

Pay your **Mobitel Post-Paid** bill online and get **2GB data FREE!**

20A Draft Bill to be tabled in Parliament today



CHAMIKARA WEERASINGHE

The Draft Bill of the 20th Amendment to amend the Constitution is due to be tabled in Parliament today for the First Reading. Any citizen may petition against the Bill after it is tabled thus. The idea of this will be to challenge the Constitutionality of it before the Supreme Court, the law academics yesterday told the *Daily News*. **TO PAGE 02**

ALLEGED ACCEPTANCE OF GRATIFICATION

RAVI AND ALOYSIUS INDICTED

LAKMAL SOORIYAGODA

The Bribery Commission yesterday filed indictments consisting of six counts against former Minister Ravi Karunanayake and PTL beneficiary owner Arjun Aloysius in the Colombo High Court.

The Director General of the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption alleged that former Minister had committed a punishable offence under Section 19 (c) of the Bribery Commission Act while soliciting and accepting a gratification being a public servant between February 12, 2016 and September 30, 2016.

The Bribery Commission alleged first accused Ravi Karunanayake had accepted a gratification from second



accused Aloysius while purchasing an apartment at Kollupitiya (No. 5PH2, Monarch Housing Complex) for Rs.11.68 million using the cheques issued by Walt & Row Associates (Pvt) Ltd and Perpetual Capital Private Ltd in which Aloysius was a director.

The indictments allege that the second accused Arjun Aloysius to be charged for aiding and abetting the commission of this offence under Section 25 (2) read with section 19 (c) of the Bribery Commission Act.

The prosecution had named 58 individuals as witnesses. The Bribery Commission further listed 32 documents as production items in the case.

Mount Clifford Residencies
MOUNT CLIFFORD RESIDENCIES HOMAGAMA
VISIT OUR MODEL APARTMENT
0769 444 444
INTERNATIONAL CONSTRUCTION CONSORTIUM (PVT) LTD

20A aims at formulating new Constitution - President

DANUSHKA GODAKUMBURA

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has apprised the Government Parliamentary Group yesterday that the 20th Amendment was brought with an intention of formulating a new Constitution to the country.

Addressing the Government

Parliamentary Group at the Presidential Secretariat yesterday, President Rajapaksa said a new Constitution would be formulated after taking the opinions of all stakeholders into consideration. He said that the 20th Amendment to the Constitution **TO PAGE 02**

Safety standards of buildings constructed during last two decades

BASL requests President to appoint Task Force

The Bar Association of Sri Lanka (BASL) yesterday requested President Gotabaya Rajapaksa to appoint a Task Force immediately to consider whether the buildings constructed during the last two decades or more in the country have obtained proper approval.

The Association in a letter to the President under the hand of its President **TO PAGE 02**



Building owner to be charged for negligence

ASELA KURULUWANSA

Kandy SSP Sudath Masinghe yesterday said that charges will be filed against the owner of the collapsed building for negligence which led to the death of three persons including an infant in Buwelikada on Sunday.

He said that the owner will also be charged for causing damages to two houses.

"Investigation has started after

facts regarding the incidents were filed in courts. The SSP said that the police have called reports from respective institutions to ascertain the collapsed building was constructed in compliance with the approvals from respective organizations.

A five storey building collapsed onto another building at Sangamitta Mawatha in Buwelikada on Sunday.

Kandy MC probes building collapse

ASELA KURULUWANSA

The Kandy Municipal Council has initiated an investigation to ascertain whether the building that collapsed at Buwelikada on Sunday morning has been constructed in compliance with the plan approved by the Council.

According to Municipal Commissioner Chandana Thennakoon, a report is to be prepared in this regard by Deputy Municipal

Commissioner together with Municipal Engineering Division, Urban Development Authority and Building Research Institute.

He said that construction of this building began in 2007 though the owners don't have an approved plan in their possession.

"We are looking at a copy of the approved plan, kept at the Municipal council," he said. **TO PAGE 02**



President Gotabaya Rajapaksa discussed future plans of the State Ministry of Women and Child Development, Pre-School & Primary Education, School Infrastructure & Education Services at a meeting held at the Presidential Secretariat yesterday. Prof. Ven. Medagoda Abayathissa Thera, Ministers Prof. G.L. Peiris, State Minister Piyal Nishantha and Secretary to the President Dr. P. B. Jayasundera were present. *Picture courtesy President's Media Division (SEE PAGE 06)*

PCol probing Easter Sunday attacks told

'Pujith prevented from investigating NTJ'

LAHIRU FERNANDO

Former IGP Pujith Jayasundera was instructed by then President Maithripala Sirisena to withdraw from carrying out investigations on the conduct of National Thowheed Jamaat (NTJ) before the attack since that

responsibility has been vested with then State Intelligence Service (SIS) Director Nilantha Jayawardena, former Defence Secretary Hemasiri Fernando told the Presidential Commission of Investigations (PCol) probing the Easter Sunday attacks yesterday. **TO PAGE 02**

Work for country's well-being - Ruwan

SHIROMI ABEYSINGHE and CENTRAL COLOMBO GROUP CORR.

UNP Deputy Leader Ruwan Wijewardene yesterday said that the incumbent government is trying to drag the country into slavery and serfdom through the 20th Amendment to the Constitution.

Wijewardene opined that the entire world is striving to make their judiciary, legislature, public finance, election process more independent ensuring personal freedom while Sri Lanka is moving backwards.

The UNP Deputy Leader in a statement said the politicians should take decisions for the well being of the country and its posterity.

He said the government is trying to deprive the country of its democratic rights ensured by the 19th Amendment to the Constitution. **TO PAGE 02**

Former CJ Dr. Mohan Peiris recommended for top UN post



RUKSHANA RIZWIE

Former Chief Justice and President Counsel Dr. Mohan Peiris has been recommended for the position of a permanent representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations in New York after the position

fell vacant following the retirement of Shenuka Senewiratne.

Foreign Ministry sources confirmed that Dr. Peiris name has been referred to the Parliament Committee on High Posts for their recommendation and approval.

The Committee may interview and may await any objections to this recommendation, following the publication of his credentials in the newspapers.

Dr. Mohan Peiris, is an alumnus of St. Joseph's College and **TO PAGE 02**

Retain positive aspects of 19A - Vasudeva

Democratic Left Front Leader and Water Supply Minister Vasudeva Nanayakkara yesterday said that positive aspects of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution includ-

ing the clause relating to dual citizenship should be retained.

"Some good aspects of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution such as provisions guaranteeing

the Right to Information, limiting the Presidential terms to five years and preventing dual citizenship holders to contest elections need to be retained," he said. **TO PAGE 02**



SLT Fibre OFFERS MORE DATA for every connection

- Download speeds of up to 100 Mbps
- Low latency for online gaming
- Upload speeds of up to 50 Mbps
- Free maintenance 24*7
- Two voice lines
- An array of HD channels and multiple connections with PEO TV
- Ability to continue with the same number for customers migrating from Megaline



SUBSCRIBE VIA 1212 www.slt.lk

Now Everyday **SHANIDA** Now Everyday Draw with a new Prize Structure
More prizes than usual million rupee prizes
Get Loaded with Rs. 500 cash prizes Everyday
Buy your lucky Shanida Everyday...

President tells UN High – Level Meeting

We expect UN to place due emphasis on non-interference in domestic affairs of states

We expect the United Nations will place due emphasis on non-interference in domestic affairs of other states, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa said in a pre-recorded statement at the High-Level Meeting to Commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations yesterday (21).

"At a time when the world is facing a common and an unrivalled threat, the 'United Nations We Need', I am certain, will place due emphasis on the sovereign equality of States, respect for territorial integrity and non-interference in their domestic affairs", President said.

The President said that he firmly believes that partnerships fostered between Member States and the UN continue at their best when no country is held hostage to the interests of a few.

UN Member States agreed in June 2019 that the UN will mark its 75th anniversary with a one-day, high-level meeting of the UN General Assembly on Monday, September 21, 2020 on the theme, 'The Future We Want, the UN We Need: Reaf-

firming our Collective Commitment to Multilateralism'.

The President of the 75th Session of the General Assembly Volkan Bozkir made the opening statement at the meeting where leaders and delegates of 180 countries made their representations. "The world is plagued by the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, which has jeopardized our economies, health systems and indeed our societies, just within a few months", President Rajapaksa observed.

Sri Lanka was able to successfully face the challenge of COVID-19 through a proactive intervention. We established the National Action Committee for Preventing COVID-19 even before the first patient was detected in Sri Lanka. Our approach synchronized the military, health as well as civilian authorities of national and regional levels.

Sri Lanka's recovery rate stands at over 90% well above the global recovery rate. Our success story owes much to our reliance upon 'tracing and quarantine', which was our greatest strength, President stressed.



"Sri Lanka is hopeful that we of the United Nations would rededicate ourselves in efforts to strengthen this great institution to ensure the future we want. We owe our peoples and future generations no less".

Full text of the statement by H.E. Gotabaya Rajapaksa, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, At the High-Level Meeting to Commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations- 21 September 2020

Mr. President,
Mr. Secretary-General,
Excellencies,
Ayubowan!

Your Excellency Volkan Bozkir, I congratulate you on being elected as the President of the 75th Session of the General Assembly.

I am deeply honoured to represent the people of Sri Lanka on this historic occasion.

Unfortunately, the world is not what the founders of this august body envisaged 75 years ago.

The world is plagued by the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, which has jeopardized our economies, health systems and indeed our societies, just within a few months. Sri Lanka was able to suc-

cessfully face the challenge of COVID-19 through a proactive intervention. We established the National Action Committee for Preventing COVID-19 even before the first patient was detected in Sri Lanka. Our approach synchronized the military, health as well as civilian authorities of national and regional levels.

Sri Lanka's recovery rate stands at over 90% well above the global recovery rate. Our success story owes much to our reliance upon 'tracing and quarantine', which was our greatest strength.

Sri Lanka has not reported a single case arising within the local society for over a month now.

Excellencies, Sri Lanka has committed to the 2030 Agenda of Sustainable Development. Poverty alleviation through an agri-based production economy is a major goal of my Government.

The steps that we had initiated earlier this year for enhancing local production, partial restrictions on imports as well as assisting small and

medium scale entrepreneurs paid their dividend.

As we celebrate 65 years of UN membership this year, Sri Lanka is pleased to have contributed significantly to United Nation's agenda, ranging from peacekeeping operations to programmes of its specialized agencies.

At a time when the world is facing a common and an unrivalled threat, the 'United Nations We Need', I am certain, will place due emphasis on the sovereign equality of States, respect for territorial integrity and non-interference in their domestic affairs.

Excellencies, I firmly believe that partnerships fostered between Member States and the UN continues at their best when no country is held hostage to the interests of a few.

Sri Lanka is hopeful that we of the United Nations would rededicate ourselves in efforts to strengthen this great institution to ensure the future we want. We owe our peoples and future generations no less.

Thank you.

Death of former Sunday Observer Design Editor Rajitha Udawatta



Former Design Editor of the Sunday Observer Rajitha Udawatta who is domiciled in Australia passed away on Sunday after a brief illness. He was a committed employee who won the hearts of his colleagues at Lake House. He leaves his wife Florence and four children. Rajitha is a past student of Piliyandala Central College.

'Pujith prevented...

From page 01

In his testimony, he said the SIS had received permission in writing from the then President to carry out these investigations exclusively.

Fernando said Jayawardena's failure to present verified and accurate information is there behind this disaster and therefore he should be held responsible for this incident.

"If Jayawardena had reached me with accurate and verified information along with his recommendations, I could have taken the necessary action against the attack," the former Defence Secretary said.

However, he said Sirisena and Jayawardena had a bold relationship which he defined as stronger than a Father-Son relationship.

Further testifying Fernando said after being appointed as the Defence Secretary in November 2018, the State Intelligence Service (SIS) had provided him with several reports including the details of Easter Sunday carnage mastermind Zaharan Hashim and his extremist activities but, nothing harmful was observed there.

During his testimony, in which he was questioned repeatedly on the matter, Fernando with the permission of the PCoI questioned the Commission whether he had been summoned before that the Commission and being questioned with the presumption that he should be held responsible for these deadly attacks.

Fernando will testify before the Commission again on September 24.

Kandy MC... From page 01

He said that the owner has sought Council's permission to make changes to the building after the plan was approved by the council.

"It has been reported that they owner has sought permission from the National Building Research Organization for the constructions in 2015

Former CJ Dr. Mohan... From page 01



Royal College, Colombo. Mohan Peiris entered the legal profession in 1975 and joined the Attorney General's Department in 1981 as a State Counsel.

He served as the Attorney General from 2008 and 2011 and as the Chief Justice from 2013 to 2015 after being nominated by the then President Mahinda Rajapaksa.

20A aims at... From page 01

will jettison the 19th Amendment passed in 2015 empowering the 18th Amendment to the Constitution. The President has said that

a new Constitution can be formulated thereafter.

The President answering the questions raised by the Parliamen-

tarian and Ministers said that opinions of all stakeholders will be taken into consideration when formulating a new Constitution.

Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa has also opined at this meeting that obtaining the opinions of all stakeholders is of paramount

importance when formulating a new Constitution and they are ready to be more flexible in this regard.

BASL requests... From page 01

Kalinga Indatissa PC said that the Task Force should be empowered to deal with any construction which lacks proper approvals or which have been constructed contrary to the approval granted.

The BASL President said that a father, a mother and their infant succumbed to death consequent to the collapse of a building in Buwelikada on Sunday and similar disaster had taken place in Wellawatta a few years ago. He added that relevant laws and regulations should be introduced

immediately regarding building approvals and enforce the law wherever a person found to have contravened the legal provisions.

Excerpts from the letter: "It is now in public domain that a father, mother and their infant child succumbed to death consequent to the collapsing of a building in Buwelikada, Kandy.

In the recent past there have been several instances where similar consequences ensued. Except for the initial enthusiasm that is demonstrated, no

meaningful action has been taken by the State authorities to address these issues. "It is common knowledge that the UDA which is generally in charge of building approvals prosecute individuals for construction of unauthorized structures periodically.

"During the last two decades or more a large number of commercial buildings have been constructed in the country either without approvals or contrary to the approvals given. Sometimes these buildings and constructions are regularised. The inci-

dent at Buwelikada raises several questions relating to construction of such buildings. "The lady who died as a result was a member of our Association. The value of human life cannot be estimated on the standing of an individual. A few years ago a similar incident occurred when a building collapsed in Wellawatte. In the Wellawatte incident it was later found that the necessary approvals had not been properly obtained.

"Respective governments during the last two decades or more appear to have ignored the importance of proper building planning.

"While a value cannot be placed on a human life, we believe that it is the duty of every State agency to identify a proper legal mechanism relating to granting of approvals. Such mechanisms cannot vary based on the

individual concerned. In the above circumstances we would thank Your Excellency;

(a) To setup a task force immediately to consider whether the buildings constructed during the last two decades or more have obtained proper prior approval,

(b) To authorize the said task force to deal with any construction which lacks proper approvals or which have been constructed contrary to the approvals granted,

(c) For the immediate introduction of relevant laws and regulations regarding building approvals and enforce the law wherever a person is found to have contravened the legal provisions.

In our assessment it would be prudent to establish an umbrella Agency consisting of all State sector agencies dealing with this aspect".

Work for country's... From page 01

"If attempts are made to deprive the country of the democratic benefits ensured by the 19th Amendment, it is an historical error," he said.

Wijewardene added that the law should be equal to all citizens in the country. He added that those who shouted against the destruc-

tion caused to the environment during their government are keeping silent when lands in Ramsar wetlands are cleared.

"They are silent when massive environment damage is caused to the Sinharaja, Knuckles forest range and archaeological sites," he said.

Retain positive aspects... From page 01

"There are several positive aspects of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution which should be retained," he said.

Nanayakkara made these remarks after a meeting with Cuban Ambassador in Sri Lanka Juana Elena Ramos Rodriguez.

The discussion with Cuban Envoy in Colombo focused on a gamut of areas including bilateral cooperation and technological development in the water supply and drainage field. The Cuban Ambassador apprised the Minister on the



new COVID-19 vaccine being developed by Cuba.

20A Draft Bill... From page 01

If nobody petitions against it, the 20th Amendment Bill may be taken for a Second Reading in Parliament for debate. This will be the start of the legislative process.

"Should any party petition against the draft bill pending its constitutionality, then the Supreme Court shall deliver its ruling about that within three weeks from the day that the petition has been filed," the sources said.

In that case, the Legislature cannot take any action on the draft bill, until the Supreme Courts give its determination with respect to the petitions.

"After the Supreme Court has given its decision, a second reading may be taken on the outlines of the bill (20 A) in Parliament, which would be the stage of the legislative process," sources said.

A vote will be taken at the end of the second reading which should be approved by a two-thirds majority in Parliament, after which the working committee stage takes place. The outlines of the bill are taken one by one here for consideration. The members may propose amendments to the draft during this process.

A Third Reading will follow on the 20th Amendment after that. A two-thirds majority vote will be required



at this stage as well. The 20th Amendment will become law once the Speaker signs it,

As pointed out by Education Minister and law Professor G.L. Peiris, the 20th Amendment will give back powers to the President that have been denied him by the 19th Amendment.

According to him these powers have been denied to the President in contravention of the Constitution, when powers of the President are very clear in the Constitution. "The executive power of the people, including the defense of Sri Lanka, shall be exercised by the President of the Republic elected by the People," he said addressing a gathering in Kandy. Political critic, Constitutional law expert and Presidential Counsel Dr. Jayatissa De Costa yesterday told the Daily News, that 19th Amendment had triggered chaos and created major security lapses in the country

including the Easter Sunday terrorist during the previous Sirisena-Ranil regime, because it deprived the executive President of the powers he was entitled to.

He said the 10-member Constitutional Council and so called Independent Commissions had dispossessed the President's powers, which the 20th Amendment must install.

"The kind of change that the people voted in President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and the government for will take place in about a month from now once the 20th Amendment is passed in Parliament," he said.

The 20th Amendment will require approval of no less than 150 members in Parliament, which the government has, and the enactment of the bill is a matter of time, although Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa is at the ready to oppose it with what he calls "19th plus programme," which is set to mislead the public for petty political gain.

"The change people wanted," he said, "cannot happen until those anti-Sinhala, anti-Buddhist and extremist lobbyists stationed in the independent councils are removed and a new Constitutional Council is appointed to monitor the affairs of the Independent Commissions."

Nurturing the SMEs in Sri Lanka

Eligible Borrowers

- * Registered business entities such as Proprietorship, Partnerships and Limited Liability Companies.
- * Annual sales turnover of the business should be below Rs. 1 Bn.

Eligible Sectors

1. Manufacturing & Service oriented businesses including,

- * Food & beverages
- * Spices & processed spices
- * Textile & garments including health based protective products

- * Herbal & medicinal products
- * Rubber based products

- * IT & Software development
- * Innovative light engineering products

2. Trading Businesses

Priority Segments

- * Government focused local industries
- * Export related businesses
- * Women connected enterprises
- * Agri processing businesses

A wide range of loan facilities to suit your income levels

* Covid-19 Support Loan Scheme * BIZ Loan * Diribala Loan

- For details contact the nearest Commercial Bank Branch or call us on 011 2 353 333 -

OUR INTEREST IS IN YOU

*Conditions Apply | Fitch Rating: AA+ (lka) | +94 112 353 333 | www.combank.lk

Rs.3.5 Bn project to produce Insulin in Sri Lanka



Tourism Minister Prasanna Ranatunga, Pharmaceutical Production, Supply and Regulation State Minister Prof. Channa Jayasumana and others participating in the foundation laying ceremony.

NADIRA GUNATILLEKE

The State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation (SPMC) and Radella Group have launched a joint project worth Rs. 3.5 Billion in order to produce Insulin in Sri Lanka for the first time in the history, State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation (SPMC), Pharmaceutical Production, Supply and Regulation State Ministry spokesman said.

According to the spokesman, this project will be completed within a period of 24 months and commence production. At present, Insulin is imported to Sri Lanka from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, United Arab Emirates (UAE) etc. spending Rs.3300 million annually.

The new Insulin production factory to be set up at the Koggala Investment Promotions Zone. A large number of employment opportunities will be created through this new project. After commencing Insulin production, Insulin will not be imported to Sri Lanka. Insulin will become another product export by Sri Lanka.

Last week Tourism Minister Prasanna Ranatunga, Plantation Industries Minister Ramesh Pathirana, Pharmaceutical Production, Supply and Regulation State Minister Prof. Channa Jayasumana and several others participated in the foundation stone laying ceremony.

Insulin is essential to treat diabetes patients. They need insulin to save their lives.

Facebook Journalism Project with CIR to train over 300 Sri Lankan journo

The Facebook Journalism Project and the Center for Investigative Reporting (CIR) have announced a partnership to train over 300 journalists from across Sri Lanka.

