBBS Doctor son age 47 5'3" much younger looking, working in UK dual citizenship. He is a nonsmoker with sober habits, educated in Colombo leading school. Email: olomboproposal19@gmail.com OB150458

An educated well-mannered decent pretty daughter sought by B/parents in Gampaha son 1985, 5'10" working for an Airline owning substantial amount of assets legally separated from brief marriage. Please send horoscope to: dilu4skk@gmail.com (Kuja, Rahu 7). OB150882

Australian PR 5'11", 38, BSc, IT, legally separated Engineer, parents invite suitable daughter. 0113647277. OB150976

A beautiful and humble daughter who's willing to live abroad is sought for our handsome religious non-smoking and non-alcoholic son who resides in Canada and works as a private investigation officer as well as a martial art coach. Aged 39, 5'6" Bodu Govi. Reply with details and phone number. bcgroom81@gmail.com OB150756

Academically qualified well-mannered pretty daughter is sought by very respectable Bodu Govi family living in Colombo suburbs for their son born in 1992 July, 5'6", working as an executive in a reputed company. He owns substantial amount of assets and financially very stable. A non-smoker and teetotaller. Please send details with a copy of horoscope to mproposal1921@gmail.com OB150898

Academically qualified, fair slim, pretty, well-mannered, Christian daughter, employed or unemployed is sought by respectable Govi, Christian parents with means living in Colombo suburbs for their handsome, 5 ft. 10 in. tall, 29 year old, only son educated in a leading Colombo School. He is a qualified Engineer holding a Senior Managerial position in the private sector inheriting substantial assets. Please forward full family details to mps kp1990@gmail.com OB150640

A suitable well-mannered daughter is sought by G/B parents for their Electrical Engineer son 34, 5'8" working for a foreign company. Separated from a brief marriage as plaintiff. Reply with horoscope with family details. Email: marriage389@gmail.com OB150937

BG parents seeking an educated slim daughter for their son, studied at Royal College, BA (Hons) holder, reside in UK. He is divorced, 38, height 5'11", pleasant and smart. Please provide full details, a copy of the horoscope in the first correspondence. Email to jweera2020@gmail.com (Non-malefic horoscopes only). OB150923

Bodu Govi parents seek a partner for their handsome NS/TT son born in 1989 height 5'11" studied at a leading school in Kandy, graduated with BSc (Hons) in Software Engineering degree. He was attached to a well known Software Firm in Colombo as a Software Engineer and presently managing his own Software Company providing services to the international market. He owns a modern house in Colombo suburbs, luxury SUV and inherits other properties, educated well-mannered caring daughter is sought. Please reply with family details and horoscope. marp rop2019@gmail.com OB150767

Bodu, Govi Kandy parents of a respectable family from Kandy seek for their son, 1986/5 born 5'11" fair smart N/S, T/T, honours graduate with professional and postgraduate qualifications, state Bank Executive son possessing substantial assets, a suitable educated well employed, fair, pretty over 5" height daughter from a G/B respectable family. Upcountry areas, Colombo and suburbs preferred. Write or Email family details with horoscope. mproposal247@gmail.com OB150674

A Christian Govi family seeking a professionally qualified Christian daughter for their 32 year old son. Australian citizen. 5'10" height. Fair and handsome, NS/TT was educated at a leading Anglican College. He is CIMA qualified holds a Masters in Accounting. Pursuing C.F.A & other. Works at a Financial Accounting Company as a Financial Advisor. Owns assets in Melbourne & Colombo. Two siblings reside in Australia. Tel: 0112714877. Email: nirmalee.d esilva@gmail.com OB150626

A suitable partner, preferably living in the USA is sought by Sinhala parents from Colombo for their son who is a very qualified and a well accomplished professional holding a senior managerial position in a prestigious company in Colombo. He frequently travels to the USA on work and is well acquainted with the life and culture in USA. A teetotaler, non-smoker. He is 46 years old but looks much younger than that. Divorcees are also considered. Please send your daughter's details to: sudafer@gmail.com OB150702