The three-week long training programme titled 'Facebook Foundations for Journalists' is conducted online with each weekly training session covering three-hours of demonstration-led discussions. The sessions will be conducted either in the Sinhala or Tamil languages.

The training will include sessions to support journalists in Sri Lanka to understand safety features for journalists and how to use the platform for effective storytelling. It covers Facebook best practices for journalists, Facebook Community Standards, online safety for journalists, and building communities on Facebook.

Facebook's Director of News Partnerships for APAC Anjali Kapoor said, "We are proud to partner with CIR to support the capacity of Sri Lanka's news community and to support the news ecosystem so they can continue their important work."

The Facebook Journalism Project works with publishers around the world to strengthen the connection between journalists and the communities they serve.

CIR is Sri Lanka's first dedicated center promoting excellence in investigative journalism within Sri Lanka and the South Asian region and focuses on both skills enhancement and developing investigative story content.

Those who are interested in the training can apply online by completing the application form: <https://cir.lk/category/opportunities/>

Dialog 4G MOBILE



ANYTIME WORK & LEARN PACKS



Zoom, Google, Microsoft, YouTube, Education Apps and Web Browsing @ Amazing Rates

12GB Pack**
for just Rs.495/-

*Inclusive of Taxes

30GB Pack**
for just Rs.995/-

*Inclusive of Taxes

The Special Rates for Work & Learn Applications are Applicable ALL DAY

This Pack cannot be used to access Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, Netflix and other streaming, gaming & social networking apps

Reload, dial #678# or use MyDialog App to activate

TRC/D/PRO/20/04

twitter.com/dialoglk facebook.com/dialog.lk

• Conditions apply **Valid for 30 days



Brought to you by the
Telecommunication Brand of the Year
SLIM Nielsen PEOPLES AWARDS 2020



Dialog

an **axiata** company

www.dialog.lk

The Future.Today.

GET **55%****
MORE

8.53%
(A.E.R. 8.53%)

Period	General Fixed Deposits				Senior Citizens Fixed Deposits*			
	Monthly	AER	Annually AER	Maturity AER	Monthly	AER	Annually AER	Maturity AER
01 Month	-	-	-	6.53% 6.73%	-	-	-	6.53% 6.73%
03 Months	6.58%	6.78%	-	6.78% 6.95%	6.58%	6.78%	-	6.78% 6.95%
06 Months	6.81%	7.03%	-	7.03% 7.15%	6.81%	7.03%	-	7.03% 7.15%
12 Months	8.21%	8.53%	-	8.53% 8.53%	8.68%	9.03%	-	9.03% 9.03%
18 Months	8.21%	8.53%	-	8.53% 8.50%	8.68%	9.03%	-	9.03% 9.00%
24 Months	8.21%	8.53%	-	8.53% 8.36%	8.68%	9.03%	-	9.03% 8.84%
36 Months	8.91%	9.28%	9.28%	9.28% 9.28%	9.37%	9.78%	9.78%	9.78% 9.34%
48 Months	9.37%	9.78%	9.78%	9.78% 9.78%	9.82%	10.27%	10.28%	10.28% 9.37%
60 Months	9.37%	9.78%	9.78%	9.78% 8.60%	9.82%	10.27%	10.28%	10.28% 8.99%
60 Months	9.82%	10.27%	10.28%	10.28% 8.65%	10.28%	10.78%	10.78%	10.78% 9.01%

*Senior Citizens Fixed Deposits (Depositors who are 60 years of age or over on the date of deposit)

- Attractive Interest Rates on FDs
- (SL) A (Stable) rating by ICRA Lanka Limited
- 68 branches island-wide
- Absolute Trust
- Maximum Security

**Compared to an average market interest rate of 5.5% (A.E.R. 5.5%), a 1 year Fixed Deposit at CLC has a high return of 8.53% (A.E.R. 8.53%), which is 3.03% or 55% higher in terms of interest.



COMMERCIAL LEASING & FINANCE

No.68, Baudhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 4
Tel: 0115 526 526 | www.clc.lk

Commercial Leasing & Finance PLC is rated (SL) A Stable by ICRA Lanka Limited, licensed by the Monetary Board of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka under the Finance Business Act No. 42 of 2011. Eligible deposit liabilities are insured with Sri Lanka Deposit Insurance Scheme implemented by the Monetary Board for compensation up to a maximum of Rs. 800,000.00 per depositor. Registration No: PQ 131 PR PQ Date of Incorporation: 22/04/1988



AIR FORCE BEHIND EVERY PEOPLE-FRIENDLY OPERATION IN THE COUNTRY

- AIR MARSHAL D.L. SUMANGALA DIAS

CAMELIA NATHANIEL

Air Marshal D.L. Sumangala Dias joined the Sri Lanka Air Force (AF) on December 13, 1984 as an Officer Cadet in the General Duties Pilot (GDP) Branch in the 13th Officer Cadet intake. On completion of the Basic and Advanced phases of flying training, he was commissioned as a Pilot Officer in the GDP Branch on August 15, 1986.

After having completed his Staff Course at the Defence Services Staff College in Wellington, India in 2001, he completed the National Defence Course in Mirpur, Bangladesh. He also completed the Junior Command and Staff Course in India, Joint Air Warfare Course at IAF, India and Aircraft Accident Investigation Course in Pakistan.

Air Marshal Dias was appointed the Chief of Staff of the Air Force on October 1, 2016 until he was appointed as the 17th Commander of the Sri Lanka Air Force. Air Marshal Dias has been awarded the Vadamarachchi Operation Medal, Purna Bhumi Service Medal, Desha Putra Sammanaya, Rana Wickrama Padakkama, Rana Sura Padakkama four times with 03 Bars, North & East Operations Medal, Riviresa Campaign Service Medal, 50th Independence Anniversary Commemoration Medal, Sri Lanka Air Force 50th Anniversary Medal, North Humanitarian Operational Medal, East Humanitarian Operational Medal, Uththama Seva Padakkama and the Vishishta Seva Vibushanaya.

He is a proud recipient of the Desha Puthra Sammanaya, due to the injuries he sustained as a result of enemy fire over Silawathura during offensive combat air operations in Eelam War II. In recent times, the Air Force has been actively engaged in operations related to drugs, environmental issues and have been among the first respondents during disasters or sudden calamities. Although the Air Force has been actively engaged, at times it feels like their contribution has not been given adequate recognition.

However, in a recent interview with the *Daily News*, Air Force Commander Air Marshal Sumangala Dias disclosed many of the operations the Air Force is engaged in which were hitherto perhaps not widely known. A rather quiet personality himself, Air Marshal Dias spoke about his entry into the Air Force, the contribution made under his directives and also his vision for the future of the AF.



was cut-off due to being under siege. One of the helicopters was assigned from Anuradhapura and I was sent from Katunayake.

As per the plan, we departed and we were assigned to land, drop off the supplies, pick up the casualties and return. As the person from Anuradhapura was more familiar with the terrain, he was asked to land first, and when he was returning and our paths crossed, I asked him about the situation and he said there was fire from the terrorists close by, but he had not been hit. So I continued and just before landing, I was shot and could not land and fortunately managed to return to Anuradhapura safely.

Q. Currently, the Government is engaged in a massive operation to rid the country of drugs. Could you explain the role the AF plays in this operation?

A. There are many methods being adopted to eradicate the drug menace. From the level of tracking drug users etc to detecting illegal drugs being smuggled in via sea route, we have been engaged. We have also been engaged in detecting large-scale cannabis cultivations and illicit liquor operations deep within forest areas. As we have a bird's-eye view of these activities on the ground from the skies, it gives us an advantage and we can easily spot these areas which are not detectable to the ground forces.

Q. In addition to drug operations conducted throughout the country, you, as the Commander, have also taken stern steps to ensure that there is no room for drug use within the AF?

A. Yes, recently we held a three-day workshop to educate all members of the Air Force on zero-tolerance for drugs and we have made them give a written oath not to engage in such illegal drug use. But, sometimes it is uncertain whether every man and woman in the AF has got the message. Hence, everyone had to sign a declaration, so that they are well aware that they have signed this declaration. So there is no way anyone can say they were unaware.

Q. During the war, the Air Force Canine Unit played a big role in detecting explosives. Do you have any plans of deploying the Air Force canines for drug detections, especially at airports and ports?

A. So far we have deployed sniffer dogs for guard duties and VIP events.

Now, we have established another unit where we imported several dogs several months back and with the assistance of the Police, they are being trained purely to detect narcotics. They will be deployed at airports and I think this will be a very good effort in detecting drugs being brought into the country. Now we have a team of 8-10 dogs together with their handlers and as we are mainly in charge of the security at International airports, these dogs will be able to make an effective contribution in detecting such illegal drugs.

Q. Having completed the task of providing air-power during the war, what is the current role of the Air Force?

A. Subsequent to the completion of the war, the main task of the Air Force is surveillance and responding to disaster situations. Hence, we are monitoring the seas surrounding the country in coordination with the Navy, mainly in detecting illegal substances being smuggled into the country via the sea route, using fishing vessels. The Air Force has also deployed Y-12 aircraft for surveillance of the waters surrounding the country to detect any drugs or other illegal substances being smuggled into the country via sea route and also illegal migrants entering the country by boat from neighbouring India.

These surveillance operations are conducted on a daily basis and if and when any suspicious activities are observed, the Navy is alerted and given the coordinates in order to intercept such illegal operations and arrest the suspects.

Q. The Air Force has also made a significant contribution in the country's efforts against the COVID-19 pandemic. Can you explain the role played by the AF?

A. We are the first respondents in dealing with those who are coming into the country at the BIA and other airports. Thanks to the setup we had under the Nuclear Biological and Chemical warfare (NBC), we were prepared. When the first group of students were brought down from China, with our guidance, this mission was completed successfully and there were no infections. So far, around 28,000 have come into the country and we have guided them, briefed and disinfected them etc. As for the equipment etc, we had the resources under the NBC, we had the

“ Having identified bald patches of forest areas, we are engaged in seed bombing where seeds covered in clay are dropped onto these bald areas within forests targeting the rainy season. The President has also directed us to do more seed bombings. Recently, I received feedback that these operations have a success rate of around 50-60 percent **”**

capabilities and as such, we had no issue.

Q. The Air Force has also been actively engaged in the reforestation and environmental protection efforts in the country. Can you brief us on these efforts?

A. Yes, this is one of my pet areas. Even without much publicity, the AF has initiated a policy of not discarding any garbage and we have an effective mechanism to recycle these products. We have been maintaining that throughout and we have an award programme to recognise those who make significant contributions, individually and as a team.

In addition, having identified bald patches of forest areas, we are engaged in seed bombing where seeds covered in clay are dropped onto these bald areas within forests targeting the rainy season. The President has also directed us to do more seed bombings. Recently, I received feedback that these operations have a success rate of around 50-60 percent.

Q. Having rendered your contribution during the war, the Air Force has continued to serve the country. Today the AF plays a pivotal role in fighting fires and responding to fires. How did the AF assist in fighting the fire onboard the MT New Diamond recently?

A. The AF has conducted 176 flying operations and unleashed 440,000 bambi buckets of water onto the oil tanker to douse the fire and in addition to many surveillance operations, the Air Force also improvised and dropped sacks of fire retardant onto the fire which was successful in preventing a major environmental disaster.

Q. With so many high-rise buildings coming up, there is a huge concern about fires in these buildings and how the Fire Department could reach these areas. Is the AF geared to handle such fires?



A. This is a specialised area and we are very well equipped with ground vehicles to fight fires, but we need to get more knowledge in dealing with fires in high-rise buildings, and only highly advanced countries have the know-how. Hence, we are trying to get this knowledge, but it is a very costly affair.

Q. In today's context, much emphasis has been placed on female representation in every profession. What efforts has the AF taken to engage females in this hitherto male-dominated field of piloting?

A. Yes, within another few weeks, two lady pilots will pass out and join the AF. Female representation has now been included in every branch of the Air Force including aeronautical engineering, piloting, ground operation etc.

Q. Is the AF also engaged in assisting the Police in implementing the lane rules?

A. Yes, we have deployed drones to monitor and provide video coverage to assist the Police in managing traffic operations. We supply the Police with video footage and pictures as per their requirements.

In addition, the Air Force has launched this highly sophisticated Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) project which was initiated during the time the current President was the Defence Secretary. It is a complicated process and not only deploying drones fitted with cameras, we are also in the process of designing a down-link with the collaboration of the University of Moratuwa. We plan to buy it from them which is 30 percent lesser than if imported. Once it is received, we will be able to deploy the drones and record hours of footage.

Q. How did you first decide to join the Air Force?

A. I attended the Lalith Athulathmudali College and having got through the Grade 5 Scholarship Examination, I got into Nalanda College, Colombo. I was engaged in sports while also focusing on my studies. On the guidance of my parents, I joined the Student Cadet Corps in 1977 and it was from there that I gained some knowledge about the Forces. After I left school in 1982, having represented the junior and senior cadets, I applied to all three Forces - Army, Navy, and Air Force and even attended the interviews. However, eventually, on the wishes of my mother, I selected the Air Force. My mother insisted I should join the Air Force. That was the starting point of my journey in the Air Force.

Q. How would you rate your journey throughout the years until you reached the pinnacle of the Air Force?

A. The journey in any Military Force is certainly not a smooth ride, but despite the bumps, ups and downs, I could say that mine was relatively a smooth ride. As a helicopter pilot and a fixed wing transport pilot, I have faced many challenges. Even otherwise, there have been a few hiccups but all in all I have had a comfortable career. Even when my son was born, I got to come and see him only after two days, but this is nothing new for anyone in the Forces.

Q. Is there any particular unforgettable incident that you had to face during the war?

A. Yes. There are quite a few. But during one incident in 1992 where I was tasked to take up a resupply mission to one of the camps which was under siege, I had a close shave. Two helicopters were assigned to carry basic supplies and medicines to this camp, which



BIRMINGHAM CITY University

PRESTIGIOUS UK QUALIFICATION

FACULTY OF LAW

MASTER OF LAWS - LLM International Human Rights

Duration : 1 year Lectures : Saturdays only

The LLM in International Human Rights will expose you to the fundamental aspects of the field and provide you with the opportunity to critically examine the impact of the international human rights standards on national constitutions and laws, with particular focus given to the conflict between international standards and national provision.

Entry requirements

A degree in any subject area (2:2 class) or any equivalent qualification accepted by the university.*

Employability

96%

of BCU postgraduates find work or further study within six months.

Subject areas covered

- ✓ Public International Law
- ✓ Human Rights in the Wider World
- ✓ International Women's and Children's Rights
- ✓ Advanced Research Methods
- ✓ International Criminal Law
- ✓ Refugees and the Free Movement of People
- ✓ Dissertation

Lectures are conducted by a distinguished panel of legal practitioners in the field of Human Rights

For more information 0713 531 531

(*Conditions apply)



www.horizoncampus.edu.lk info@horizoncampus.edu.lk Horizon Campus

Suhada Mw., Millennium Drive off Chandrika Kumaranathunga Mw., Malabe. Tel: +94 114 365 555

DEVELOPMENT LOTTERY
Enriching Your Life
Ministry of Finance

SUPER BALL
සුපර් බෝල්
සැලසුම් ආචාරය

7 DAYS

NOW MAKING MILLIONAIRES ALL 7 DAYS!

With a grand jackpot of Rs. 50 million amongst other cash prizes.

SUPER 500 500 gifts worth Rs.500/-

*Special draws are only until November 30th 2020.

Development Lotteries Board | Ministry of Finance | www.dlb.lk

Siam City Cement (Lanka) Limited takes immediate action against encroaching and deforesting of leased quarry land

Colombo, September 17th, 2020: In an emergency meeting presided by the Hon. Minister of Forest Conservation C. B. Ratnayake, an urgent course of action was agreed upon by all stakeholders involved to immediately address an incident of illegal encroachment and forest clearing in a long-term leased land belonging to the Sri Lanka Cement Corporation in Puttalam.

The 4,450 acres of land in Aruwakkalu owned by Sri Lanka Cement Corporation is leased by Siam City Cement (Lanka) Limited (SCCL), Sri Lanka's leading and only 100% local manufacturer of cement, for the extraction of limestone raw materials necessary for cement production at its fully integrated cement plant. SCCL operates its Aruwakkalu quarry in accordance with the operational licenses issued by the Geological Survey & Mines Bureau (GSMB), Central Environmental Authority (CEA) and Provincial Environmental Act (PEA) of Sri Lanka. Having recognised the importance of biodiversity during the limestone mining extraction process carried out at the Aruwakkalu quarry, SCCL rehabilitates the quarry by refilling, landscaping and re-planting over 6,000 plants annually at the excavated mine pits.

Due to the lack of physical demarcations of the boundaries, the untouched and un-mined land area located approximately four kilometers away from the quarry operational area has been encroached by surrounding village communities over the last two decades. Although the matter was raised several times with relevant authorities, the

encroachment of the land continued. The most recent land encroachment that occurred in early September this year resulted in the illegal clearing of approximately 29 acres of forest land in an isolated area located to the South Eastern boundary of the land. Subsequent to careful investigation and formulation of proper mining plans, this area was identified by the company as a non-mining area with the forest conserved over the years. A formal complaint was filed by SCCL at the Wanathawilluwa Police on 7th September requesting for an investigation of the illegal forest clearing by the perpetrators.

At the aforesaid meeting held on 14th September at the Wanathawilluwa Police Station presided by the Hon. Minister C.B. Ratnayake accompanied by the Secretary to the Minister of Forest Conservation and Wildlife, the Divisional Secretary, Director General Forest Conservation, Director General Wildlife, Director General Central Environmental Authority, Deputy Inspector General of Police Puttalam, Senior Superintendent of Police, Puttalam, the Officer in Charge, Wanathawilluwa, Chairman Pradeshiya Sabha, Chairman, Cement Corporation and the Chairman of SCCL. The officials agreed upon an urgent course of action to address the incident of illegal encroachment and forest clearing in Aruwakkalu.

Following the meeting, SCCL, under the guidance of the Hon. Minister C. B. Ratnayake, agreed to take immediate action to prevent the reoccurrence of similar incidents in the future and to rehabilitate the affected area. SCCL has

since commenced such rehabilitation of the deforested land and bids to plant 19,000 plants in the affected area with regular transparent reporting to all stakeholders on the progress of all activities.

The company also commenced a survey of the land on 15th September, clearly marking the boundary in the affected area and increasing the security measures in terms of patrolling of the area during daytime with security guards on motorbikes, and deploying drones for closer surveillance. Signboards will also be displayed around the property depicting the ownership with warnings to trespassers.

With an advancing cement manufacturing operation in Puttalam over the past few decades, SCCL has nurtured strong synergies with the surrounding communities through employment, empowerment, community development and uncountable social projects that have ensured Puttalam's advancement alongside the company. SCCL has also demonstrated a strong commitment to biodiversity management and conservation especially at its quarry sites in concurrent rehabilitation of active quarry site. The company pledges to continue its quarry restoration projects and annual ecological monitoring of restored mines while creating more awareness and educating its communities of the significance of protecting Sri Lanka's ecosystem.



Siam City Cement commences clearly demarcating the boundary along the affected areas and increasing security measures.



Siam City Cement (Lanka) Limited (SCCL) begins rehabilitation of the deforested land with re-planting efforts.

Siam City Cement aims to rehabilitate the areas with 19,000 plants.

Education; Govt's top priority - President

- **Preschool and primary education to receive special attention**
- **Equal personal attention of officers to every school**
- **Infrastructure development of all schools expedited**
- **Allowance for volunteer pre-school teachers**
- **Separate programme for differently abled children...**
- **National Committee on Women to get Parliamentary approval**

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa says that one of the top priorities of the government is to formulate and implement a strategy that will cover the entire process from early childhood education to tertiary education in order to ensure that future generations will choose the right path for them and their future.

The President emphasizes since early childhood development and primary education are the most stages in a child's life special attention should be paid to that aspect.

President Rajapaksa made these remarks at a discussion held at the Presidential Secretariat yesterday (21) on the future activities of the State Ministry of Women and Child Development, Pre-School & Primary Education, School Infrastructure & Education Services.

Up until now, there has been no proper focus or monitoring on pre-school education. "Therefore, a formal plan has been formulated with the assistance of specialists in children's education", the President said. It is the responsibility of the parents and teachers to create an environment where the child will be able to receive the education with a free mind as well as to constantly appreciate the child. Attention has been paid to grant an allowance to teachers of pre-school, which do not charge fees.

Another objective is to regulate and train them in a way that does not discomfit them. We also plan to provide pre-school children with a locally manufactured kit with the aim of developing their early skills. The primary responsibility of the officers and authorities is to identify and properly manage the resources of all schools in the island', the President emphasized. The responsible officers of national and provincial schools should not be confined to their respective offices instead they should go to schools to identify and solve problems on the spot.