A suitable well-mannered daughter is sought by G/B parents for their Electrical Engineer son 34, 5'8" working for a foreign company. Separated from a brief marriage as plaintiff. Reply with horoscope with family details. Email: marriage389@gmail.com OB150937

BG parents seeking an educated slim daughter for their son, studied at Royal College, BA (Hons) holder, reside in UK. He is divorced, 38, height 5'11", pleasant and smart. Please provide full details, a copy of the horoscope in the first correspondence. Email to jweera2020@gmail.com (Non-malefic horoscopes only). OB150923

Bodu Govi parents seek a partner for their handsome NS/TT son born in 1989 height 5'11" studied at a leading school in Kandy, graduated with BSc (Hons) in Software Engineering degree. He was attached to a well known Software Firm in Colombo as a Software Engineer and presently managing his own Software Company providing services to the international market. He owns a modern house in Colombo suburbs, luxury SUV and inherits other properties, educated well-mannered caring daughter is sought. Please reply with family details and horoscope. marp rop2019@gmail.com OB150767

Bodu, Govi Kandy parents of a respectable family from Kandy seek for their son, 1986/5 born 5'11" fair smart N/S, T/T, honours graduate with professional and postgraduate qualifications, state Bank Executive son possessing substantial assets, a suitable educated well employed, fair, pretty over 5" height daughter from a G/B respectable family. Upcountry areas, Colombo and suburbs preferred. Write or Email family details with horoscope. mproposal247@gmail.com OB150674

A beautiful and humble daughter who's willing to live abroad is sought for our handsome religious non-smoking and non-alcoholic son who resides in Canada and works as a private investigation officer as well as a martial art coach. Aged 39, 5'6" Bodu Govi. Reply with details and phone number. bcgroom81@gmail.com OB150756

Buddhist Medium level parents residing in Ganemulla seeking a truly beautiful, educated, fair and smart daughter with positive and honest attitude over the age 18 from a respectable family. The proposed son is 31 years. (Born 1988), 5'6", truly handsome, fair, well-mannered and has an excellent personality. He is currently reading for masters reputed university in Australia and working as a part time employee. He was holding a managerial level position before leaving the country in a top pharmaceutical company. Horoscope is immaterial. Please reply with full family details & horoscope, Telephone Number at the first instant itself. OB150918

Buddhist Sinhalese respectable parents seek an academically qualified, well-mannered, fair, slim daughter for their handsome, MBBS Doctor son, UK dual citizen, 31, 5'5", very fair, NS/TT, brought up with Buddhist values. Caste immaterial. Please reply with horoscope to: indraj aya5789@gmail.com OB150623

B/G close to Colombo respectable parents seek educated pretty fair daughter for our smart educated businessman son born 1990, 6' owns luxury vehicle, house and inherits substantial assets. Legally separated from a brief unsuccessful marriage with no encumbrances. Please reply with family details, H/C and contact number. OB150793

B/G parents seek an educated daughter for their son, 28 years, 6", Senior Lecturer with BSc/PhD and Australian PR. 011-2706379. prop salma20@gmail.com OB150698

B/G respectable family in Kandy seeks academically and professionally qualified (graduated and above) pretty, fair and accomplished daughter (more than 5'2" and after 1993) willing to migrate Australia. Our son is handsome, well-mannered 29 years, 5'11" and professionally qualified with Masters in Engineering in a leading University in Australia. He is a PR Holder who works as an Electronic Engineer in reputable company in Sydney. Please email copy of horoscope, family and contact details to: sisi rakumari@outlook.com OB150688

B/G Wennappuwa suburbs mother seeks fair pretty an educated daughter from a respectable family for her MBBS Doctor son. 1990 born, handsome, 5'5" height. He inherits substantial valuable assets. Reply with horoscope (Kuja 7 / Saturn 7). OB150779

Colombo suburbs retired B/G parents seek a well-mannered daughter working abroad or in Sri Lanka for their divorced only son with no children 1977, 5'8" educated in a leading school in Colombo a hotel school graduate, post graduate in HR from University of Colombo, previously employed as a Hotel Manager presently doing his own business. Differences immaterial. shp.p oposal@gmail.com OB150607

Colombo suburb Buddhist Govi parents seek an employed educated virtuous daughter for their son born in June 1992, 5'5" tall. Studied at a Colombo leading School, Moratuwa University BSc. Engineer, CIMA fully qualified, presently studying at Law College, while working in a leading Company as an Executive. He owns a house and new vehicle. Rahu first House, Kethu Buda seventh House, Kuja fifth House, Dhanu Lagna, Saa Nekatha. Only brother studying Government University. Please respond with full family details & horoscope, Telephone Number at the first instant itself. ussow92@gmail.com OB150590

Gampaha B/G 5'4", 31 years, handsome son employed as executive abroad, teetotaler, owns a valuable house. Engineer/Teacher parents look for an educated, fair and thin daughter. E-mail: victory2860@gmail.com OB150967

GB mother looking for a bride for her 39 years old handsome tall son who is involved with business. propo780@gmail.com OB150953

Govigama Catholic respectable parents seek a god fearing loving faithful qualified partner willing to live in USA for son IT Consultant caring and understanding 40 years, 5'6" divorced. OB150561

Govi Bodu respectable parents from up country seek well-mannered, educated pretty daughter grown up with Sinhala Buddhist cultural values, from B/G respectable family for our educated, handsome son with sober habits studied in leading school in Kandy. Age 30 yrs. Kandyan family is preferred. Better to be fluent in English and willing to migrate if necessary. Please reply with full details of family and horoscope and contact details to email: jwick777@yahoo.com OB150906

Govi Buddhist 44 1976 Lawyer Senior position leading corporate teetotaler NS, 5'6 1/2". OB149290

Govi Buddhist 5'3" age 45 yrs. Angaharu in 7th divorced in short marriage without children MBA qualified work in private sector, mother seeks qualified suitable partner. Reply with horoscope copy. OB150581

G/B Kandy, professional parents looking for a bride for their son 26 yrs (1994 Jan) - Executive in a private sector - (Textile Engineering - Moratuwa University) - 0812354787 - ranaw eerakishani@gmail.com OB150776

G/B parents in SL seek an educated, humble girl to propose to their son who is 26 yrs. old, 5'8" tall, completed BSc/MSc in the USA, and currently studying towards his PhD there. Caste and religion are immaterial. Please email with family details to deva nmmini99@gmail.com OB150632

G/B parents residing in Colombo seek a partner for their son 34, 5'6", educated in a leading school in Colombo 07, Attorney-at-law with a LL.B, B.Bus, MBA inherits substantial assets. Reply propdum@yahoo.com OB150613

G/B respectable business parents from Colombo seek a pretty, fair, slim, fluent in English, professionally & academically qualified from a foreign university who is already settled overseas or planning to migrate with similar family background, caste immaterial, for Civil Engineer Son (B Eng, MSc, from Universities abroad) working as a Research Associate in a reputed university Singapore, 5'4" 32+ handsome, fair, hobbies travelling. Inherits valuable assets in Sri Lanka. Kuja 8. Horoscope with males in 1, 2, 4, 7, 8 would be suitable. Reply with full family details horoscope. Email: proposalig@hotmail.com OB150865

I am 54 years (divorced), handsome (very much young looking), 5'8" height, well established seeks a pleasant kind hearted partner from a respectable family for early marriage. Please reply with full details, contact number to ch an20204848@gmail.com OB150630