The President pointed out the need of introducing a system where officers visit schools to provide appropriate solutions for the issues of the teachers rather than teachers travelling to education offices.

Basil Rajapaksa, the Head of the Revival Task Force on Economic Revival and Poverty Alleviation expressing his regret over the hardships faced by teachers who go to zonal offices for various needs related to their profession, said that the officials should support to resolve the issues faced by the teachers.

Basil Rajapaksa emphasized the need to provide safe drinking water and improved sanitation facilities to all schools within a short period of time. The Government is also focus-

ing on setting up Special Education Units at district level to develop the skills of children with special needs in order to socialize them.

Basil Rajapaksa said that families with such children should be supported with financial assistance to protect them from being the victims of psychological and economic collapse. The need of passing the necessary legislations by an Act of Parliament to establish a National Committee on Women for the benefit of desperate and victimized females was discussed in detail at today's meeting. The attention was drawn to expedite the adjudication of child abuse cases and to provide closed court facilities to take testimonies in a manner which will not disrupt child's wellbeing.

The President said that beginning from the practice of leaving the classroom placing the chair and desk neatly, an education system will be set up that will transform the child into a responsible citizen with attitudinal changes and behaviours, who loves the country and society.

Prof. Ven. Medagoda Abhayatissa Thera, Minister Prof. G.L. Peiris, State Minister Piyal Nishantha, Secretary to the President P.B. Jayasundera, Secretaries to the Cabinet and State Ministries and officials of line institutions were present at the discussion.

Government Official SMS News Alert Service activated

The Government Official SMS News Alert Service functioned by the Department of Government Information is reactivated with the aim of making it a reliable news service that provides news to the people.

Re-attracting subscribers, the Department of Government Information, one of the most trusted official news providers has re-launched its mobile phone news alert service in parallel with www.news.lk, the official

government news website and www.dgi.gov.lk.

This re-launching event will be held at 11.00 A.M. today at the Departmental premises under the patronage of Mass Media Minister Keheliya Rambukwella. The Department of Government Information constantly communicates political, economic, and social as well as government development information to the public immediately.

The Government Official SMS

News Alert Service is being launched to further accelerate the process and provide a broader range of service.

The Government Official SMS News Alert Service is available on Mobitel and Dialog mobile networks. You can activate this service from the Mobitel network by typing REG (space) and sending an SMS to 2299. From the Dialog Network, you can activate the official SMS News Alert Service on your mobile phone by typing info and sending an SMS to 678.

Writ petitions filed by Ravi, six others fixed for argument

LAKMAL SOORIYAGODA

The writ petitions filed by former Finance Minister Ravi Karunanayake and six others in connection with the issuance of Treasury Bonds in March 2016 were yesterday fixed for argument by the Court of Appeal. The Court of Appeal two-judge-Bench comprising Justice (President) A.H.M.D. Nawaz and Justice Sobhitha Rajakaruna fixed the seven writ petitions to be taken up for argument on December 18.

Senior Deputy Solicitor General Milinda Gunatilleke appearing for the Attorney General informed the Court that he is filing objections against the petitions. The petitioners were directed to file their counter objec-

tions on or before October 13.

At a previous occasion, the Court of Appeal had issued an Interim Order staying the operation of arrest warrants issued by Colombo Fort Magistrate against former Finance Minister Ravi Karunanayake and six others in connection with the issuance of Treasury Bonds in March 2016.

This Interim Order will be effective until the final determination of the writ petitions.

The seven petitioners who had been named as the suspects in the Magistrate's Court former Finance Minister Ravi Karunanayake, PTL beneficiary Arjun Aloysius, PTL Chiefdealer Kasun Palisena, PTL

Chairman Jeffrey Joseph Aloysius, Chitta Ranjan Hulugalle, S. Pathumanapan and Indika Saman Kumara had filed these writ petitions challenging Colombo Fort Magistrate's decision to issue a warrant against them.

In his petition, Ravi Karunanayake has been named Attorney General, Acting IGP C.D. Wickramaratne, SSP Ampavala, Fort Magistrate Ranga Dissanayake and OIC attached to the Financial Investigation Unit of CID as respondents.

The petitioner Karunanayake stated that the Bond Commission appointed to investigate Treasury Bond issuance never questioned the petitioner regarding the meeting held on March 28,

2016 and March 30, 2016 and any alleged link between the said meetings and the lease of the apartment.

President's Counsel Faisz Musthapha with Kienzra Arsecularatne PC, Shavendra Fernando PC and Counsel Udara Muhandiramge appearing for the petitioner Ravi Karunanayake.

President's Counsel Navin Marapana with Counsel Thanuja Meegahawatte, Uchitha Wickremesinghe and Kaushalya Molligoda under the instruction of Sanath Wijewardena appeared for Arjun Aloysius.

Counsel Manoj Bandara with Sudath Perera appeared for Badugoda Hewa Indika Saman Kumara.

Two arrested over alleged fraud at CWE

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) yesterday arrested two people over a large-scale fraud case at the Co-operative

Wholesale Establishment (CWE). This fraud has taken place in 2017. The suspect has allegedly obtained paddy stocks worth Rs. 56 million

from the CWE with the promise of supply rice in return. It is reported that the promised rice stocks had not been supplied subsequently.

Alleged malpractices at State Banks, affiliated institutes

Committee receives over 100 complaints

The Committee appointed by Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa to look into alleged malpractices that have taken place at State Banks and affiliated institutes yesterday said that it has received

more than 100 complaints. These complaints have been made by the respective State Banks, trade unions and the members of the public.

The Committee has decided to

extend the period to accept the complaints till September 30 as the Committee is still accepting the complaints.

The Finance Ministry in a release states that the Commit-

tee will start recording evidence from those accused in the complaints.

The Committee chaired by former High Court Judge Sisira Rathnayake comprises Chartered

Accountant Susantha De Silva and retired Additional Auditor General W.Premnanda. A Finance Ministry representative will hold the post of Committee Secretary.

Lankan Embassy finalises Certification Process to export cinnamon to Brazil

The Embassy of Sri Lanka in Brazil recently finalised the Certification Process for the export of the Sri Lanka cinnamon to Brazil in bark form with Brazilian Authorities. Accordingly, Sri Lankan exporters, who had difficulties until now in exporting Sri Lankan Cinnamon in bark form to Brazil, can export the product by furnishing the necessary phytosanitary certificate issued by the National Plant Quarantine Service office in Sri Lanka.

As per Brazilian Customs classification and the plant health requirements, Sri Lanka Cinnamon in bark form is listed under wood and its products category due to the nature of the product. In order to facilitate entry of Sri Lankan Cinnamon to Brazilian market, the Embassy of Sri

Lanka in Brasilia, has been actively engaging with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply in Brazil, known as 'MAPA', and the Export Development Board and National Plant Quarantine Service office in Sri Lanka, over a year, to finalise the Certification Process for Sri Lankan Cinnamon.

Cinnamon has a promising market opportunity in Brazil since the product is popular in Brazilian cuisine, beverages and confectioneries. The Cinnamon imports to Brazil grew from 18% during 2017-2018, but slightly decreased in 2019 as compared to 2018. The total cinnamon imported by Brazil in 2019 from the world is over 2,300 tonnes, with a value of USD 7.74 million. In the total

cinnamon import of Brazil, Sri Lanka represented on a very small amount in 2015 and, thereafter, no recorded export of cinnamon has taken place directly to the country in recent years. Being the key exporter of cinnamon, Indonesia supplies nearly 75% of total cinnamon to Brazil.

Sri Lanka cinnamon exporters can claim 5% duty preference, under the GSTP Agreement from Brazil and therefore the companies that interested in exporting cinnamon, in bark form, can consult with the Department of Commerce to receive GSTP certificate. The prospective exporters also need to consult with the National Plant Quarantine Service office in Sri Lanka to obtain necessary certification document. The

National Plant Quarantine Service, upon testing a representative cinnamon samples drawn from the consignment, would issue a Certificate verifying that the consignment is free from injurious insects, bacteria, nematodes, and fungi; and the consignment is subjected to fumigation using Methyl Bromide at 48g/m³ (above 210C). Further, the information on phytosanitary treatment performed would be inserted in the appropriate field of the 'Phytosanitary Certificate', confirming that the dosage of Bromide used is associated with room temperature at the time of appli-

cation. The Embassy aims at promoting and diversifying Sri Lankan exports to the Brazilian and Latin American market, with the support of the EDB and Department of Commerce, and prospective exporters can contact the Trade Section of the Embassy by email sltradebrazil@gmail.com.

PCol probing alleged political victimization told

'Yahapalana Govt. aimed to destroy Public Service'

ROSHAN THUSHARA

Presidential Task Force on Economic Revival and Poverty Eradication Co-Secretary D.S. Jayaweera yesterday alleged that the Yahapalana government aimed to destroy the Public Service.

"Public Servants hesitated to even sign a voucher to provide coffins to the vic-

tims of the 2016 flood disaster," he alleged.

He also alleged that attempts were made by the former Prime Minister and JVP Parliamentarians to create a public opinion against the Government Servants.

Jayaweera was testifying before the Presidential Commission of Investigat-

ing (PCol) into the alleged incidents of political victimization between 2015-2019.

He said deterioration of the Government Service under the Yahapalana Government led to the decline of economic growth from between 5 and 7 percent in 2015 to 4.1 percent after the Yahapalana Government was formed.

Obituary



LAWRENCE, Malcolm Senathirajah
(Formerly of St. Blane,
Glenfall Road, Nuwara Eliya).

At Rest with Jesus on September 20th, 2020 in Canada. Beloved son of the late Anton Saravanamuttu and Catherine Annamal Lawrence. Devoted husband of late Crissy (Felicia Emmanuel), adored father of Blossom (Rennie Augustine), Selva (Nilakshini Benedict) and Christine, cherished grandfather of Alfred and Andrew Augustine, Amilia and Alisha Lawrence, Alexander and Aidan Gomes, loving brother of Philomene, the late Gene (Photo Center Nuwara Eliya).

Condolences can be sent to:
memories.malcolm@gmail.com

Birthday Remembrance



MERLYN SUJATHA WISIDAGAMA

Darling Amma,

Your life was such an inspiration to all who knew you.

The beautiful smile that adorned your face brought light and brightened our home.

Now you guide us from your heavenly abode protecting and shielding us from all dangers below.

Dear Lord keep Amma safe with You till we all meet at heavens door.

Lovingly remembered by your daughter, son-in-law, granddaughter and family.

Holy Mass will be offered for you at 6.30 a.m. at the Home for the Elderly - Maradana.

Obituaries

de SILVA MALINI MANGALIKA - Beloved wife of late Mr Singha de Silva, loving mother of Jayantha, Jayanthi, Kanthi, Shanthi, Janaka, Chanthi, Hemanthi, Jagath and Prasanna, passed away on Monday 21st September 2020. Remains will lie at the **Jayarathne Funeral Parlour** from 2.30 p.m. onwards on 21st September. Cortege leaves the Parlour on Tuesday, September 22nd at 4.00 p.m. for Cremation at the Borella Cemetery at 5.00 p.m. 056993

JANSZ - ORANEE VINITHA JAYASUNDERA (nee **GOONEWARDENE**) - University of Sri Jayawardenapura, beloved wife of Raddy (Prof. Jansz), much loved mother of Maithri and Mahen, Michael and Thushara, Mihiri and Randy, adored grandmother of Rahul, Tiana, Kiara, Mark, Raveena and Roshani, sister of late Ranjith and Anoma, Nihal and Pushpa, Gemunu and Ianthi, Cedric and Faye. Remains lie at **A.F. Raymond's Funeral Parlour** from 9 a.m. on Tuesday 22nd September. Cortege leaves the Parlour at 4 p.m. after Service at 3.15 p.m. for Cremation at 4.30 p.m. on the same day at Borella Cemetery. (New Crematorium). 057006

Daily News



The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited,
LAKE HOUSE
P. O. Box 1217 No. 35, D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha,
Colombo 10, Sri Lanka
Telephone : (011) 242 9211 Fax: (011) 234 3694
E-mail : editor.dailynews@lakehouse.lk
news.dailynews@lakehouse.lk
Tuesday, September 22, 2020

Probe this injustice

The reported transfer of a police officer attached to Parliament security over his alleged inspection of the briefcase of a VIP official, if true, should receive the utmost condemnation. The Assistant Superintendent of Police, in question, had been given marching orders on the grounds that he had obstructed the duties of the VIP official. According to the news report, the ASP had been transferred to Trincomalee division with the sanction of the National Police Commission.

It is not clear if the transfer was made due to this particular incident or some other disciplinary grounds. But if it was due to the former then it is a clear case of victimization which cannot be condoned. What is more, the incident could well act as a deterrent to other police officers with a high sense of duty and lead to a gradual deterioration of the service with the men in khaki not willing to stick their necks out, lest they fall foul with officialdom. Hence, the incident, if as such, should be probed and justice done to the officer concerned.

Besides, Parliament is a high security zone, with every MP, Ministers and VIPs including diplomats subject to thorough checks. No one will forget the bomb explosion in a Committee room in Parliament that claimed the life of an MP, seriously injured a senior minister and nearly killed the President of the country. One should also keep in mind that the Easter Sunday bomb attackers were also eyeing Parliament as a target, according reports at the time. With extremist elements still very much in our midst there is no gainsaying the precautions that should be taken to ensure the calamity of the type that took place on Easter Sunday does not occur again.

The police have been doing an excellent job in recent times, seizing large hauls of narcotics, arresting drug barons and taking the fight to the underworld with unprecedented success. It would therefore not do to cause damage to the morale of the police officers who are risking their lives to eliminate crime from the face of our soil.

Transferring police officers for doing their duty as happened to the ASP, needless to say, can have an extremely demoralizing effect on the entire police force which could blunt their enthusiasm in fighting crime.

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has given every encouragement to the police in its fight against the underworld and the regular briefings he has with the police top brass on the measures to be adopted is paying rich dividends. Nothing therefore should be allowed to stand in the way of this momentum in dealing with crime and the drugs underworld.

There have also been instances of police officers being transferred while dealing with vital cases such as investigating fraud and corruption which too is not the ideal way to tackle these twin evils. Police officers have also been transferred at the instance of politicians while performing their duties to the letter such as arresting dealers in moonshine who are close to the politicians concerned.

The police should be allowed to perform their duties without interference from any quarter if big time crime and vice are to be tackled successfully.

The police service as a whole too should undergo a complete overhaul in order to make it an outfit capable of facing up to the new challenges. Modern day crime has taken on new forms that demands new methods and strategies to deal with them. The Narcotics trade had grown to monstrous proportions and modern weapons are in free circulation that needs special training by the police to cope with the phenomenon. What is also needed is a disciplined police force.

No doubt, the Police came in for some heavy flak in recent times for being slow to move in eradicating the narcotics underworld that has taken a stranglehold on society.

Major General (Retd.) Kamal Gunaratne recently advised police officers not to consider the police profession as yet another job as the lives of the country's people are in their hands. Their job was to ensure all incidents of crime and criminal activity were probed and the culprits brought to justice.

Police officers have also found themselves on the wrong side of the law. That four officers attached to the Police Narcotics Bureau were interdicted to facilitate an inquiry over their alleged links with drug dealers tell a tale.

Equally there are brave, honest and dedicated officers in the service who have gone after the criminals even risking their own lives. They deserve every encouragement, and, what is more, free from being victimized for performing their duties with diligence and commitment.

As mentioned, the entire police service cries out for a complete overhaul and the dismantling of the prevailing structures which is obsolete and moribund given the scale and dimensions to which underworld crime has transformed in this country. Crime has taken on an entirely new form with the advent of drugs into the equation.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

One single vulnerability is all an attacker needs
- Window Snyder

Fake News in the Post-Truth Era



Image credit: SAGE

KANNAN SALAZAR

With Julian Assange's "show trial" in progress in the UK for alleged national security breaches in the US, and a cold war era propaganda campaign between the Anglo-American media and China gathering momentum, a timely new book sheds some light on how the so-called "free media" has ditched its libertarian values.

The book titled *Myth of 'Free Media' and Fake News in the Post-Truth Era* published by SAGE 2020 and written by Sri Lankan born journalist and communication scholar Kalinga Seneviratne challenges the Anglo-American media's claim to be an objective 'free media'. He maintains that the western media fails to understand that objectivity in news is subjective.

The main theme of the book is how subjectivity based on cultural perspectives is ignored by those who peddle the myth of a "free media".

In the very first chapter, he discusses the Libertarian Media Function Theory (LMFT) - that underpins the western 'free media' model where the media is expected to be the "watchdog" of governments' abuse of power.

While discussing the Authoritarian Media Function Theory, the author takes the example of his own experience in Australia in the 1990s and that of a Dalit journalist in India he interviewed during the research for the book, to illustrate how cultural censorship works in Australia and India, that does not give a voice for minority or marginalized groups.

JULIAN ASSANGE'S WIKILEAKS

He also points out that Julian Assange's *Wikileaks* has practiced 'watchdog' journalism "to its core" but he is being hounded by the very people, who claim to promote "free media".

Those who have been schooled in the western media theories, especially the LMFT, may find Seneviratne's arguments not easy to digest and even disagree with these. But, with many examples taken from the international media, he builds a case for a refreshingly new look at what 'free media' should be like.

He is critical of both the libertarian and authoritarian models of the media. He argues that McChesney and Herman's "propaganda model" and Noam Chomsky's "manufacturing consent" models of media function theories are more valid today than the LMFT.

The chapter on 'media in crisis', builds on President Trump's assertion in his first White House press conference on February 16, 2017 at which he said that much of the mainstream media in the US did not speak for the people, but for special interests, and they benefit from the system.

This chapter applies this argument to the international media, including the media in India. Truth has been commercialized to the benefit of the rich, and news has become a public relations exercise. The theories of 'manufacturing consent' and the 'propaganda model' are closely examined with examples, such as the Blair government's 'weapons of mass destruction' propaganda in 2003 that led to the Iraq war, and the propaganda campaign to overthrow Gaddafi in Libya in 2011.

He thus argues that commercialisation, corporate interests, propaganda machineries and monopolistic interests have throttled free media - quotes from scholars are given from each end of the spectrum, causing confusion about what should be an ideal model.

CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES

A lengthy chapter on subjectivity in news reporting explores the argument that was raised in an earlier chapter whether we really had a "truth era" before arriving at a "post-truth" era? He asks: "Are journalists news vultures whose objectivity is coloured by subjective viewpoints?"

The main theme of the book is hammered out in the chapter beginning with the NWICO (New World Information and Communication Order) debates of the 1970s, author's own experience as an international reporter, and examples of how different a focus could be given to each story based on cultural perspectives. A case in point is: When US President Obama visited Hiroshima in 2016, media representatives did not ask why he didn't apologise for the US war crime there. But when Japan's PM Abe went to Pearl Harbour the focus was on a Japanese apology.

Another chapter discusses at length how the media reports human rights and is critical of western media's focus on individual rights. Seneviratne argues that the western media has become missionaries for human rights on behalf of western powers.

While liberals in Asia may disagree with it, the author believes that the Asian media need to focus on development rights which is collective in nature. He cites as examples western media's "bias" in reporting of Mugabe's Zimbabwe; Castro's legacy in Cuba; ICC war crimes allegations against Africa, UN Human Rights Council's similar allegations against Sri Lanka; and the use of R2P (Right to Protect) argument against Libya.



Julian Assange

It is argued that if the 1976 UN covenant's development rights are given equal focus on international reporting, the world will be seen in a different context - where western countries and their MNCs would be the biggest violators of human rights.

The chapter on fake news is titled "fake news hysteria" that should ruffle some feathers in the mainstream media, as he argues that the mainstream media everywhere have created a "hysteria" because they fear the alternative media exposing their subjective reporting.

Referring to research done by two British academics, the author looks at how the British media delegitimized Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn. He discusses at length the four steps of conducting such a propaganda campaign. Seneviratne argues that subjective misreporting by the "Fourth Estate" has given rise to a "Fifth Estate" which the former wants to label "fake news".

In the final chapter Seneviratne explores an alternative to the adversarial "fourth estate" journalism promoted by the libertarian model of journalism. He describes it as "mindful journalism" or what Bhutanese communication scholar Dorji Wangchuck calls "Middle Path Journalism" that draws inspiration from Asian philosophy, especially Buddhism.

Under the headline, "Another World Is Possible", the chapter offers ideas to redefine and restructure journalism training to focus more on people and community-centric journalism that promotes community harmony rather than focus on conflict and news of exception. A number of examples of such reporting from the Asia-Pacific region are given.

Though it would take a lot of convincing - even for the Asian media - to take a mindful communications path, the COVID-19 has drawn attention to focusing more on people-centric less adversarial journalism.

This book is well researched and written without much academic jargon, and should be compulsory reading for journalism students and practitioners. As Seneviratne says in his preface "this book is critical of what we often call the 'free media', but that does not mean I don't believe in a free media". He appeals to readers to approach the book with a mindset of a "free thinker" - where liberalism nor conservatism is the gospel truth.

(Kalinga Seneviratne is a former head of research at the Asian Media Information and Communication Centre)

- IDN



While discussing the Authoritarian Media Function Theory, the author takes the example of his own experience in Australia in the 1990s and that of a Dalit journalist in India he interviewed during the research for the book, to illustrate how cultural censorship works in Australia and India, that does not give a voice for minority or marginalized groups.

Common Cause, Common Sense: How the UN Security Council could regain trust and legitimacy

TOBIAS SCHOLZ

All permanent five would benefit from a conversation on additional permanent seats as no member of the Security Council can gain any long-term economic or political benefit through a world in disarray.

The United Nations had probably hoped for different circumstances to celebrate their anniversary. However, it so happens that UN 75 coincides with the world's most severe pandemic in a hundred years as well as a far-reaching trade war. Such global developments have made the problems the UN Security Council currently faces more visible than ever before. Yet, identifying and addressing the deep-rooted structural concerns of the Security Council requires to trace its historic purpose and carefully ponder risks related with prospective decisions on future reforms.

With up to 85 million deaths in World War II, the winning powers agreed that another global war as well as committed crimes against humanity should never happen again. To bring sustainable peace and stability to the world, the United Nations (UN) were created as heart of a new global security order. In contrast to the former League of Nations, the UN's institutional resilience was rooted in the United States' support to create a liberal rules-based order which was essential in setting up the United Nations. It seemed obvious that other major powers would only subscribe to the cause if their voices were not overheard in the continuous buzz of 51 states: the new Security Council had to recognise their interests as well. In strong contrast to the General Assembly's embodiment of *One Country, One Vote* — the Security Council became the UN's body producing rapid responses to international insecurity.

For that reason, any of the now fifteen UN Security Council members were able to call for a prompt and effective response to global security concerns through passing resolutions. As a reflection of its era's realpolitik, creators of the UN Charter agreed on China, France, Great Britain, the US, and the Soviet Union as the carriers of never-expiring membership in the most significant body of global governance while the other ten members were to be elected by the General Assembly.

Since the system was set up in 1945, two important changes took place: the Chinese Civil War which led to a transfer of membership from the Republic of China to the People's Republic of China and the breakup of the Soviet Union providing the Russian Federation with that permanent membership. While the permanent five countries did gain the right to veto, the elected members kept the potential power of building a majority. Hence, the P5 and E10 can only accept resolutions if they effectively cooperate. In the post-World War II order, the UN Security Council failed in preventing conflict in general but facilitated new red lines great powers respected.

Tectonic shifts and institutional rigidity

Even though the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has been unfolding several structural deficits and internal lines of division within the Security Council, some of these can even be traced to the 1950s. Back then, the Cold War forced the world into alliances. Even states like India, Egypt, and Yugoslavia, who did not want to enter an alliance, had to actively construct a platform to be recognised as non-aligned. For the systemic rivals of the Cold War, mutual trust was a scarce resource and cooperation remained limited to key challenges of international security.

Legal norms and principles facilitated mutual deterrence and expectations. This has changed. With China not being member of many international treaties such as the Limited Test Ban Treaty (LTBT) as well as Russia and the United States criticising and partially even discarding weaponry control regimes, the Security Council has lost its ability to declare the dos and don'ts of state behaviour. In line with the rise of nationalist politics around the world, the Security Council is now increasingly viewed as a tool for domestic preferences. The rise of nationalism around the world is paralleled by a decline of liberal democratic values and a rise of transactional politics is fueling weaponised interdependence. This is particularly visible in relatively new policy areas as for example cyber and space that have been and remain mostly unregulated. Questioning the UN's overall mission and meaningfulness, the US President helps to simultaneously delegitimise the Security Council.

Not only Donald Trump, but all state leaders currently need to reassess their position in a world that is now exiting the post-Cold War era.



The United Nations General Assembly in New York

THE DILEMMA THE UN FACES BECOMES MORE VISIBLE WHEN TAKING A BROADER LOOK AT THE UNITED NATIONS: WITH THE SECURITISATION OF HUMAN SUFFERING, FINDING A JOINT RESPONSE TO COVID-19 OR THE CONFLICT IN SYRIA HAS BECOME IMPOSSIBLE. SIMILARLY, IT TOOK MICHELLE BACHELET, THE UN UNDERSECRETARY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, ALMOST ONE MONTH TO ISSUE A STATEMENT ON THE INJUSTICES CURRENTLY TAKING PLACE IN BELARUS.

In the past thirty years, Francis Fukuyama's promise of the end of history perpetually resonated in the ears of many western government officials, as their political leaders felt the moment for stronger global governance and realisation of human rights had finally come. With the Security Council's 1990 decision to sanction Iraq for invading Kuwait, the body foreshadowed its more humanitarian approach which it wanted to implement from now on. Witnessing the UN's incapacity to find a coordinated response towards genocides in Rwanda and Serbia, new norms such as the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) were created. The new policy was a success in the eyes of everyone who desired the international community to be a global

watchdog for human rights violations. Others viewed it as overstepping the Security Council's competences. This became visible when China declared its opposition to make climate change a part of the Security Council's portfolio. Even if the matter involved a security dimension, efforts to shape a more holistic idea of security came to a pause.

Countries like China argued there would be specific committees to deal with such topics. Yet, the dilemma the UN faces becomes more visible when taking a broader look at the United Nations: with the securitisation of human suffering, finding a joint response to COVID-19 or the conflict in Syria has become impossible. Similarly, it took Michelle Bachelet, the UN

Undersecretary for Human Rights, almost one month to issue a statement on the injustices currently taking place in Belarus. The failure in addressing the most pressing security concerns of today both in the Security Council and the Human Rights Sub-Committee signals unprecedented loss of ability of our multilateral institutions. While the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development showcases that the United Nations is able to rethink content, its structural reform ideas all fizzled out over time.

Responsibility to reform

The Security Council has not successfully been involved in past reforms. Yes, one could argue that resolutions such as 2250 and 2419

show the Security Council's overall new understanding of peace and security in line with the agenda of the United Nations. However, the multiplication of resolutions since the end of the Cold War did not stipulate a new purpose but reveal the Security Council's new hybridity judging about global and local issues. Finding common solutions has not become easier.

Deadlocked conflicts such as the mentioned war in Syria have already put on display some of the consequences a dysfunctional Security Council might have. Carving out a clearer division of labor between UN institutions, the Security Council must continue to implement resolutions in-line with the overall UN agenda, but also needs a stronger mandate for its core responsibilities. One way to allow for such developments would be the installation of an automatic referral process within the United Nations that would pick up on vetoed resolutions and be able to bring those back into the legal process.

Against common belief, all permanent five would benefit from a conversation on additional permanent seats as no member of the Security Council can gain any long-term economic or political benefit through a world in disarray. By involving strong new permanent voices from Latin America and Asia in the Security Council, the body would increase representation and effectively counteract the perception of a bipolar world. As China and Russia have perceived themselves as being above international law in recent years, these very actions would face much stronger and global condemnation resulting in much higher costs. Russia's behaviour on the Crimean Peninsula as well as China's Hong Kong policy have undermined the Security Council's authority to condemn breaches of international law.

Overcoming the challenges, the Security Council currently faces, requires overcoming the trend of transactional politics. The suggestions outlined here can only succeed within a larger reform agenda and if nations reject transactionalism. Its reform must be understood as long-term investment into the security of international politics and the Security Council must be seen within its wider institutional framework. Only then, the Security Council will remain recognised as indispensable and trusted as legitimate guardian of international peace and security for the next 75 years.

- orfonline.org

A letter from Ambassador Sugiyama Akira

Sri Lanka and Japan: The Distant Neighbours

Heartfelt greetings!

I am most grateful to have gained this valuable opportunity to reach out to the respectable readers and bring closer to their attention our latest news and activities between Sri Lanka and Japan. In this first column, I would like to begin by introducing our renewed partnership of solidarity in the combat against COVID-19.

But first and foremost, I would like to restate my firm commitment to further reinforce our friendly relationship under H.E. Mr. SUGA Yoshihide, Japan's new Prime Minister elected on September 16, while working closely with the new leaderships of the Government of Sri Lanka. It gives me great pleasure to express my heartfelt appreciation to Hon. Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa for tweeting the most encouraging message upon the election of Prime Minister SUGA, with warm congratulations and the strong willingness to enhance our already existing ties.

In fact, the cordial relationship that Sri Lanka and Japan enjoy today is "time-honoured" where the ties have grown from strength to strength by having stood the test of time. The mutual sympathy is naturally embedded in our relationship, as most befittingly termed by Professor W. D. Lakshman, the Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, as "the distant neighbours". The gulf of distance is insignificant in our context, as two island nations, located almost at the opposite ends of the Asian region, have long cultivated common values and virtues, blessed by the monsoon wind which was instrumental in connecting the two peoples over many centuries.



Ambassador Sugiyama Akira with Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa

The global pandemic of COVID-19, for Sri Lanka and Japan, is another challenge to which the two countries are bound to rise to the occasion. In the spirit of solidarity and unity, Japan has provided multipronged assistance to support the commendable and successful efforts by the People and the Government of Sri Lanka to curb the spread of the novel corona virus.

Such assistance stretches over wide-ranging areas, including essential support for children and expectant women, welfare of

repatriated Sri Lankan nationals, awareness campaign on matters related to health and sanitation, along with strengthening quarantine facilities as well as providing medical equipment and technical assistance to healthcare staff who are engaged in the combat in the frontline.

Various supports also showcase the token of Japan's deep appreciation in return for the strong solidarity expressed by Sri Lankan friends during the pall of our darkness - the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsu-



Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga



Ambassador Sugiyama Akira



Signing ceremony for Grant Aid for "Economic and Social Development Programme" (Medical equipment - July 8, 2020)

nami of 2011- for one. The assistance of canned fish recently distributed through the World Food Programme (WFP) to the school children is sourced from the areas supported by our friends in the aftermath of the catastrophe, while reflecting ever-lasting thankfulness to the sympathy and kindness expressed by the People and the Gov-

ernment of this beautiful country in time of need.

Truly, an often-quoted phrase "A friend in need is a friend indeed" never loses its luster in our relationship. In my next column, to be contributed in October, I would like to portray the origin from which our special bond of friendship stems from.

FORTS IN THE SOUTH

RAJA WAIDYASEKERA, Tissamaharama Special Corr.

Galle is a heritage city in down South with reputed schools such as St. Aloysius' College, Mahinda College, Sacred Heart Convent, Sanghamitta Balika Vidyalaya, Richmond College, Rippon College and Southlands College, a fully-fledged fisheries harbour and many star class hotels.



GALLE FORT

The Galle Fort which is declared as a World Heritage Site by the UNESCO is an ancient monument. The Galle bus stand and the railway station are also situated near the Fort.

The construction of the Galle Fort was inaugurated in 1588, according to chronicles written by a Portuguese known as Dom Jeronimo de Azevedo with the assistance of a local mudliyar called Samarakoon.

The Galle Fort is situated opposite the Galle International Stadium, Butterfly Bridge and the Park, and the Galle bus stand. It also borders the sea. Some people, including schoolchildren, use this fortress as an arena to watch cricket

matches played at the Galle International Stadium.

During the rule of King Rajasinghe I, the Portuguese commenced the construction of Galle Fort. After the Fort was captured by the Dutch, Governor Adriaan Vander Meidan drew plans for the development of the Galle Fort.

Security posts, including the main security unit, were opened in the Galle Fort in 1667. By the last quarter of the 17th century, the Dutch were able to finish the construction of the Galle Fort. Stones for the construction of the fortress were obtained by blasting a huge rock that was within the Galle Fort.

The clock tower within the fortress was constructed in 1883. A plan was

forwarded to develop the fortress further due to the reason that the Dutch Fort was a target of enemies. But they were unable to develop the Galle Fort since it was captured by the British in 1896. During the Portuguese era, stones that were taken from the sea area were used to construct the fortress.

The Galle Fort is a World Heritage site, a legacy and an asset to the residents of Galle. It gives Sri Lanka a recognition on the world map. Its proud barricade walls stand against the sea. The Clock Tower-located within the Galle Fort was built in the late 19th century in honour of Dr. Peter Daniel Anthonisz, a Colonial Surgeon born in Galle who cared for the people of the Southern Province.



KATUWANA FORTRESS

Katuwana Fort is the first-ever inland fort in the country. The Katuwana fortress is situated on a hill in the heart of Katuwana. This is the only fortress situated in a village, about 20 miles away from the coastal belt of Hambantota. This fortress was built by the Dutch for security and trade purposes. The Dutch purchased export-oriented spices and other commodities produced in the area at this fort.

Uruboku Oya can be seen flowing from north to south about 100 meters away from the fortress. Near the fortress is a house built according to local architecture where a Disawa of Matara stayed during his visits to the area. The whole fortress was built to mount 12 cannons. The fortress has only one gateway. Over the gate, there is a magazine which is a tall building.

According to chronicles, the fortress which is five meters tall has a walkway of five-four meters wide.

The Katuwana Fortress was used as a centre for the purchase of spices and consumer items. Longstanding giant trees surround the Katuwana Fortress. It is said that Maduwanwela Dis-



sawa had removed the door made out of stone that was at the entrance to the fortress and fixed it at his Maduwanwela Walawwa.

There is a well inside the fortress. The villagers believe that this is not a well, but an entrance to a tunnel to reach Warapitiya from the fortress. According to chronicles, the Dutch have directed a branch of the Nilwala River in Matara to Uruboku Oya with the intention of nurturing the land that comes under the purview of the Katwana Fortress.

It was renovated to retain its pristine glory on two occasions. It was renovated by the former Cultural Affairs Minister Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena and former Minister Ananda Kularatna.

MATARA STAR FORTRESS



The Star Fortress in Matara is situated facing the Matara General Hospital. It is also known as the *Tharaka Kotuwa* due to its star shape. In 1762, the Dutch captured the Matara Star Fort which was developed later in 1763. The Dutch Governor at that time was Redoute Van Eck. Construction work of the fortress was entrusted to a local Muladeni known as Orukem Muhandiram. The Star Fort was a residence for the Dutch Army. Now it is

a centre of attraction for locals and tourists from various destinations around the globe.

The archaeological museum at the Star Fortress is of great significance. There is a skeleton of a person, a resident of Miniethiliya in Hungama. This skeleton has been excavated by the Archaeology Department. The Star Fort was taken over by the Archaeology Department in 1980.



MIRISSA: The best for whale and dolphin watching, deep sea diving, snorkelling

RAJA WAIDYASEKERA
Tissamaharama Special Corr.

During the demarcation of the Southern Province in 1893, Matara was identified as a key district. Matara town continues to serve as a main city with a history of 600 years.

Among the places of religious value in the Matara town are the Bo tree and the Shrine of Our Lady of Matara. The Sacred Bo tree is in the heart of the town just opposite the Uyanwatta Stadium.

This Sacred tree was made famous by Kalidasa, one of the greatest Sanskrit poets of India, and his friend Kumaradasa. This Bo tree is venerated by Buddhists since it is one of the seven Bo trees in *Hath Bodhiya*.

The Shrine of Our Lady of Matara was built in 1908. Although Matara is predominantly a Buddhist town, the annual church feast held in September attracts crowds from all four corners of the country, depicting religious harmony. The statue is taken in procession during the festival period and is believed to possess miraculous powers.

The Mirissa Fisheries Harbour is one of the

busiest fisheries harbours that are situated along the coastal belt of the country.

MIRISSA BAY

Mirissa is about 154 kilometres away from Colombo. The golden sandy beach in Mirissa is loved by both foreigners and local visitors. It is the best place for whale and dolphin watching activities, deep sea diving and snorkelling. These wonderful activities are supervised by experienced experts. Everyone should gain this experience in Mirissa at least once in his or her lifetime. Nowadays, activities are being conducted giving prominence to COVID-19 health guidelines.

These activities such as whale watching could be enjoyed onboard the Sri Lanka Navy's passenger craft "Princess of Lanka". It was launched on January 30, 2011. Visitors have the opportunity to enjoy these facilities while relaxing at star class hotels and regular hotels.

Mirissa attracts crowds of all walks of life. It is a tourist hotspot. During the holiday seasons in November and April, it attracts

many visitors. There is no difference during the off-season in May and October as well.

The boat owners who accompany tourists and locals to watch dolphins said there is no proper place for visitors to get onto the boats and the smell emanating from heaps of garbage scattered all over the area is unbearable. They said this is their only income that keeps their home fires burning. They also said they have to spend at least two hours on one trip. They said they do not receive any relief measure from the Mirissa Fisheries Harbour or the authorities concerned. They said this profession also increases the foreign exchange flows into the country. They said though the present regime is engaged in developing the tourism industry it has not focused on providing relief measures and financial assistance to them to develop their livelihood.

The dilapidated buildings on either side of the main road tarnish the image maintained by the Mirissa Bay as a tourist attraction. Some of the buildings belong to the colonial era. There should be at least one state-of-the-art shopping complex though there is nothing. The main road that runs through Mirissa is narrow with bends.



Treatment system based on Western and Ayurvedic systems mooted - Pavithra

NADIRA GUNATILLEKE

Plans are a foot to establish a new medical treatment system in Sri Lanka which is based on both Western and Ayurvedic systems, Health Minister Pavithra Wanniarachchi said.

According to Minister Wanniarachchi, after introducing this new system, patients can be treated using the Ayurvedic system once the basic Western medical treatment is completed. In the past, Sri Lankans had a good knowl-

edge on Ayurvedic herbs etc. but now they do not know much about Ayurvedic herbs.

The Minister was speaking at the launch of the 'Suwa Dharanee' programme last week.

The Suwa Dharanee Pro-

gramme is aimed at establishing herbal gardens island wide in order to supply various herbs for Ayurvedic medical treatment. At present, a variety of herbs are imported from India and some other countries.

It is expected to cut off

the current expenditure by 10 percent on the importing of herbs by next year (2021). About 80 percent of herbs imported to Sri Lanka at present can be grown locally, thus saving large sums of money spent on herb imports.



Health Minister Pavithra Wanniarachchi watering a herbal plant while Indigeneous Medicine Promotion, Rural and Ayurvedic Hospitals Development and Community Health State Minister Sisira Jayakody and officials look on.



Picture by Sivam Packiyathan, Batticaloa Special Correspondent

One dead, three injured in accident

SIVAM PACKIYATHAN, Batticaloa Special Correspondent

A 22-year-old Nagaraja Sathes of Thirunavukarasu Road, Siththandy died on the spot and three others were severely injured at Mavadi Vembu when two motorbikes collided with a heavy vehicle carrying gas cylinders along the Batticaloa-Trincomalee Road in the Eravur Police area yesterday (21).

The three injured, S.Subendran (32), Maheswaran Thavaseelan (18) and Karunakaran Thanushan (26) were admitted to the Mavadivembu Hospital and were later transferred to the Batticaloa Teaching Hospital in a serious condition.

A driver of the heavy vehicle was also questioned by the Eravur Police.

Prosperous future for country's farmers - Gamlath

The farming community has received the maximum benefit by the suspension and limiting of the import of 16 non-essential goods by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, says Mahaweli Zones Canals and Settlement Infrastructure State Minister Siripala Gamlath.

He said the main objectives of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa is to turn the entire country into a work-site.

The State Minister was participating in a number of mobile service organized to settle the land disputes of the Mahaweli settlers at Veheragala, Mawanagala, Aselapura, Sinhapura, Welikanda, Senapura, Aralaganwila, Ellewewa and Dimbulagala in the Mahaweli 'C' and 'B' Zones on September 19.

The mobile services were held at the Veheragala Mahaweli Divisional Office, Manampitiya Pratihba Hall and the Aralaganwila Cultural Center.

State Minister Siripala Gamlath said President Gotabaya



Mahaweli Zones Canals and Settlement Infrastructure State Minister Siripala Gamlath participating in a mobile service for Mahaweli settlers.

Rajapaksa's goal is to settle the Mahaweli land disputes and assured the Mahaweli settlers of their freehold land rights soon.

Accordingly, the Mahaweli Authority expects to give freehold land rights to 100,000 Mahaweli settlers within this year under the guidance of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, Prime Minister

Mahinda Rajapaksa and Irrigation Minister Chamal Rajapaksa.

"A number of Mahaweli settlers have faced numerous difficulties as their legal right for a plot of land is not assured for three decades. The Government has drawn special attention to this issue. We would ascertain why their grievances

have been dragging on for such a long time and those responsible for the delay," he said.

"The Mahaweli is a great boon and major resource to the country as it contributes to the cultivation of the country's food production in a major way. Therefore, the Mahaweli Zones should be turned into worksites under the Govern-

ment's 'Vision of Prosperity and Splendour' National Policy Statement and development programme," he added.