Kandyan Govi/Buddhist respectable parents, Colombo suburbs seek pretty kindhearted daughter with good family background, height above 5'4", below 28 years for their son, 29 years, handsome fair, height 5'10" educated at a leading school in Colombo, completed degree at a private university. Presently working as an Engineer at a reputed Company in Colombo, owns valuable land, vehicle. Non-malefic horoscope. Please reply with family details with a copy of horoscope and contact Tel Nos. preferred Colombo & Gampaha Districts. OB150625

Malay parents seek a Malay or Moor girl age 30-34 educated fair, tall no Abaya in Colombo, for son abroad, educated, no smoking, good job. Contact after 10 am. 0112334035 OB149739

Moor mother from a Colombo family seeks bride for Engineer son living in the U.S. (undergrad and postgrad completed in USA), 29 years old, 5'7", moderately religious, teetotaler. Bride should be a graduate, modest, between 25-29 and living in the US. Please forward details of the bride and family to: marriageproposalsmimm@gmail.com OB150931

Moor uncle seeks bride for 24 year old nephew Canadian citizen CISCO Network Cyber Security Consultant with BBA currently doing Masters' fair six feet religious excellently behaved, bride must migrate preferably accountant inquiries. 0112586218. OB150669

Continued from page 75



Moor 29 years, tall, professionally qualified holding senior financial post in a multi national organization attended leading school in Colombo. Parents seek a well educated bride of a pleasant personality from a respectable Moor family. mpiscolombo@gmail.com OG150570

Mother teacher Nugegoda B/G seeks educated daughter below 35 for UK graduated son N/S, T/T, 5'5", 38 years, middle management employer of an International company in Sri Lanka. 2020marriageprposals@gmail.com OG150978

Mount Lavinia B/G parents search for fair pretty daughter graduate specially Science stream for their handsome son 5'4" July 1989 BSc MSc qualified employed as Senior Executive in reputed International Company. 011-2730567. OG150794

Muslim parents (Moor) from Dehiwala seek a professionally qualified bride (preferably living overseas) for their son aged 28. He is currently working in a reputed Architectural Firm in Singapore. Please reply with full details and contact information to E-mail: nikah9202@yahoo.com OG150900

Parents are Doctors and Directors of a private hospital. Proposed B/G Doctor son foreign graduate 32 years, 5'6" medium built, finished internship NS/TT. We are inviting an MBBS/foreign graduate Doctor daughter who has finished internship who enjoys private practice. His elder brother and sister-in-law are Doctors attached to NHSL. Kujja in 8th position. Please reply to mdohospital@gmail.com OG150184

Parents SB living in Australia seek academically and professionally qualified daughter in Australia/NZ for their son 32, Chartered Engineer, holding a senior position. auj3456@gmail.com OG150920

Respectable B/G parents seek a pretty, kind hearted and educated daughter for son born in 1979 December. Academically and professionally qualified, employed in a well reputed organization, 5'6", NS/TT, owns a house, vehicle and a unit of a twin house. Please respond with the horoscope and details of the family to: propp2959@gmail.com OG150692

Respectable Govi/Buddhist wealthy business parents from Ratnapura seek an educated slim pretty and loving kind-hearted daughter between 24-27 years for their 29 years old elder son 5'8" in height kind-hearted well-mannered educated in a leading boys' school in Colombo. And BSc graduated Automobile Engineer university was in (U.K.). He is non-smoker and teetotaler. And only brother is working as a Software Engineer in leading company in Colombo, presently working (owns a company and is a Director), own vehicle, other valuable substantial assets with house in Ratnapura (Kuja Sadu 2). Kindly write with horoscope and family details in English or Sinhala in the first letter or email tdhammearachchi@yahoo.com OG150752

Respectable Kandyan B/G mother seeks a pretty, educated & kind hearted daughter for her eldest entrepreneur son of 38 years old (May 1982) and 5'6". He is running his own Rock Mining Project. Prefer a daughter belonging to a reputed Business family or citizen in USA or Europe. Horoscopes are not mandatory. Please reply with family details to - roshansamanta021@gmail.com OG150928