"Initially, the aim of this mobile service is to settle the land disputes and prepare the environment to offer freehold land rights to the settlers. Accordingly, the Mahaweli Authority expects to offer more than 100,000 freehold land deeds to the settlers within this year," State Minister Gamlath said.

Former MP Jayasinghe Bandara, Secretary of the Mahaweli Zones Canals and Settlement Infrastructure State Ministry W.B. Palugasewwa, Mahaweli Authority Director General Sunil S Perera, Additional Secretary Mrs. P.K.S. Subodhini, Mahaweli Land Director Asantha Gunasekera, Human Resources Director Asanka Gunathilaka, Mahaweli Zonal Resident Manager Noel Jayasiri, Residential Business Manager of the Mahaweli 'B' Zone Sugath Weerasinghe and several others participated.

Blood Donation Campaign

The 41st Annual Blood Donation Campaign organised by the Royal College Red Cross Society will be held on September 25 from

8.30 a.m. onwards at the National Blood Center, Narahenpita. Donate blood and save lives says the World Health Organisation.

Fourteen Tamil political parties write to President, PM

CHANDIMA KARUNARATNE

Fourteen Tamil political parties have sent a letter to the President and the Prime Minister requesting his approval to commemorate the Tamil people who died in the war.

The court last week banned an event in Vavuniya to commemorate the fast unto death campaign launched by LTTE leader Thileepan

The organizers for the second time sought permission from the court to have this event in Vavuniya. However, the Court refused to grant permission.

The letter sent by 14 Tamil Political parties said that commemorating the dead in the North is a human right and that they should be granted permission to commemorate the war dead.

Rousing welcome for 'Goodwill Walker' in Akmeemana

MAHINDA P. LIYANAGE,

Galle Central Special Correspondent

Forty Five-year-old athlete S. Balakumar from Galle who embarked on a "Goodwill Walk" around the country in 42 days completing a distance of 1,500 kilometres completed his mission on Saturday at the Pinnaduwa New Town in Akmeemana, Galle.

He planned the laborious journey by foot in appreciation of the dedicated services of health staff, members of the defense forces to motivate and thank them for their commendable services to control the spread of COVID-19 in the country and to pray for the complete eradication of the pandemic from the country soon.

On his arrival after completing his "walk," he was accorded a reception at Pinnaduwa by the business community and people of Akmeemana led by Galle

District Parliamentarian Isuru Dodangoda and Akmeemana Pradeshiya Sabha Chairman Sena Kalahewatta.

Balakumar started his walk at Devata in Galle on August 8.

Expressing his gratitude and pleasure over the earnest welcome accorded to him he said that in all regions including North and East, he was welcomed by the people encouraging him on his mission.

In my walk from Galle I passed Matara, Hambantota, Thanamalwila, Mahiyangana, Trincomalee, and Jaffna to Vavuniya. As I reached Jaffna carrying the national flag I was cordially welcome by the people of Jaffna. In the journey I could visit almost all places of worship from Galle to Jaffna, he said.

The reception to the "Goodwill Walker" had been jointly organized



by Akmeemana Pradeshiya Sabha and Akmeemana Chamber of Commerce. Balakumar was awarded with a special certificate of appreciation by Akmeemana Chamber of Commerce.

20.09.2020 - TOTAL PRIZE WINNERS PRODUCED BY NATIONAL LOTTERIES BOARD 588,743
TOTAL PRIZE MONEY DISTRIBUTED AMONG WINNERS 24,164,390.00
Rs. 2,000,000.00 PRIZES 01 Rs. 1,000,000.00 PRIZES 02 Rs. 100,000.00 PRIZES 21

OFFICIAL RESULTS
SEVANA
 Date: 2020/09/20
 Draw Number: 297
 English Letter: E
 Winning Number: 31 39 46 56

COMBINATION	PRIZE	NO. OF WINNERS
1st Prize (If all 4 numbers are correct)	Rs. 1,000,000/-	1
2nd Prize (If English letter and 3 numbers are correct)	Rs. 100,000/-	03
3rd Prize (If any 3 numbers are correct)	Rs. 1,000/-	68
4th Prize (If English letter and 2 numbers are correct)	Rs. 200/-	131
5th Prize (If any 2 numbers are correct)	Rs. 100/-	3,181
6th Prize (If English letter and 1 number are correct)	Rs. 50/-	1,023
7th Prize (If 1 number is correct)	Rs. 20/-	45,138
8th Prize (If any English Letter is correct)	Rs. 20/-	6,836

 Next Draw Super Prize: Rs. 14,000,000/-
 Total Prizes Won in this Draw: Rs. 1,042,930/-

MEGA POWER
 DRAW NUMBER: 618
OFFICIAL RESULTS
 DATE 2020.09.20
 English Letter: L
 Winning Number: 06 08 11 45 51

PRIZE STRUCTURE	PRIZE MONEY RS.	NO. OF WINNERS
1st Prize (If all 5 Numbers are correct)	1,000,000.00	01
2nd Prize (If only 3 Numbers with English Letter is correct)	100,000.00	06
3rd Prize (If all 3 Numbers are correct)	5,000.00	128
4th Prize (If only 2 Numbers with English Letter is correct)	500.00	388
5th Prize (Only 2 Numbers are correct)	100.00	7,011
6th Prize (If only 1 Number with English Letter is correct)	40.00	4,082
7th Prize (Only 1 Number are correct)	20.00	116,380
8th Prize (Only English Letter are correct)	20.00	26,708

 BIGGEST PRIZE: Rs. 235,816,234.75
 NEXT MEGA SUPER PRIZE: Rs. 235,816,234.75
 NEXT POWER SUPER PRIZE: Rs. 10,581,282.00
 NEXT GRAND SUPER PRIZE: Rs. 16,042,680.80
 Total Prizes Won in This Draw: Rs. 5,450,140.00

DHANA NIDHANAYA
Official Results
 2020/09/20
 Draw Number - 318
 English Letter: Z
 Winning Number: 05 13 29 69

COMBINATION	PRIZE	NO. OF WINNERS
1st Prize (If all 4 numbers are correct)	Rs. 1,000,000.00	-
2nd Prize (If English Letter and 3 numbers are correct)	Rs. 100,000.00	02
3rd Prize (If any 3 numbers are correct)	Rs. 5,000.00	54
4th Prize (If English Letter and 2 numbers are correct)	Rs. 1,000.00	114
5th Prize (If any 2 numbers are correct)	Rs. 100.00	2,972
6th Prize (If English Letter and 1 number is correct)	Rs. 60.00	1,954
7th Prize (If 1 number is correct)	Rs. 20.00	50,319
8th Prize (If only English Letter is correct)	Rs. 20.00	9,441

 Total prize money won in this draw Rs. 2,085,640.00
 Number of Prize Winners in this draw: 64,856
 Next Draw Super Prize: 117,089,200.64
 Prizes of Draw No. 318 (or more) are subject to the government tax regulations.
 Winners must produce National Identity Card to receive prizes.
 Winning tickets are valid from the draw for a period of 6 months only.

MAHAJANA SAMPATHA
 DRAW NUMBER: 4251
OFFICIAL RESULTS
 DATE: 20-09-2020
 English Letter: L
 Winning Numbers: 3 6 3 4 2 2

PRIZE STRUCTURE - from right to left	PRIZE	NO. OF WINNERS
1st Prize (If all 6 numbers are correct)	Rs. 2,000,000/-	01
2nd Prize (If 5 numbers are correct)	Rs. 100,000/-	07
3rd Prize (If 4 numbers are correct)	Rs. 10,000/-	89
4th Prize (If 3 numbers are correct)	Rs. 1,000/-	908
5th Prize (If 2 numbers are correct)	Rs. 100/-	9,146
6th Prize (If 1 number is correct)	Rs. 20/-	90,435

PRIZE STRUCTURE - from left to right	PRIZE	NO. OF WINNERS
1st Prize (If all 6 numbers are correct)	Rs. 10,000/-	08
2nd Prize (If 5 numbers are correct)	Rs. 1,000/-	93
3rd Prize (If 4 numbers are correct)	Rs. 100/-	915
4th Prize (If 3 numbers are correct)	Rs. 50/-	8,986
5th Prize (If 2 numbers are correct)	Rs. 20/-	36,159

 Value of prizes won in this draw - Rs. 8,658,280.00
 The Super Prize of next draw: Rs. 10,644,409.00

Govisetha
OFFICIAL RESULTS
 DRAW NUMBER: 2546
 DRAW DATE: 20.09.2020
 English Letter: Y
 Winning Numbers: 06 40 42 57

COMBINATION	PRIZE	NO. OF WINNERS
1st Prize (If all 4 numbers correct)	Rs. 1,000,000.00	01
2nd Prize (If Letter & ANY 3 NUMBERS CORRECT)	Rs. 100,000.00	03
3rd Prize (If ANY 3 NUMBERS CORRECT)	Rs. 2,000.00	152
4th Prize (If Letter & ANY 2 NUMBERS CORRECT)	Rs. 1,000.00	307
5th Prize (If ANY 2 NUMBERS CORRECT)	Rs. 100.00	8272
6th Prize (If Letter & ANY NUMBER CORRECT)	Rs. 40.00	5388
7th Prize (If ANY NUMBER CORRECT)	Rs. 20.00	134081
8th Prize (If ONLY THE LETTER IS CORRECT)	Rs. 20.00	24598

 TOTAL WINNERS OF THIS DRAW: 172,805
 TOTAL PRIZE MONEY WON IN THIS DRAW: Rs. 6,127,400.00
 SUPER PRIZE FOR THE NEXT DRAW: Rs. 62,829,093.60
 Winning tickets are valid for a period of six months from the date of the draw. Prizes of Rupees Five lakh and above are liable to government taxes. To obtain prizes, Presenting National Identity card is a must.

India loans virus-hit Maldives \$250m



THE MALDIVES: India on Sunday announced a \$250 million loan to the Maldives to boost its coronavirus-battered economy in a further bid to counter China's growing financial footprint in South Asia.

The Indian Ocean archipelago, renowned for its luxury resorts, has been badly hit by the pandemic, with foreign tourists failing to flock back in large numbers after international flights restarted in mid-July.

India's High Commission in the Maldives said the loan was being provided after a request by Maldives President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih for "financial assistance to overcome the difficult economic situation."

"The Maldives is at liberty to use the money in repairing the domestic economic situation in line with its own priorities," it said in a statement.

A sale of treasury bonds issued by the Maldives government to State Bank of India (SBI) will raise the money, with ten years given for repayment, the statement added.

The assistance follows a \$500 million pledge by New Delhi in August to help build bridges and causeways in the nation of 1,192 islands located on major East-West shipping lanes.



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi during an earlier meeting with Maldivian President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih in New Delhi.

The bond takes New Delhi's total pledged financial assistance to the Maldives to over \$2 billion since Solih came to power, according to India's Foreign Ministry.

The country, which still has a night-time curfew in place to combat the

virus, has recorded more than 9,600 infections and 33 deaths from COVID-19. The Asian Development Bank forecasts the Maldives' economy to contract by 20.5 percent this year, compared to growth of 5.9 percent last year. - AFP

Taj Mahal reopens as COVID-19 cases soar

INDIA: The Taj Mahal reopened to visitors on Monday in a symbolic business-as-usual gesture even as India looks set to overtake the US as the global leader in coronavirus infections.

India, home to 1.3 billion people and some of the world's most crowded cities, has recorded more than 5.4 million COVID-19 cases. Around 100,000 new infections and over 1,000 deaths are reported daily.

But after a strict lockdown in March that devastated the livelihoods of tens of millions of people, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is reluctant to copy some other nations and tighten the screw on activity again. Instead in recent months his government has eased more and more restrictions including on many train routes, domestic flights, markets, restaurants - and now, visiting the Taj Mahal.

Officials said strict social distancing rules were in place and daily visitor numbers capped at 5,000 - a quarter the normal rate. Tickets can only be bought online.

Many experts say that even though India is testing more than a million people per day, this is still not enough and the true number of cases may be much higher



The Taj Mahal reopened to visitors on September 21 in a symbolic business-as-usual gesture even as India and the rest of the world grapples with the COVID-19 pandemic. - AFP

than officially reported. The same goes for deaths, which currently stand at more than 86,000. Meanwhile, the United States remains the hardest-hit nation in the world, with more than 6.8 million cases and deaths approaching 200,000. A million people in and around the Spanish capital on Monday were under new "stay-at-home" orders to contain another COVID-19 coronavirus surge.

The restrictions in Madrid will last for two weeks starting Monday, affecting people living mainly in densely populated, low-income neighbourhoods who will be

allowed only to travel for essential reasons such as work, medical care or taking children to school.

Global coronavirus infections are rapidly approaching 31 million, with more than 958,000 deaths.

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern moved most of New Zealand to its lowest virus alert setting on Monday, saying the country was edging towards eliminating COVID-19.

The Pacific nation has recorded just 25 deaths in a population of five million and has been widely praised for its virus response. - AFP

South Koreans defy virus to attend drive-in circus

SOUTH KOREA: A clown juggled and acrobats launched themselves through the air above a stage in an open field in Seoul at the weekend as the audience watched from the safety of their cars, cocooned from the risk of coronavirus.

The annual circus - usually held in May - was pushed back twice this year because of the virus until organisers turned it into a drive-in event.

"The performing arts are very important even during a pandemic," said Cho Beong-hee, manager of the Seoul Street Art Creation Centre.

"So we came up with different ideas in trying to make this event happen and the drive-in option was chosen as it was deemed the safest idea."

Each event allows 30 cars to park in front of the stage, while the event is also streamed online for free.

The lack of interaction with the audience posed new challenges for the performers.

"I had to re-imagine and re-think new ways to go about my performance," said Lee Sung-hyung, a performer at the circus.

The crowd clapped and honked car horns as acrobats swung above the giant stage, hoisted by a crane.

In the audience, Yu Hye-jin said she was satisfied with her seat.

"I think watching performances in cars is great," she



South Koreans watching a circus performance from their cars, at an annual circus that had been turned into a drive-in event in Seoul on Saturday. - AFP

said, adding, "I think it can be done in the future, with other performances like musicals." - AFP



Rescue workers carry a survivor from the rubble of a collapsed three-storey residential building in Bhiwandi on Monday. - AFP

TEN DEAD in India building collapse

INDIA: Ten people were killed and up to 25 were feared trapped after a three-storey residential building collapsed before dawn on Monday in western India, officials said.

The accident in the city of Bhiwandi, which neighbours India's financial capital Mumbai, occurred around 3:40 am on Monday, local authorities said.

"Ten people have died, we have rescued 11 people alive," an official at

the Thane city authority, which oversees Bhiwandi, told AFP.

More than 40 emergency workers had arrived at the scene, the official said, including a team of 30 rescuers from the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).

NDRF Director General Satya Narayan Pradhan tweeted that teams armed with specialised equipment and sniffer dogs were trying to rescue some "20-25 feared trapped".

Images broadcast on the NDRF's official Twitter page showed emergency workers combing through concrete and brick rubble with electrical wires hanging over their heads.

The cause of the accident was not immediately clear, but building collapses are common during India's June-September monsoon, with old and rickety structures buckling after days of non-stop rain.

- AFP

Woman accused of sending RICIN letter to White House arrested

US: US authorities confirmed an arrest of a woman Sunday over an envelope addressed to President Donald Trump that contained a substance identified as the poison

Ricin. The suspect was carrying a gun when she was arrested by authorities, according to US media reports.

"I can confirm that an arrest was

made at the Peace Bridge in Buffalo, New York," Customs and Border Protection supervisory officer Aaron Bowker told AFP, referring to the bridge that connects Canada and the US state of New York.

US media reported Saturday that authorities had intercepted an envelope laced with ricin addressed to Trump.

The letter was discovered earlier last week and did not reach the White House, according to The New York Times and CNN. The Times said it was believed that the letter was mailed from Canada.

Mail addressed to the White House is first inspected and sorted in depots just outside Washington.

CNN said the contents of the envelope were tested repeatedly at one depot and confirmed to contain ricin.

- AFP



Mail addressed to the White House is first inspected and sorted in depots just outside Washington. (INSET) The small canister which contained the Ricin.

Over 70 whales stranded in southern Australia



Whales stranded on a sandbar in Macquarie Harbour on the rugged west coast of Tasmania on Sunday. - AFP

AUSTRALIA: Over 70 whales are stranded in a bay on the Australian island of Tasmania, officials said Monday, with marine experts now mobilising to see if a rescue is possible.

The whales are in Macquarie Harbour, on the island's rugged and sparsely populated west coast, where they are believed to be stuck on a sandbar.

Police are on site and marine experts are being deployed to assess the situation, Tasmania's environment department said.

"Additional crews with whale rescue gear will arrive later today," the department said in a statement.

The creatures are believed to be pilot whales but the species has not yet been confirmed.

Mass whale strandings occur relatively often in Tasmania, but the large numbers involved present a daunting rescue prospect.

The latest stranding comes as a humpback whale that was stuck in a tropical river in Australia's north finally returned to the ocean after more than two weeks.

Public broadcaster ABC reported the creature, which spent 17 days in the crocodile-infested waters of Kakadu National Park, has been spotted in open seas off Darwin.

Scientists had been weighing options for guiding the humpback to safety after it became the first known whale to travel up the muddy river, but were relieved when it returned to sea of its own accord. - AFP





US President Donald Trump and Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga discussed a "free and open Indo-Pacific" region in a phone call.

Trump, Suga discuss 'free and open Indo-Pacific'

US: US President Donald Trump on Sunday spoke to Japan's new prime minister, Yoshihide Suga, to congratulate him on taking office and to discuss a "free and open Indo-Pacific" region, which is increasingly dominated by China.

Beijing's expanding military presence in the region has worried several of its neighbors, and Washington has vowed to stand up against its territorial claims.

China is locked in disputes with neighbors including Japan and Vietnam over islands in the resource rich South China Sea.

"The two leaders discussed the importance of pursuing our shared vision of a free and open Indo-Pacific, continuing to strengthen the United States-Japan Alliance, and working together to strengthen the global economy," the White House said in a statement.

After the phone conversation Suga told reporters that he informed Trump that the alliance with Washington is the "cornerstone of peace and stability in the region," Japan's Kyodo News reported.

In their 25-minute call, Trump and Suga also talked about the situation in North Korea. The Japanese leader asked for US support to push for the return of Japanese nationals kidnapped by the North Koreans in the 1970s and 1980s, Kyodo reported.

The two leaders also discussed the response to the coronavirus pandemic, and agreed to cooperate on developing and distributing a vaccine and treatment for the deadly virus, an unnamed Japanese official told Kyodo.

Suga earlier spoke by phone with Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, which Kyodo said is the first head of government he spoke to since his inauguration.

Japan's parliament elected Suga, 71, as the country's first new leader in nearly eight years on Wednesday. He said he would seek continued strong ties with Washington and stable relations with China and Russia.

Japan is caught in the tensions between the United States and China, its two biggest trading partners. Suga will face a growing trend towards protectionism – something Japan has bucked with the enthusiastic embrace of international trade pacts.

The newly elected prime minister has pledged to continue the work of former leader Shinzo Abe, whose signature "Abenomics" program involved vast government spending and monetary easing, and attempts to cut red tape.

Abe made building a close personal relationship with Trump a cornerstone of protecting the alliance with Washington. In 2016, he flew to New York to chat with the then president-elect, becoming the first foreign leader to meet Trump at his Manhattan skyscraper. The pair regularly golfed together. - AFP

Iran says US 'isolated' as world powers dismiss sanctions

IRAN: Iran said Sunday its arch-foe the United States was "isolated" after a US unilateral declaration that UN sanctions are back in force against the Islamic republic was dismissed by other major powers.

The Trump administration said the so-called "snapback" of the sanctions was in effect and threatened to "impose consequences" on any UN member state that fails to comply.

"The United States is very, very isolated in its claims," Iran's Foreign Ministry Spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh said. "The whole world is saying nothing has changed."

The sanctions in question were

lifted in 2015 when Iran and six world powers – Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia and the US – reached a landmark nuclear deal known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

But US President Donald Trump withdrew from the JCPOA in 2018, saying the deal – negotiated by his predecessor Barack Obama – was insufficient. He also renewed and even strengthened Washington's own sanctions.

The US insists it is still a participant in the agreement that it stormed out of, but only so it can activate the snapback option, which it announced on August 20.

Virtually every other Security

Council member disputes Washington's ability to execute this legal pirouette, and the UN body has not taken the measure any further. On Sunday, two permanent council members – France and Britain – issued a joint statement along with non-permanent member Germany saying the US's "purported notification" was "incapable of having any legal effect". Russia also said the US lacked legal authority.

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced Washington's latest move in a statement.

"Today, the United States welcomes the return of virtually all previously terminated UN sanctions on the Islamic Republic of

Iran," he said. Pompeo promised measures would be announced in the coming days against "violators" of the sanctions to ensure that "Iran does not reap the benefits of UN-prohibited activity". Iran issued a stark warning if the US follows through with the measures.