R/C Govi respectable business parents residing Gampaha District close to Colombo seek pretty, fair slim educated daughter, for their handsome son 33 years, height 5'9" studied at a Colombo leading college. BSc (Special) MSc CIMA Pass Finalist and Reading for PhD (Final Year) co-founder of a startup and inherits higher valuable assets mbs.servo@gmail.com OG150963

Searching for bride. Parents searching a bride degree holder, Jaffna Hindu Tamil, good family background, living in Colombo (Sun + Mars in the same Rasi in Chart) for their son, fair in complexion, 5'4" height, MSc in IT, working in Singapore as Software Engineer born in 1989. engsakthithasan@gmail.com OG150796

Sinhala Buddhist parents seek an educated, well-mannered daughter for their 1988/04 born smart 6ft. height Engineering graduate holding a senior position in a Govt. of Australia. Australian citizens or PR holders preferred. Please send full details to: iranjalie@gmail.com OG150556

Sinhala Buddhist 30, 5'7" MBBS Doctor working in a government hospital, parents seek academically professionally qualified pretty daughter from a respectable family, please reply in detail. mrgpw2020@yahoo.com OG150841

Sinhalese / Christian (Born - Again) parents living in Europe seek a beautiful, slim & fair educated age 22-25, same belief daughter from a respectable family, willing to migrate for the eldest son 27 years, 5'8" tall & handsome, neither smoking nor alcoholic, Medical Doctor. Please forward all the details of the family to snw20p20@yahoo.com OG150925

Southern, Govigama, Buddhist, parents (retired Government Executives) seek well-mannered daughter for Doctor son, born in 1989, 5'6" tall, teetotaler, non-smoker. Elder brother lives in Europe. Only sister is a medical student. Willing to migrate. Kindly reply if the horoscope contains Sikuru, Chandra, Rahu, Kethu in 1,2,7,8, with family details and a copy of the horoscope to: lbdhammikaw@gmail.com OG150782

S/G/B respectable family holding dual citizenship in Sri Lanka and pacific island seeking a professionally qualified pretty daughter for relationship leading to marriage. He is 26 years, 5'10", graduated in Australia good looking with great qualities and engaged in Managerial position of semi government statutory organization in a pacific country. Please reply who is willing to reside in pacific region, family details including a copy of horoscope. Email: maljini@yahoo.com OG150579

Udarata Bodu Govi mother seeks an academically and professionally qualified pretty slim daughter for her only child son USA citizen 1987, 5'10" well brought up with Buddhist values working as a Medical Research Coordinator in a reputed company. Please reply with all details and phone number. Email: ctprop87@gmail.com OG150602

1961 USA dual citizen divorced no kids 6'2" smart slim handsome good family seeks kind beautiful partner over 35, divorcees widows welcome. w k1493@yahoo.com OG150792

1986 Buddhist Vishwakula South 5'4" Senior Software Engineer drawing high salary BSc. MBA Graduate owns house land and motor car seeks suitable partner, no differences. proposalgalle1986@gmail.com OG150885

1989 March 5'6" Kataka lagna Ma Nekatha non-malefic horoscope Electronics Graduate with a Class (Moratuwa) working as Senior Research Engineer of American Institution with monthly income of 5 lakhs. Owns assets. Invites pretty doctor or well-educated girl from respectable family. Caste immaterial. Kurunegala well-connected middle-class family. 037-2235605. OG150835

1992-08 son born in capital city, respectable Buddhist parents seek slim pretty MBBS Doctor Engineer Lawyer Lecturer Management graduate or similar final year university student daughter from a respectable Buddhist family for our handsome NS/TT MBBS government Doctor son 5'11" in height, owns assets in Colombo. Email - marryingp roposals@gmail.com OG150975