It added that Washington, by leaving the nuclear deal, has "explicitly denied itself of any rights" to use the mechanisms in agreement and UN Resolution 2231, which enshrined the nuclear accord.

Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif accused US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo of not having read UN resolutions or the nuclear deal. - AFP



An Art Professor from the Silpakorn University in Thailand makes a stencil over an empty space in Bangkok on September 21, 2020, where a commemorative plaque had been placed by pro-democracy protest leaders on Sunday. - AFP

Thai protesters' "People's Plaque" removed

THAILAND: A plaque installed by activists in Bangkok declaring Thailand "belongs to the people" had been removed Monday, after a weekend show of force by protesters calling for the royal family to stay out of the kingdom's politics.

Thailand has seen near-daily protests for the past two months led by students demanding the resignation of Prime Minister Prayut Chan-O-Cha, a former Army Chief who masterminded a 2014 coup.

Some 30,000 demonstrators rallied Saturday close to Bangkok's Grand Palace – where organisers took a stronger line on monarchical reform – before installing a commemorative "People's Plaque" the morning after. But by Monday the plaque had vanished.

"I heard it's missing and we're investigating the case," Bangkok's deputy police chief Piya Tawichai told AFP. AFP journalists confirmed the removal.

The commemorative "People's Plaque," placed in historic Sanam Luang field, had read: "The people have expressed the intention that this country belongs to the people, and not the king." At its installation during Saturday's protest, prominent activist Parit Chivarak shouted "Down with feudalism, long live the people," as the crowd cheered.

The newly installed medallion referenced the original brass one embedded for decades in the grounds of Bangkok's Royal Plaza.

It commemorated the end of royal absolutism in 1932 after a revolution that

transitioned the kingdom into a constitutional monarchy. - AFP



World's richest 1% cause double CO2 emissions of poorest 50% - Study

FRANCE: The richest one percent of people are responsible for more than twice as much carbon pollution as the poorest half of the world's population – 3.1 billion people – new research showed Monday.

Despite a sharp decrease in carbon emissions due to the pandemic, the world remains on pace to warm several degrees this century, threatening poor and developing nations with the full gamut of natural disasters and displacements.

An analysis led by Oxfam showed that between 1990 and 2015, when annual emissions ballooned 60 percent, that rich nations were responsible for depleting nearly a third of Earth's carbon budget.

The carbon budget is the limit of cumulative greenhouse gas emissions mankind may produce before rendering catastrophic temperature rises unavoidable.

Just 63 million people – the "one percent" – took up nine percent of the carbon budget since 1990, research conducted for Oxfam by the Stockholm Environment Institute found.

The 2015 Paris climate deal commits nations to limit global temperature rise to "well below" two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

But emissions have continued to rise since then, and several analyses have warned that without a thoroughly re-tooled global economy prioritising green growth, the pollutions savings due to Covid-19 will have an insignificant mitigating impact on climate change.

With just 1C of warming so far, Earth is already battling more frequent and intense wildfires, droughts and super storms rendered more powerful by rising seas. - AFP



Relics from World War II, including grenades and an artillery shell, on display at Barana Village on the outskirts of Honiara in the Solomon Islands. Two bomb disposal experts from Britain and Australia died in the Solomon Islands when World War II ordnance they were helping to clear exploded on Sunday. - AFP

Two killed clearing WWII bomb in Solomons

SOLOMON ISLANDS: Two bomb disposal experts from Britain and Australia died in the Solomon Islands when World War II ordnance they were helping to clear exploded, officials said Monday.

Police said the pair – who worked for the charity Norwegian People's Aid – were storing munitions without permission in a residential area of the capital Honiara when the blast occurred on Sunday afternoon.

Norwegian People's Aid named the pair as Briton Stephen "Luke" Atkinson and Australian Trent Lee, who were helping collate a database of unexploded ordnance in the Solomons, which was a major Pacific battleground in WWII.

Police inspector Clifford Tunuki said the explosion took place at the charity's office and it appeared unauthorised work was being carried out on unexploded ordnance (UXO) in a residential area.

"We do not know what exactly happened that led to the bomb blast but preliminary investigations indicate they had several items of UXO at the residence and they may have been conducting some UXO work," he said.

Tunuki said police were unaware the munitions were being stored in the area and, had they known, would have insisted they be taken to a proper bomb disposal facility.

He said they had now been removed and assured residents the surrounding suburb was now safe.

Norwegian People's Aid said its activities in the Solomons had been temporarily suspended while the cause of the "devastating" blast was examined.

"The investigation needs to be completed before there can be a conclusion on the cause of events," it said in a statement. - AFP

'WATCHMEN' wins big at 'VIRTUAL' Emmys

US: "Watchmen," a dark superhero series that tackles US racism, triumphed at the Emmys on Sunday as the stars beamed in live to an empty Los Angeles theater for Hollywood's first major COVID-era awards show.

Fellow HBO show "Succession" – the saga of a powerful, backstabbing family – won big in the prestigious drama categories, while offbeat Canadian hit "Schitt's Creek" performed a clean sweep of the night's comedy prizes.

With four victories in major categories, "Watchmen" ended up with a total of 11 Emmys – television's equivalent of the Oscars. Its creators dedicated their win for best limited series to African-American victims of the 1921 Tulsa massacre. A timely blend of sociopathic super-

heroes and political satire based on a seminal 1980s graphic novel, "Watchmen" won rave reviews from critics and audiences alike.

The series, which debuted last year, depicts white supremacists, police brutality and rows over mask-wearing – all subjects of intensely polarized national debate as the United States gears up for November's Presidential election. "Watchmen" was a story about trauma, and the lasting scars of white domestic terrorism, police corruption and brutality," said supporting actor winner Yahya Abdul-Mateen II.

Its 11 wins left it two short of the all-time record of 13 held by historic mini-series "John Adams."

Nominees and winners for the 72nd Emmys beamed in remotely from their homes and socially dis-

tanced gatherings via video call, as Los Angeles is still under tough coronavirus-related restrictions.

The creator of "Succession" – a dark portrait of a Murdoch-esque family's wrangling for control of a dynastic media empire – sounded one of several political notes by "un-thanking" world leaders for their handling of the pandemic.

The show also won for best drama writing and directing, while star Jeremy Strong bagged best actor honours.

Former Disney child star Zendaya pulled off a surprise, youngest-ever win for best drama actress with bleak, hard-hitting "Euphoria," in which high school students struggle with sex, drugs and crime – in explicit detail.

- AFP

Surfboard drifts from Hawaii to Philippines

THE PHILIPPINES: When big wave surfer Doug Falter lost his board in a wipeout in Hawaii, his best hope was for a local fisherman to pick it up. He never imagined it would be found more than 8,000 kilometres (5,000 miles) away in the southern Philippines.

More than two years after watching his pale blue custom-shaped board disappear in the huge swell of Waimea Bay, Falter was alerted via social media that it had been found near the remote island of Sarangani.

And the new owner – local primary school teacher and aspiring surfer Giovanna Branzuela – was happy to give it back to him.

"When I saw the picture of it, I couldn't believe it, I thought it was a joke almost," Falter, 35, told AFP via Zoom.



This combination image of two handout photographs show, at left, a picture taken by Brent Bielman on October 18, 2015 of surfer Doug Falter posing with his surfboard in Hawaii, and at right, an undated picture taken in 2020 courtesy of Giovanna Branzuela showing Branzuela posing with the same surfboard on Sarangani island in the Philippines. - AFP

across the Pacific Ocean, the name of the board's shaper, Hawaii-based Lyle Carlson, was still visible on the now-yellowish surface.

Curious, Branzuela looked him up on Facebook and sent him a photo of the board.

Carlson shared the picture on Instagram, tagging Falter.

"It turned out it's a surfboard from Hawaii. I couldn't believe it myself," Branzuela, 38, told AFP via telephone.

"It's been my dream to learn to surf and ride the big waves here," he added.

"For now I can use his surfboard. I told him I will take good care of it."

The pair have been chatting on Facebook and Falter plans to visit the small island to retrieve his board after coronavirus travel restrictions are lifted. - AFP



The main winners at the 2020 Emmy Awards

Egypt discovers 14 ancient sarcophagi

EGYPT: Egypt's Antiquities Ministry announced Sunday the discovery of 14 sarcophagi in the Saqqara necropolis south of Cairo that had lain buried for 2,500 years.

The coffins were found two days ago during an archaeological dig at the burial spot where another 13 wooden sarcophagi had been discovered last week, the ministry said in a statement.

The vast Saqqara necropolis is located around 16 kilometres (10 miles) south of the famed Giza pyramids. It is part of the ancient city of Memphis, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and hosts the colossal step Pyramid of Djoser.

Photographs of the well-preserved wooden coffins show ornate and intricate paintings, with maroon and blue lines, as well as hieroglyphic pictorials.



The ministry said more excavations had been planned, with the expectation that another trove of wooden coffins would be found at the site.

In a video distributed this month announcing the discoveries, Tourism and Antiquities Minister Khaled al-Anani said the recent finds at Saqqara were "just the beginning".

Egypt has sought to promote archaeological discoveries across the country in a bid to revive tourism, which took a hit from restrictions on travel due to the novel coronavirus pandemic.

In July, authorities reopened the Giza pyramids and other archaeological sites to the public after a three-month closure and waived tourist visa fees to lure holidaymakers.

Egypt is also planning to unveil its centrepiece project of the Grand Egyptian Museum in the coming months.

- AFP



Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities Mostafa Waziri inspecting one of fourteen 2500 year-old coffins discovered in a burial shaft at the desert necropolis of Saqqara south of the Egyptian capital Cairo. - AFP



res|e|n|t EXPORTERS' 28th ANNUAL NCE EXPORT AWARDS 2020

"Celebrating Excellence in Sri Lankan Exports"

ENTRIES FOR THE 28TH NCE EXPORT AWARDS ARE NOW OPEN
CALLING ALL DIRECT EXPORTERS, INDIRECT EXPORTERS, SME'S AND CONTRIBUTORS TO THE EXPORT VALUE CHAIN

EXPORT PRODUCTS AND SERVICES SECTORS

- | | |
|--|--|
| Textiles and Garments Sector | Toy Products Sector |
| Tea & Tea Products Sector | Leather & Leather based Products Sector |
| Rubber & Rubber Products Sector | Confectionary Products Sector |
| Rubber Tyres and Accessories Sector | Alcoholic and Tobacco Products Sector |
| Coconut & Coconut Products Sector | Electronic & Electrical Products Sector |
| Fisheries & Fishery Products Sector | Boat & Ship Building, and Repair services Sector |
| Ornamental Fish Sector | ICT & Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) & related services Sector |
| Fresh Food Products Sector | Handicrafts & Handloom Products Sector |
| Processed Food Products Sector | Paper & Paper based Products Sector |
| Fresh & Processed Agricultural Export Crops Sector | Packaging Products Sector |
| Floriculture & Horticulture Products Sector | Machinery & Light Engineering Products Sector |
| Spices and Spice based Products Sector | Recycled Products Sector |
| Gems & Jewellery Sector | Organic Products Sector |
| Poultry & Livestock Products Sector | Business & Professional Services Exports Sector |
| Ceramic and Porcelain Products Sector | Suppliers to Exporters Sector. |
| Glass and Glass Products Sector | Service Providers to Exporters Sector. |
| Other Mineral based Products Sector | Logistic Services Sector |
| Chemical Products Sector | Tourism & Tourism related services Sector. |
| Plastics and Plastic Products Sector | |
| Wood & Wood based Products Sector | |

APPLICANTS ARE ALSO ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL AWARDS

- BEST VALUE ADDED EXPORTER - PRODUCTS SECTOR
- BEST VALUE ADDED EXPORTER - SERVICES SECTOR
- BEST WOMAN EXPORTER
- BEST PERFORMING EXPORTER IN EMERGING MARKETS
- BEST SRI LANKAN BRAND EXPORTER
- MOST INNOVATIVE EXPORTER
- BEST PERFORMER IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES
- RECOGNITION OF DISABLED PERSONS BY EXPORT ORIENTED ENTERPRISES
- HIGHEST FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNERS
- MOST OUTSTANDING SME EXPORTER
- MOST OUTSTANDING EXPORTER - OVERALL - RUNNER UP
- MOST OUTSTANDING EXPORTER - OVERALL

EVENT PARTNERS

Main Sponsor Sri Lanka Telecom MIDNITE	Premium Sponsors EX BANK OF Ceylon BOC Bank of the Nation LMD THE VOICE OF SRI LANKA SLEIC	Principal Sponsors Sri Lanka Exporters' Association Sri Lanka Chamber of Commerce and Industry Sri Lanka Manufacturers' Association
---	---	---

Strategic Knowledge Partner



Print Media Partner



Download the Application by visiting www.nce.lk

Application Closing Date:
Friday, 25th September 2020

Awards Ceremony
Saturday, 21st November 2020

for further information please call 0114344662 or 0114651765 or email to awards@nce.lk

Sri Lanka centre Hafi Abdeen played in seven cup winning club sides

ALTHAF NAWAZ

Isipathana College, Colombo has contributed immensely in producing some yesteryear sportsmen especially in the field of Rugby Football, who have excelled locally and at International level. Hafi Abdeen is one of the legends who represented the school before he donned the National jersey.

Growing up with a family of champion boxers, Hafi thought one day he may turn out to be a great boxer, but instead turned to be a champion ruggerite. What began as a fairytale, leading to a long span of rugby history. He recalled his memory of kicking a rugby ball in the front yard where he was living. As youngsters he used to play touch rugby with his friends, before playing full contact rugby which was more interesting and exciting. They had a clan of friends who went to watch the big rugby games, and to cheer their favourite clubs and players. They crept through fences or climbed any tree to get a vantage point, to witness the heroes and stalwarts of rugby like Nimal Maralande, Maurice De Silva, Ago Paiva to name a few. The following day they emulated them in their mini games of rugby.

His stepping stone into rugby was at the age of a 15-year-old school boy with Havelock's juniors, coached by the famous Maurice de Silva. Being the first appearance, he didn't have a position in mind, but started as a prop and then as a flanker. However, with the guidance of Maurice, he groomed into an inside three quarter. He played his first game against the CR and FC junior side, coached by Summa Navaratnam, which they won comfortably to end the tournament.

Hafi started playing College rugby in 1966 representing the second string rugby as a fly half, before getting elevated to the first XV team for a few games, under the captaincy of Sunil Wickremasuriya. He continued to become a regular



Hafi Abdeen

member of the side. He played under the captaincy of Gunasena Wijeratne and Savanghan brothers, before captaining the school side in 1970 under the watchful eyes of coach Frankie David, who became the voice of Isipathana rugby thereafter. Frankie was a champion player during his time, playing for Havelocks and then All Ceylon. He was a prominent and respected figure in the rugby fraternity.

In 1970, Hafi captained the Colombo schools side along with seven other school mates. They defeated the outstanding schools led by D.R. Weerasinghe a Thomian. He then went onto lead the combined schools side which included few of his College guys. They went on to

beat a star studded Combined University team for the first time, led by Sarath Seneviratne.

Some of the great players who played with him for school are Horace Perera, the late Rezano Rajap, Thajone Savanghan Sriyantha Rajakaruna and Upali Vidanage to name a few.

In 1971, he joined the CR and FC, along with two other school mates the late Faiz Ismail and Mahinda Jayawardena. There he was privileged to be in the company of some great players which he used to idolize as a youngster like Mohan Sahayam, the late Didacus de Almeida, Sari de Sylva, Hadji Omar, Doctor Tony de Sylva and a host of other great players. The team was coached by Mahesh Rodrigo who took great care of him being a youngster and groomed him to the ranks of club rugby. In the same year he was picked to represent the Presidents XV against the famous London Welsh side, led by John Dawes who also captained the all conquering British Lions side comprising some champion players like J.P.R. Williams and the late Mervyn Davies. The same year he went on to play against the Paris Universities, Nchanga RFC and the Australian Emus. In 1974, he joined Haves for a long stint first, under the captaincy of Desmond Haridge followed by some stellar years of rugby. In 1978, he retired from the game, and joined CH and FC to play squash and stay fit.

But the retirement from the game did not last long, as Rodney Patternott who was coaching the CH team saw him at the club, and persuaded him to play again, which he obliged and won the cup after a long drought in 1982, under the Captaincy of NH Karunasena, who was his junior at College. He was associated with some great players in that team including Suman Jayasinghe, Sujantha Kumar, Daya Ratnayake, and Haroon Musafar to name a few. He would like to

show his sincere gratitude to Yu Cey Chang, Kishin Butani, Faiz Hamdoon, Bucky Wijegooneratne, Rizwan Moulana and Reginald Bartholomeusz who were at CH at that time.

In 1972, he was picked to play for Sri Lanka in the Asiad in Hong Kong, captained by Yu Cey Chang, which consisted of his school mates, half back Senarath Kulatileke, who played for CH and FC then. He was then chosen for the 1974 Asiad led by the dashing flanker Indrajit Coomaraswamy and played as a regular fly half in the National team after being centre three quarter most of his club rugby career. He also went on to represent Sri Lanka in the Cathay Pacific Sevens tournament in Hong Kong.

Nevertheless, he enjoyed his rugby wherever and whoever he played with, by giving the maximum support. He said he was proud to have played in seven Cup winning sides, one with CR, four with the Havelocks and two with CH and FC, where he was playing a dual role as a coach and a player in the 1980's.

In 1986, he played against an expatriate rugby side from Australia called the 'Melbourne Cavaliers', put together by Mario Misso, Beverly De Kauwe and Jeremy D' Silva and himself, was captained and coached by him. Some of the highlights and great memories in his early rugby days was playing against the tough burly Mike Davies, when he was yet a schoolboy

Playing against top players in the calibre of Glen Vanlangenberg, Jeff and Dan Ratnam brothers from Havelocks, John Burrows and Lorenz Pereira of CH and FC. He lives in Australia with his wife Jennifer and son Doctor Hashim. Life after rugby has been great, and he thanked the Lord Almighty for the opportunities. He also wishes to thank all those players who played with him and the great friendships, he developed through this great game

Epic knock of 208 by Harsha

DILWIN MENDIS
Moratuwa Sports Special Correspondent

A hurricane unbeaten 208 runs by Harsha Weerasooriya helped St. Anthony's College, Wattala to record a massive 356 run win in their inter school under 15 limited over match against Sangamitta College, Gampaha played at Wattala. This tournament is organized by Gampaha District Cricket Association and it is confined only to Gampaha District Schools and worked off on a league basis and 30 teams are participating.

Harsha hit 33 fours and two sixes and occupied the crease for 120 minutes and faced 80 balls and

also he was associated in a record 325 run opening partnership with Shanel Thimana who missed a well deserved century by one run.

Batting first Wattala Antonians amassed 408 for 1 and in reply visitors were bowled out for 52 runs with Chamod Sandeepa capturing 5 for 11 runs.

Wattala Antonians are coached by Safraz Farook.

Chief Scores
St. Anthony's College – 408/1 in 30 overs – Harsha Weerasooriya 208 n/o, Shanel Thimana 99

Sangamitta College – 52 runs in 20 overs – Chamod Sandeepa 5/11



Shanel Thimana on left and Harsha Weerasooriya on right posed for a photograph just after the match at St. Anthony's College Grounds, Wattala. (Picture by Dilwin Mendis Moratuwa Sports Special Correspondent)

Debahapuwa piloted Antonians to victory in 1968 Big Match

(UPANANDA JAYASUNDERA - Kandy Sports Special Correspondent)

Gamini Debahapuwa, a versatile cricketer and a knowledgeable coach from Central Province has produced many National Level players and he is trying his level best to train his students whatever he has learnt about the game from his alma mater, St. Anthony's College, Kandy and Sri Lanka Air Force.

Gamini Debahapuwa started his cricket career when he was schooling at St. Anthony's in the year 1968 under Randy Simms and he helped his School to beat Trinity College, Kandy in their 'Big Match' after 14 years claiming a Match Bag of 7 for 38 (6 for 21 & 1 for 17) He was awarded the Best Bowlers as well as Best Fielders prizes at this Match. After leaving School he was selected for the Central Province Cricket team under the captaincy of Sarath Wickremaratne and they played against



Gamini Debahapuwa

a Malaysian team and Gamini scored 38. He improved his talent in Cricket when he joined Sri Lanka Air Force in 1975 and at the start of his career he was selected for the Division two matches and he played as a Middle Order batsman and scored 98 against Police and 78 against Sebastianites. He shared the new ball in bowling and he was selected to the Division one Sara

Trophy Cricket tournament in 1977 and continued till 1989 and during this period he scored 25 half centuries against all Division One Clubs in Sri Lanka. As a Left arm dual purpose bowler he claimed many wickets and the best was claiming 4 wickets for 10 runs against Moratuwa Sports Club. He represented Combined Services team in the Robert Senanayake Trophy tournament and scored 56 versus Rest Team. He was awarded Air Force Colours and got Four re-awards from time to time. Prior to retirement Gamini Debahapuwa, popularly known as 'Deba' among friends captained the Division III and continued playing cricket for over three decades since he started cricket from the under 16 level at St. Anthony's. As a Level 2 Coach he never hesitated to impart his knowledge when he was training the players. He started coaching at Maris Stella College, Negambo

after following an Instructors Course in Pakistan in 1985. Among his Pupils were Labrooy Brothers- Graham and Wendell, Sriyantha Samarantunge, Marlon Mallawarachchi, Shantha Fonseka to name a few.

He coached the Under 13, 15, 17 and first XI teams at Kingswood College, Kandy from 1997 to 2002 and coached his alma mater, St. Anthony's in 2003 and 2004. Gamini Debahapuwa got an opportunity to coach Sri Lanka Air Force team for six months and joined Dharmaraja College, Kandy and coached the Under 13 team and toured with the team to Bangalore, India and it was a fine exposure for these young cricketers. He started his own Cricket Academy in the year 2011 and it is called GD Cricket Academy and it is situated at Peradeniya, Kandy. He retired as a Warrant Officer from the Sri Lanka Air Force.

Vidyarthana VB champions

Vidyarthana Sports Club, Horana won the Overall championship cup for the Millaniya Division at the Horana Youth Sports Festival, held at Sidurangala play-

ground, Welikala, recently. The runner-up title was won by Ekamuthu Youth Club, Kothalawala. Nine teams participated in the tournament.



The Champion Vidyarthana Sports Club, Horana volleyball team Text and Pix by Kalutara Central Special Corr. H. L. Sunil Shantha

Nagoda MV excel in volleyball

H. L. SUNIL SHANTHA
Kalutara Central Special Corr.

Nagoda MV, Kalutara emerged under 18 boys volleyball Runner-up at the Kalutara Zonal inter-school under 18 Boys Volleyball championship, organized by the Sports Unit of Kalutara Zonal Education office prior to the Covid-19 pandemic outbreak. Nagoda MV Volleyball teams, especially the boys under 18 teams is coached by D. Dissanayake with the support of the Schools Sports teacher Mrs. Priyakanthi.



The Nagoda MV under 18 volleyball team front row (From Left) - Dinundu Shehan, Suchira Sandesh, Lahuru Heshan, Malindu Nethmina Back row (from left) - Tharusha Dasun, Kavya Navindu, Dhananja Madumal, Ishan Sampath, Mrs. Susili Priyakanthi (PTI), D. Dissanayake (Volleyball coach), Anuka Sankalpa, Irosh Lakshan, Akshan Chamod. Picture By Kalutara Central Special H. L. Sunil Shantha

Sri Lanka Rugby should help Kelani Valley Club to come back to the game

HAFIZ MARIKAR

Sri Lanka Rugby should help the historic Kelani Valley Club to come back to the game, housed at Taldewa it has a history going back to 1884. The Kelani Valley (KV) at one time was a top rugby playing club. The Kelani Valley Club (KV Club) is one of the oldest planter's clubs. The club was established in 1885 by low-country Kelani Valley Planters who were mainly European settlers with F. Duncan as its

first president. They played the first match against Havelock SC. In 1950 the club was one of the original eight clubs which competed in the Clifford Cup with Kandy SC, Havelock SC, CH and FC, CR and FC, Dimbula A and CC, Dickoya MCC, Kelani Valley (KV) and Uva Gymkhana Club. The final placing of the inaugural league tournament read - 1. Havelock SC (P.7 - W.7 - D.0 - L.0 - P.F.100 - P.A.06 - Points 14), 2. CH

& FC (P.7 - W.6 - D.0 - L.1 - P.F. 123 - P.A.11 Points 12), 3. CR and FC, 4. Dimbula A and CC, 5. Kandy SC, 6. Uva Gymkhana Club, 7. Dickoya MCC and 8. Kelani Valley KV. Although the club never secured the cup during its playing history it did produce top players. The club gradually grew from a conventional meeting place to be the centre of fashionable social life, relaxation, entertainment and interaction

amongst the British Raj and planters.

The Kelani Valley (KV) Club house is a beautiful colonial style structure which blends perfectly with the picturesque surroundings of Taldewa. Most of the rugby players then were British planters. It was in 1931 that the saga of rugby Sevens was started at Muthuduwa grounds Ratnapura by a Welshman named K.E. Jenkins who was a ASP. As the years went by many

of the local Planters joined the KV Club and from the 1950's the club had some great players of the calibre of Lionel Almeida, the Rulacks (father and son), Keith Paul, Haren Mathou, Harold Schokman, Ranjith Ellagoda, Ken Balendra, Tyrell Muttiah, Ryan Howie, Baila Samarasinghe, Mahinda Ratwatte, Kolitha Gunathilake, Arjun Dharmadasa, Col. Sunil Ranasinghe, Air Commodore R.A. Dayapala and T.L. Jayawardane.

42nd OBSERVER MOBILTEL SCHOOL CRICKETER OF THE YEAR 2020

Recognizing talent, inspiring greatness.

42nd OBSERVER-MOBILTEL Most Popular School Cricketer 2020

Vote for your favourite Schoolboy/Schoolgirl Cricketer and elevate him/her to win the prestigious OBSERVER-MOBILTEL Most Popular Schoolboy/Girl Cricketer of the Year title.

Most Popular Schoolboy Cricketer 2020

Cricketers from schools competing in Division one, two and three of the Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association Under 19 Inter-School Tournament 2019/20 are eligible to be voted.

Most Popular Schoolgirl Cricketer 2020

Schoolgirl Cricketers from schools competing in all Island school's of the Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association Under 19 Inter-School Tournament 2019/20 are eligible to be voted.

Nominee

Boy :

Divisions for Boy : Division I Division II Division III

All Island Girl :

(Each coupon must contain only one vote)

School :

Sender's Name :

Address :

Mobile No. :

Vote online now: vote.schoolcricketer.lk

One Sunday Observer coupon valid as three votes: Other papers one vote.

Win prizes in the weekly coupon draw:

1st Prize : Mobitel 4G Wi-Fi router 2nd Prize : Rs. 2,500
3rd Prize : Rs. 1,500 4th Prize : Rs. 1,000

The 42nd Most Popular Schoolboy/girl Cricketer Contest is now on. Mail the completed coupon to the SPORTS EDITOR, SUNDAY OBSERVER, LAKE HOUSE, COLOMBO 10.

CONDITIONS:

Children of Lake House & Mobitel staff are not eligible to participate in the competition. Each coupon must contain only one vote for one player and for one contest. In all matters connected with the contest, the decision of the Sports Editor, SUNDAY OBSERVER is final.

DATE **26-09-2020**

NO. **29**

UNLIMITED

YouTube

HD quality up to 25GB*

Monthly

Rs. 249 + Taxes

Dial #170#

Over 12,000 vie for honours at National Youth Sports Festival

DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA
The 32nd National Youth Sports Festival will be held next March and for the first time it will be conducted as a five day mega event said president of the National Youth Services Council (NYSC) Theshara Jayasinghe.

We are going to make a new concept for this National Youth Sports Festival and it will be a five day event (earlier only three days) while this time we are planning to give more prize money for the winners as well as increase the facilities for the partici-

pants added NYSC president. So far all participants get accommodation from the schools and the three day event extended to five days with additional two days for the special feature activities for them and they can really enjoy through out the event with this extra two days added NYSC president.

The schedule events of the first round at the 32nd National Youth Sports Festival have already commenced but due to Covid 19 pandemic crisis final stage of the sports festival have been postponed to



NYSC President Theshara Jayasinghe

next March. Earlier it was planned to be held at Anuradhapura from 27th February to 1st March 2020.

The NYSC president also said athletics events will be conducted at either Sugathadasa Stadium or Diyagama Mahinda Rajapaksa Stadium. The athletes come from rural areas and we have to give them necessary facilities to run on artificial tracks like in Colombo as this festival is only second to National sports Festival conducted by the Sports Ministry. This is a good experience for the youth athletes from rural areas to reach higher levels.

The Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa has

already given instructions to hold this Sports Festival with a new concept and he agreed to increase prize money for the winners and provide facilities for both players and officials. Over 12000 members representing youth societies from all over the

country will take part in this mega event and NYSC has already made arrangements to conduct Volleyball, Football, Kabaddi, Netball and Rugby both men and women to give proper training for the players.

Mobitel sponsors National Surf C'ship

As the National Mobile Service Provider, Mobitel has come forward to sponsor the National Surf Championship series 2020 as the Official Telecommunication Partner. Organized by the Surfing Federation of Sri Lanka (SFSL), the National Surfing Championship is one of the most anticipated events in the sporting calendar.

The event is set to take place in Arugambay from September 27 to 29. The surfing Championship is a timely initiative by the Ministry of Youth & Sports and Ministry of Tourism. The synergy between the two ministries will not only kick start the surfing fraternity but will also help revive the tourism sector and rebuild the industry.

Mobitel is proud to come onboard as the Official Telecommunications Partner, powering the hopes of



thousands of surfers located both locally and globally. The event will also coincide with the World Tourism Day which falls on September 27 and more than 70 surfers are expected to take part in this event.

As the caring network, Mobitel is committed to building the sports sector by empowering youth to unlock their fullest potential and pave way for equal opportunities irrespective of geographical fragment.

LPL will go on as scheduled from November 14

DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Sri Lanka Cricket has organised Lanka Premier League (LPL) Cricket tournament which will be held from November 14 to December 6.

The tournament Director of LPL Ravin Wickramaratne who also the Vice President of SLC said that they have already made arrangements to conduct this tournament which will generate a major income for SLC as well as develop cricket. "Actually we couldn't hold the domestic league after 2012 and all the players and officials pointed out the importance of the domestic league tournament that's why we planned to conduct this type of tournament, said the tournament Director.

After Covid 19 - epidemic, we haven't major international cricket

tournament in Sri Lanka, that's why SLC Exco Committee decided to conduct this tournament. In addition all other countries are not playing cricket due to covid 19 epidemic and this is the best opportunity to get international players for this type of league tournament. SLC has sold the right of hosting LPL to Dubai based company IPG (Innovative Production Group) according to the tender procedure for five years and will have nearly two million dollar income per year. Ten international companies came forward to host this IPL finally IPG got this chance with best benefits for the SLC.

"We had seven foreign cricket series for this year and already six of them were cancelled due to Covid 19. Sri Lankan cricket fans are waiting to see this exciting tournament, said the

LPL tournament director.

He also said the number of local icon players increase in LPL from five players to six due to injury concerns of Kusal Janith Perera and added Niroshan Dikwella. Lasith Malinga, Angelo Matthews, Thisara Perera and Dasun Shanaka are the other local icon players. Each of them get highest payment of 60,000 dollars each. The tournament will feature 23 games and

will be played across Sri Lanka's day night international stadiums Sooriyawewa, Dambulla and Pallekele.



Ravin Wickramaratne

These icon players should bring to the teams by franchisees. Chris Gayle, Sahid Afridi, Mushfiqar Rahim, Tamim Iqbal, Sahib- Ul Hasan Dwayne Smith, Jonny Bairstow and Luke Wright also have named icon player from the foreign players list added LPL Director.

Actually we already forwarded to the players list as well as coaches list to IPG and players draft (this is not player auction like other league tournaments) will be held on 1st October through online system. They can select the players after considering the players list. The five teams will be named after five cit-

ies of Colombo, Galle, Jaffna, Dambulla and Kandy and each team will have six foreign players. Team Galle has already been sold to a Pakistani franchise. But the other franchisees are requesting the final players list and we hope to finalise it very soon, added LPL Director. After finalizing the teams we hope to submit all team players names for the consideration of ICC anti-corruption unit. SLC also have two anti - corruption officials and we are going to appoint another three officials to serve under these two main officials for investigation matters and they will be always with the teams to monitor match fixing.

LPL tournament Director also added we already discussed with Health officials from last month and their approval is needed to conduct

this tournament at this moment. Especially 14 days quarantine day period for the players and officials and social distance rule for the spectators.

We had a discussion with the Army Commander Lt General Shavendra Silva regarding this matter last week. The Army Commander made some suggestions to the forthcoming Bangladesh series. We have already informed all the foreign players of LPL for 14 days quarantine period and hope they will give a favourable response to this suggestion.

Sport Minister Namal Rajapaksa gave his blessings to conduct this LPL successfully, said LPL Director. He also pointed out that they have an idea to conduct a T-10 tournament with foreign players after this LPL from December 10.

Top seeds Djokovic, Halep into Italian Open finals

ROME, SUNDAY: Top seeds Novak Djokovic and Simona Halep both advanced to the finals of the Italian Open on Sunday as fans returned to the stands at the Foro Italico for the first time.

World number one Djokovic beat Norway's Casper Ruud 7-5, 6-3 and will play Argentine Diego Schwartzman for his fifth Rome title.

Top women's seed Simona Halep reached a third final where she faces defending champion Karolina Pliskova for a trophy the Romanian narrowly missed out on in 2017 and 2018. Djokovic had been on a collision course for another final showdown with Nadal a week before the French Open at Roland Garros. But Schwartzman eliminated the nine-time Rome winner in the quarter-finals, and booked his ticket to the final with a 6-4, 5-7, 7-6 (7/4) win over Canadian Denis Shapovalov.

"Of course, you know, with Nadal in the finals and without Nadal in the finals makes a big difference," said Djokovic, who has played five of his nine finals against Nadal in Rome.

"So it's going to be strange not facing him, but at the same time, I won't underestimate anybody that steps on the court against me tomorrow."

The Serb can win a record 36th Masters title on Monday. He is currently tied on 35 with Nadal.

Of his four titles in Rome his last was in



Simona Halep

2015, with three lost finals in 2016, 2017 and 2019.

World number two Halep ousted Garbine Muguruza 6-3, 4-6, 6-4 to meet second seed Pliskova who eased past fellow Czech Marketa Vondrousova 6-2, 6-4.

"Thank God I don't play (Elena) Svitolina, because I lost two times against her," joked Halep of the Ukrainian she twice fell to in the final.

Wimbledon champion Halep held off a fightback from her Spanish rival.

After pulling level at a set all, the ninth seed slumped to 5-1 down in the third, before pulling out a string of winners to draw the match back to 4-5. **AFP**

Stoinis stars in Delhi's super over IPL win

NEW DELHI, SUNDAY: Australia's Marcus Stoinis smashed a whirlwind half-century as Delhi Capitals edged out Kings XI Punjab in a super-over thriller after the second match of the Indian Premier League ended in a tie on Sunday.

Stoinis proved his worth for Delhi, who brought the all-rounder in the December auction, with his 21-ball 53 to lift the side to 157 for eight after being put into bat in Dubai.

Mayank Agarwal nearly trumped the batting blitz with his 89 off 60 balls as Punjab closed in on their target but Stoinis claimed two wickets on successive balls in the final over to take the match

into a super over. "It's a weird game, sometimes the luck goes your way, but it's easy to become the villain from the hero. So it's important to enjoy the good days," said Stoinis.

"It's nice that the IPL has gotten going again, and tonight has been great entertainment."

Delhi's South African quick Kagiso Rabada struck twice in the super over to limit Punjab to just two runs as the loss of two wickets in the over ended the team's one-over innings.

Earlier, Delhi were reeling at 87 for five after the departure of captain Shreyas Iyer when Stoinis walked in to demolish the opposi-



Marcus Stoinis

tion bowling, getting 57 runs for the batting side in the last 18 balls.

Stoinis punished England pacer Chris Jordan, who gave away 30 runs from the final over with the Australian slamming a 20-ball half-century before being run out on the penultimate ball of the innings.

Indian paceman Mohammed Shami returned figures of 3-15 from his four overs for Punjab.

Punjab were struggling when Delhi off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin took two wickets in his first and only over before retiring hurt with an injured shoulder.

The world's richest Twenty20 league is being played in the United Arab Emirates after being shifted out of India due to rising coronavirus cases. **AFP**

IPL cricket team appeals over 'short run' error

DUBAI, MONDAY: Kings XI Punjab lodged a formal complaint on Monday over an umpiring error which proved critical in their narrow Indian Premier League loss to the Delhi Capitals.

The second match of the world's richest Twenty20 tournament ended in a tie

on Sunday before Punjab lost out in a super over.

But in the 19th over of Punjab's chase, square-leg umpire Nitin Menon had signalled Chris Jordan for a short run - not grounding his bat inside the crease when running between the wickets.

TV replays showed Jordan's bat was in the crease. But nothing could be done as the third umpire does not have the authority to overturn an on-field call, unless it is referred for review.

"We have appealed against the decision which could have been corrected had technology been

brought into play," a senior Kings XI official told AFP on condition of anonymity. "This one run could prove costly at the business end of the tournament when teams battle for a play-off berth."

Appeals are made to the match referee, who in this

case was India's Javagal Srinath. However, there is no provision for overturning an on-field decision after a match.

In the super over, South African quick Kagiso Rabada struck twice to limit Punjab to two runs, a total that Delhi overhauled in just three balls. **AFP**

Pogacar crowned Tour de France champion as Bennett wins finale

PARIS, SUNDAY: Slovenian rookie Tadej Pogacar won the Tour de France on Sunday, riding triumphantly into Paris in the race leader's yellow jersey at just 21 years old.

Pogacar became the Tour's youngest champion since 1904 as Ireland's Sam Bennett won the 21st and final stage after the eight-lap dash around the iconic Champs-Elysees to clinch the green sprint points jersey.

The champion mounted the podium as the sun set behind the Arc de Triomphe to pick up the best climber's jersey, the white top young rider's prize and finally the Tour winner's famous yellow jersey.

"I can't find the words to thank everyone, but it's been amazing this three weeks where the fans cheered me all the way," said Pogacar. Paris

Mayor Anne Hidalgo stood alongside Slovenian President Borut Pahor while Pogacar unfurled his national flag and draped it over his shoulders.

Long-time race leader Primož Roglic ended second while Australia's Richie Porte came third.

Pogacar's UAE Emirates team pocketed 623,930 euros (\$738,798) thanks to his victory.

Dressed in green, Bennett lifted his bike aloft after the race, which provided his second stage win.

"It was so hard but it was all worth it, I still can't believe it," said the big sprinter after edging seven-time winner Peter Sagan to the green jersey.

The Tour will forever be remembered for a dramatic last-gasp turnaround as Pogacar

grabbed the overall lead when his rival Roglic suffered a mountainside meltdown on the penultimate day.

This storied edition of the century-old race packed with thrills and spills will be equally recalled for outspinting the dark shadow of Covid-19.

Starting two months late due to the global pandemic, the race set off under strict health guidelines in Nice with doubts it would make it all the way to Paris.

French President Emmanuel Macron is credited with giving the green light for a rescheduled event heavy in virus protocols to go ahead.

But after 3,400km of intense racing the 146 remaining riders embarked Sunday for a parade of the winners until the hotly-disputed sprint in Paris. The race was a triumph of

organisation after receiving belated clearance to stage the event, although just 5,000 fans lined Sunday's finish due to the health protocol.

Dutch team Jumbo-Visma dominated the 2020 race with their yellow and black jerseys always grouped at the head of the race as they outpowered everyone until the last and crucial day.

Winners of the past five editions, Britain's Team Ineos also had a Tour they may regret. They put their faith in defending champion Egan Bernal, but in spite of spending a week in the white jersey, he struggled to impose himself, lacking perhaps the wisdom and experience of Geraint Thomas or Chris Froome. He lost over seven minutes on stage 15 and dropped out the following day. **AFP**



Team UAE Emirates rider Slovenia's Tadej Pogacar wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey celebrates on the podium after winning the 107th edition of the Tour de France cycling race. AFP

Dickie Dunuwille (jnr)'s funeral today

HAFIZ MARIKAR

'Dickie' Dunuwille jnr a former well known cricket umpire makes his last journey today, Tuesday. His cremation will take place at 10.00 am at the Mahiyawa General Cemetery. He passed away on Monday.

He promoted cricket umpiring in the Central Province and was one time the General Secretary of the Association of Cricket Umpires of Sri Lanka (ACUSL). He made an official tour of England in June 1999 where he had discussions with the Umpires Association of England on various aspects of umpiring and to further improve the standards.

He had his early education at

St. Anthony's College and later at Dharmaraja College. He is the younger brother of late Dickie Dunuwille Snr the famous cricketer and Sunny Dunuwille.

Dickie Dunuwille Jnr. started his umpiring with the Central Province Cricket Umpires Association and later with the Sri Lanka Cricket Umpires Association before the latter was amalgamated with the ACUSL. He was also a member of the Cricket Board's Umpires' panel and officiated at the prestigious Royal - Thomian big match. He was a live wire of the Old Boys Association of St. Anthony's College and was the Chairman of the Cricket Ball 2002.