58 years handsome tall Sinhala Wealthy professional Businessman owns assets vehicles fixed income seeks slim pretty partner below 45 yrs for life. Caste creed religion, race, marital status immaterial, independent direct replies with contact number. OG150582

BRIDE

Kandyan, Sinhala, Govi Buddhist, Medical Specialists parents seek for their only daughter, 1994 born, fair, attractive, Medical Student attending a local Medical Faculty, a professionally qualified partner from a similar respectable background. She has only one sibling, a brother who is an engineering undergraduate attending the Moratuwa University. Please reply with family details and a copy of the horoscope. O-150558, C/o Sunday Observer, Lake House, Colombo 10.

GROOM

B/G educated parents from Colombo 5 with Sinhala Buddhist life style seek a suitable partner for son 34 years, 5'10" with good personality. Educated in a leading Colombo school and an Engineering Graduate with Meng. Employed in Colombo in a senior position with salary over Rs. 600,000 p.m. and other benefits. Financially stable with multiple assets in Colombo and suburbs. No idea of migration. Legally separated from a brief unsuccessful marriage being plaintiff. No encumbrances. Educated pleasant daughter preferably below 30 years of age with Sinhala Buddhist values is sought. Please reply with family details and horoscope matching Kuja 1, Shani 12, Dhanu Lagna. Confidentiality assured. Email: serendib198526@yahoo.com O 150583 C/o Sunday Observer, Lake House, Colombo 10.

UDAPUSSELLAWA PLANTATIONS PLC

Calling tenders for sale of trees

Details of trees to be sold

Estate & telephone no.	Division	Field No.	Specie	Total Nos. of trees	Tender document fee (Rs.)
Delmar Estate, Halgranoya. 052 4930151	Rockland	6A	Eucalyptus	179	1,000/-
Gordon Estate, Udupussellawa. 052 4930152	Gordon	Rs1	Eucalyptus	199	1,000/-
Waldemar Estate, Udupussellawa. 052 4930154	Gomale	Rs1	Toona	152	1,000/-
Duckwari Estate, Rangala. 081 4928077	Elagolla	Rs1	Eucalyptus	114	1,000/-
	Lunugala	14	Eucalyptus	199	1,000/-
Yatawatte Estate, Yatawatte. 066 4925399	Upper	1	Lunumidella	119	1,000/-
	Upper	1	Albizia	246	1,000/-

Issue of tender documents: from 14th September 2020 to 25th September 2020, from above estate office and the Head Office, during the office hours, upon paying the tender document fee in cash.

Refundable Tender Deposit fee: Applicable refundable tender deposit fee for each block to be paid in cash as prescribed in the tender document.

Tender closing date & time: 2.30 p.m. on the 25th September 2020.

Tender submission: Sealed tenders either could be deposited at the tender box placed in our head office or sent under registered cover post, mentioning "Tender for Timber" on top left corner of the envelope to the below Head Office address.

Further details: Contact Forestry Division (Tele: 011 4899251 or 034 4945660)

The Director/Chief Executive Officer
Udupussellawa Plantations PLC
No.95A,Nambapana, Ingiriya. Tel : 034-4297500



**SRILANKAN AIRLINES LTD
TENDER NOTICE FOR SECURITY SERVICE PROVIDERS**

TENDER NO: SMSO/03/2020
INVITATION FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS FOR A SECURITY SERVICE PROVIDERS FROM REPUTED SECURITY COMPANIES IN SRI LANKA TO SUPPLY TRAINED SECURITY PERSONNEL AND IMPLEMENT EFFECTIVE SECURITY COVERAGE TO SAFEGUARD STAFF AND ASSETS OF ITS OFFICES IN COLOMBO ON BEHALF OF SRILANKAN AIRLINES LTD.

The tender forms could be downloaded directly from the following link
https://www.srilankan.com/en_uk/corporate/tender-notice

Tender bid closing date: 28th September 2020

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