Finance

Business: 0112 429221 / 0112429299 Fax: +94112343694 email: business.dailynews@lakehouse.lk www.dailynews.lk

August inflation at 6.2%

The Department of Census and Statistics Issuing the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI), for the month of August 2020, said that headline inflation as measured by the Year-on-Year change (The percentage change in the current month NCPI over same month NCPI of last year) based on the NCPI has been compiled as 6.2%.

The headline inflation reported for the month of July 2020 was 6.1%. Contributions to the inflation rate of August 2020 from food group and non-food group are 5.7% and 0.6% respectively.

Whilst contributions of food and non-food groups to the inflation in August 2019 were 0.3% and 3.1% respectively, resulting in a headline inflation of 3.4%. With respect to August 2019, the reported increase in percentage of food group was mainly due to higher price levels prevailed in this month of August 2020, particularly prices of coconuts, rice, turmeric powder, coconut oil, sugar and fresh fish.

Comparing the month-on-month changes, NCPI in August 2020 has increased to 137.8 from 137.3 reported in July 2020. This shows an increase of 0.5 index points or 0.4 percentages as compared to July 2020. The month-on-month change was contributed by increases in index values of food items by 0.24% and non-food items by 0.15% respectively.

Local producers request govt to ban motorbike, three-wheeler tyre imports

Motorbike and three-wheeler tyre manufacturers in Sri Lanka point out that there is no shortage of motorbike and three-wheeler tyres locally, and therefore there is no need whatsoever to import any. The companies further emphasize that their factories have the capacity to supply the demand for tyres locally, and that they are already supplying products to the market, thereby fulfilling local needs. In the year 2019, Rs. 1,062 million worth motorbike and three-wheeler tyres and tubes have been imported to the

country. The country has made Rs. 1,062 million in foreign exchange savings by producing all of these locally.

The local tyre producers iterate their support of the current government's drive to prioritize local manufacture by producing motorbike and three-wheeler tyres in Sri Lanka to fulfill local demand, and that they need the continued support of the government to develop the production process.

Only a few types of tyres of special sizes that are not produced locally are imported

in small numbers and they have less demand as they are not used widely, the local manufacturers stated.

They also emphasize that they produce sufficient amounts of tyres in high demand in the local market, without any shortfall. Local motorbike and three-wheeler tyre manufacturers say that they are improving production capacity and aim to increase the amount of exports from the present volume. They also believe that they can create thousands of new jobs through this initiative. (MFJ)



Susantha Ratnayake, Chairman, BOI formally presents the Certificate of Registration to Indra Silva, Chairman, Indra Hotels and Resorts Kandy

BOI signs USD 29.32 mn agreement with John Keells Hotels and Indra Traders

The Board of Investment (BOI) of Sri Lanka signed an agreement with Indra Hotels and Resorts Kandy (Pvt) Ltd., a joint venture between John Keells Hotels PLC and Indra Traders (Pvt) Ltd., to build a 160-room, three-star, lean luxury hotel in Kandy.

The USD 29.32 million project will facilitate the building of this second lean luxury property which is expected to be completed in mid-2022. A part of the Cinnamon

brand, the property will be managed by Cinnamon Hotel Management Ltd.

It will feature signature services, facilities and offerings, including an expansive rooftop bar and swimming pool, as well as a restaurant that will serve local and international cuisine on both buffet and à la carte basis.

Cinnamon Hotels & Resorts initiated the lean luxury concept and segment to Sri Lanka in 2014 with

Cinnamon Red Colombo. With the addition of this new property in the hill capital, Cinnamon Red Kandy will become the first and only Leed Gold certified hotel in Kandy.

The investment augurs confidence in the destination, looking beyond the current crisis, given the significance that the sector plays in the country's economy. It is also aligned to the Government's overall vision of generating revenue of USD10 billion by 2025.

China's export machine picks up

Data from Oxford Economics and Haver Analytics show that while overall volumes have fallen, China's share of global exports compared with other large exporters leapt to more than 18% in April, before falling back slightly to 15.9% in July.

"It is too early to write off China's role in global supply chains," said Louis Kuijs from Oxford Economics, who pointed to the "fundamental competitiveness" of Asian economies. China's export machine was under pressure from all directions last year. A trade war with the US was weighing on demand and competition from other manufacturing hubs was heating up.

China's recent success is

also a result of a wider resilience of exports in East Asia, fuelled by a shift in global demand towards products suited to a world working from home. Fast-forward to mid-2020 and, thanks largely to a pandemic that originated within its borders, China's dominance of global exports has surpassed levels seen in any other year. The same coronavirus that hammered global trade has increased the appetite for goods made in China, such as electronics products and medical equipment. That boom in exports is supporting the country's early recovery as other big economies flounder, raising the question of whether China's recent trade advantage will outlive the pandemic.

(www.ft.com)

Sri Lanka August Tea production down 14%

August Tea Production is the lowest since April this year. Extreme weather and low fertilizer application were the main reasons for loss of production in August. 67% of the crop loss came from the Low Grown sector which declined 2.5 Mnkg, YoY 2019.

During the period January - August the country has lost 31.8 Mnkg YoY.

This year's eight month quantity of 179.1 Mnkg is the lowest since 1997, when production declined to 178.8 Mnkg, according to the Asia Siyaka Tea Market Report.

Nearly 88% or 25.4 Mnkg of production loss for the eight months has come from the Low Country. The higher elevations too have declined,

but as a percentage are less than half. The January - August quantity for Low and Mid Grown are the lowest since 2009. The High Grown January - August figure is the lowest in more than 40 years, when production slumped following the collapse of the tea market resulting from the global financial crisis.

ICRA Lanka assigns [SL]A+ rating for Habib Bank

ICRA Lanka Limited has assigned the issuer rating of [SL]A+ (Pronounced SL A plus) with a Stable outlook to Habib Bank Limited's Sri Lanka branch (HBLSL or the Bank).

The rating factors in the financial, managerial and

operational support provided by Habib Bank Limited Pakistan (HBLP; rated Caa1/NP by Moody's) to its Sri Lankan branch operations.

HBLP is the largest commercial bank in Pakistan with market share of around 14% in

terms of the total deposit base, as of Jul-20. The rating takes note of HBLSL's comfortable capitalization profile with a Tier I capital ratio and Capital Adequacy Ratio ("CAR") of 145.89% and 147.72%, respectively in Jun-20, as compared to the regulatory requirement

of 8.00% and 11.50%, healthy funding profile with a gearing (total debt including deposits/net worth) of 0.46 times in Jun-20 and healthy liquidity with a positive short-term cumulative asset and liability mismatch of 25.73% (in less than 1 year bucket).

An alternative to Savings Accounts

NDB | WEALTH MONEY PLUS FUND

* Current Yield as at 17th September 2020

7.10%

WITHDRAW ANYTIME

It's time for more than banking!

Disclaimer: * Current yield is variable and subject to change. Past performance is not indicative of future performance. Investors are advised to read and understand the contents of the Exploratory Memorandum before investing. Among others, investors should consider the fees and charges involved.

071 9 788 788

NDB Wealth Management
Licensed by the Securities & Exchange Commission

HELP KEEP COLOMBO CITY CLEAN

SEGREGATE YOUR WASTE AS GIVEN BELOW

Degradable Waste

If you are not in a position to compost your degradable waste, please handover to CMC.

- Kitchen waste vegetable and fruit waste, leftover food, coconut extract, used tea leaves / bags, protein wastage, egg shells
- Dry leaves, flowers, and garden waste
- Empty king coconut cut into pieces



Recyclable Waste

Following materials must be clean:

- Glass
- Paper / cardboard
- Cleaned polythene / plastic
- Metal
- Cleaned coconut shells
- Cleaned tins
- Cleaned yoghurt cups and plastic cups
- Recyclable kitchen appliances



Non - Recyclable Waste

- Soiled polythene / papers
- Sanitary ware
- Soiled yoghurt cups
- Milk packets
- Used sachets / packets (shampoo, sauce, Milo, etc.)
- Fallen hair
- Shavers with blades
- Soiled tins
- Ceramic pots
- Rubber
- Clay pots
- Drugs



SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION
COLOMBO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
W: www.colombo.mc.gov.lk
T: 011 243 1694

District D2A
Except Fort & Pettah

141, Kirula Road, Colombo 5
E: info@cleantech.lk
T: 011 236 8768

cleantech
because we care



Shares - Colombo Stock Exchange

Market Statistics on 21.09.2020							
Security	Volume	**V.W.A. Previous Close	Open	High	Low	**V.W.A. Yesterday's Close	Change (Rs.)
Main Board							
A.SPEN.HOT.HOLD.	182,609	19.30	19.50	21.00	19.40	20.40	1.10
ABANS	902	92.10	90.80	95.00	90.80	93.10	1.00
ACCESS ENG SL	1,423,146	24.10	24.40	24.40	23.70	23.90	(0.20)
ACL XD	527,682	51.30	52.90	53.30	51.70	52.80	1.50
ACL PLASTICS	950	170.00	172.90	172.90	170.00	171.90	1.90
ACME	1,236,065	4.40	4.40	5.20	4.30	4.90	0.50
AGALAWATTE	2,400	17.60	17.50	17.50	17.00	17.00	(0.60)
AHOT PROPERTIES	72,500	34.00	33.60	36.00	33.50	36.00	2.00
AITKEN SPENCE	256,209	38.80	39.00	40.50	38.60	40.10	1.30
ALLIANCE	500	47.40	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	0.60
AMANA BANK XC	79,824	3.10	3.00	3.00	2.90	2.90	(0.20)
AMAYA LEISURE	12,117	31.00	31.10	32.20	30.70	31.00	0.00
ASIA ASSET	369,189	7.80	7.80	8.80	7.80	8.20	0.40
ASIRI	108,117	23.80	23.50	23.80	22.80	23.40	(0.40)
ASIRI SURG	74,836	11.30	11.30	11.30	11.20	11.20	(0.10)
AUTODROME	170	72.10	74.30	74.40	74.20	74.30	2.20
BAIRAH FARM	40,173	103.00	104.00	108.00	104.00	106.00	3.00
BALANGODA	89,881	13.80	13.80	13.90	13.10	13.50	(0.30)
BUKIT DARAH	355	209.80	209.00	210.00	207.00	208.20	(1.60)
C M HOLDINGS	9,986	59.80	58.90	64.70	58.90	63.70	3.90
C T HOLDINGS	313	152.00	155.50	155.80	150.10	150.10	(1.90)
CANDOR OPP FUND (COF-U-0000)	1,219	7.00	6.90	6.90	6.70	6.70	(0.30)
CARGILLS	11,509	185.00	185.10	188.40	185.00	185.00	0.00
CARGO BOAT	1,292	53.00	53.30	54.00	52.00	53.40	0.40
CARSONS	2,047	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	0.00
CDB	6,905	82.70	85.00	87.00	83.50	83.50	0.80
CDB (CDB.X0000)	7,436	63.90	61.30	63.00	61.30	62.50	(1.40)
CENTRAL FINANCE	14,940	81.00	81.90	81.90	80.00	81.60	0.60
CENTRAL IND.	219,811	63.10	64.00	67.00	62.00	64.10	1.00
CEYLINCO INS.	33	1,664.20	1,850.00	1,850.00	1,850.00	1,664.20	0.00
CEYLINCO INS. (CINS.X0000)	37	789.90	838.50	840.00	830.00	789.90	0.00
CEYLON GUARDIAN XD	7,114	95.30	100.00	104.90	99.90	100.10	4.80
CEYLON INV. XD	25,871	55.00	56.00	56.90	52.60	55.20	0.20
CEYLON TOBACCO	115,538	945.00	945.00	962.00	944.40	945.00	0.00
CHEMANEX	12,373	61.90	61.90	61.90	60.00	60.80	(1.10)
CHEVRON	1,600,270	87.60	89.00	89.00	85.00	86.10	(1.50)
CIC	80,425	95.00	95.20	96.10	92.80	95.90	0.90
CIC (CIC.X0000)	59,151	71.20	73.10	73.70	69.20	71.30	0.10
CITRUS LEISURE	163,063	10.20	10.30	10.50	10.00	10.50	0.30
COLD STORES	23,020	665.00	666.00	670.00	652.00	669.10	4.10
COLOMBO CITY	13	798.00	770.00	770.00	770.00	798.00	0.00
COLOMBO LAND	125,171	27.60	27.90	28.50	27.00	27.90	0.30
COMMERCIAL BANK	953,540	82.80	83.50	83.50	81.50	82.10	(0.70)
COMMERCIAL BANK (COMB.X0000)	207,057	72.30	73.00	73.40	71.50	72.90	0.60
CONVENIENCE FOOD XD	34	615.50	640.00	644.90	640.00	615.50	0.00
DANKOTUWA PORCEL	2,021,269	9.00	9.10	10.20	8.90	9.90	0.90
DFCC BANK PLC	1,065,332	72.60	74.00	74.00	70.50	72.40	(0.20)
DIALOG	1,283,298	11.60	11.60	11.70	11.30	11.50	(0.10)
DIMO	1,503	300.00	309.00	348.00	309.00	340.10	40.10
DIPPED PRODUCTS	179,785	202.70	202.00	207.00	200.00	204.70	2.00
DOCKYARD	21,287	63.90	64.00	64.10	63.40	63.70	(0.20)
DOLPHIN HOTELS	96,947	25.90	25.00	28.90	25.00	27.80	1.90
E B CREAMY	46	1,002.10	1,098.00	1,199.00	1,098.00	1,002.10	0.00
EAST WEST	718,033	12.70	12.80	13.20	12.40	12.90	0.20
EXPOLANKA	13,271,657	9.80	10.00	10.20	9.50	9.80	0.00
FIRST CAPITAL	79,308	62.30	63.10	63.30	61.50	62.20	(0.10)
FORT LAND	5,448,398	10.60	10.90	13.90	10.70	13.30	2.70
GESTETNER	619	88.80	82.00	88.00	82.00	82.00	(6.80)
GRAIN ELEVATORS	111,767	70.00	71.00	72.00	69.30	71.10	1.10
HAYCARB	43,526	315.00	318.00	318.00	310.00	311.80	(3.20)
HAYLEYS	2,031,566	224.30	230.00	236.40	224.30	234.80	10.50
HAYLEYS FABRIC	5,914,409	22.10	22.60	24.30	22.60	23.90	1.80
HAYLEYS FIBRE	14,770	118.70	118.70	120.10	117.00	120.00	1.30
HDFC	7,242	33.70	34.70	34.70	33.10	33.30	(0.40)
HEMAS HOLDINGS	2,135,109	68.00	68.50	72.00	68.00	71.70	3.70
HNB	309,438	130.30	132.00	132.50	126.70	130.50	0.20
HNB ASSURANCE	16,158	135.00	135.70	135.70	134.50	135.00	0.00
HNB (HNB.X0000)	1,235,814	99.90	100.00	101.00	98.00	100.50	0.60
HORANA	1,989	23.00	22.50	23.00	22.50	23.00	0.00
HOTEL SIGIRIYA	800	54.00	53.50	53.50	53.20	53.20	(0.80)
HOTELS CORP	18,511	10.20	10.50	10.50	10.20	10.30	0.10
HUNAS FALLS	30	145.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	145.00	0.00
HUNTERS	57	430.00	430.00	450.00	430.00	430.00	0.00
INDUSTRIAL ASPH.	52,463	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.20	0.30	0.00
JANASHAKTHI INS.	137,724	32.50	32.40	32.50	31.70	32.50	0.00
JKH	237,286	137.90	137.90	137.90	136.00	137.10	(0.80)
KAHAWATTE	200	34.80	34.00	35.80	34.00	35.80	1.00
KANDY HOTELS	21,537	5.10	4.90	5.00	4.90	5.00	(0.10)
KEGALLE	20,602	70.20	72.80	72.80	67.00	68.70	(1.50)
KELANI CABLES	39,983	97.40	98.00	99.00	92.00	99.00	7.00
KELANI TYRES	631,450	74.60	77.00	78.50	75.00	77.70	3.10
KELANI VALLEY	205,688	72.00	71.00	72.00	71.00	71.20	(0.80)
KELSEY	161	29.70	30.20	35.90	30.20	35.70	6.00
KINGSBURY	52,576	10.40	10.20	10.20	10.00	10.10	(0.30)
KOTAGALA	174,283	7.80	7.80	8.10	7.70	8.00	0.20
L O L C HOLDINGS	98,143	139.00	140.00	140.00	137.00	137.50	(1.50)
LAKE HOUSE PRIN.	99	141.30	149.50	149.50	149.50	141.30	0.00
LANKA ALUMINIUM	5,755	63.10	63.40	68.90	61.10	67.40	4.30
LANKA HOSPITALS	46,131	42.60	42.60	44.90	41.00	43.20	0.60
LANKA IOC	2,802,383	23.00	23.50	24.90	23.00	24.70	1.70
LANKA REALTY	1,059	36.00	35.00	36.40	35.00	36.10	0.10
LANKA TILES	88,753	84.40	85.00	88.00	83.90	87.90	3.50
LANKA VENTURES	6,077	47.00	48.00	50.00	48.00	49.00	2.00
LANKA WALLTILE	63,788	76.10	76.80	79.80	74.10	79.40	3.30
LANKEM DEV.	1,301,664	4.80	4.80	5.10	4.70	5.00	0.20
LAUGFS GAS	97,114	16.70	16.80	18.10	16.00	17.60	0.90
LAUGFS GAS (LGL.X0000)	319,652	12.00	12.00	13.00	11.70	12.70	0.70
LAXAPANA	73,783	17.50	17.50	18.20	17.00	18.00	0.50
LB FINANCE	25,991	138.00	138.00	138.60	136.50	136.60	(1.40)
LEE HEDGES	5	80.00	79.00	79.00	79.00	80.00	0.00
LION BREWERY XD	16,373	550.10	551.00	559.90	550.00	550.00	(0.10)
LMF	140,358	105.30	107.00	107.50	103.60	105.80	0.50
LVL ENERGY	4,850,476	9.10	9.10	9.10	8.90	9.10	0.10
MALWATTE	143,612	10.80	10.60	11.00	10.60	10.90	0.10
MALWATTE (MAL.X0000)	111,425	8.20	8.30	8.40	8.10	8.30	0.10
MELSTACORP	1,340,885	35.00	35.00	35.40	34.30	35.10	0.10
MERC. SHIPPING	250	56.80	51.20	57.00	51.00	53.50	(3.30)
MERCHANT BANK	114,155	8.30	8.40	8.40	8.10	8.20	(0.10)
MULLERS	397,769	1.00	0.90	1.00	0.90	0.90	(0.10)
NAMUNUKULA	97	128.70	125.20	129.50	125.20	128.70	0.00
NAT. DEV. BANK	227,843	91.50	93.00	93.50	89.60	92.50	1.00
NATION LANKA	120,295	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.70	0.70	(0.10)
NATIONS TRUST	775,942	63.50	64.00	64.50	63.30	64.20	0.70
NAWALOKA	6,636	3.80	3.70	3.90	3.70	3.90	0.10
NESTLE	794	1,084.30	1,089.00	1,100.00	1,087.00	1,089.50	5.20
OVERSEAS REALTY	254,375	14.00	14.00	14.20	13.80	14.00	0.00
PAN ASIA	375,280	14.40	14.50	14.60	13.90	14.40	0.00
PANASIAN POWER	1,528,391	3.80	3.80	3.90	3.70	3.80	0.00
PEOPLE'S INS	652,307	23.50	23.50	23.70	23.10	23.50	0.00
PEOPLES LEASING	1,480,865	13.30	13.30	13.40	12.70	13.20	(0.10)
PIRAMAL GLASS	2,241,772	4.40	4.40	4.40	4.20	4.30	(0.10)
PRINTCARE PLC	10,702	29.40	29.50	29.50	28.90	29.00	(0.40)
R I L PROPERTY	1,690,921	6.00	6.00	6.20	5.90	6.00	0.00
RADIANT GEMS	8,058	22.70	22.30	22.70	22.00	22.10	(0.60)
REGNIS	34,133	86.70	86.50	88.60	84.80	87.20	0.50
RENUKA AGRI	3,958,688	4.10	4.20	4.30	4.10	4.20	0.10
RENUKA FOODS	3						

BANKING



BANK OF CEYLON SPONSORS 'BUSINESS NETWORKING FORUM' FOR EXPATRIATE INDIA CEO'S IN SRI LANKA

Bank of Ceylon organized a "Business Networking Forum" for expatriate India CEO's in Sri Lanka at the Bank's Head Office 30th Floor on September 4, 2020 with the patronage of the Bank's Chairman Kanchana Ratwatte and the Acting General Manager DPK Gunasekera. Distinguished guests joined the "Business Networking Forum" representing Indian and multinational organizations that are operating in Sri Lanka. The Bank's Corporate Management too participated for the event. Deputy General Manager Corporate and Offshore Banking WNP Surawimala along with his team of relationship managers officiated the event.



Vignettes of the event

DFCC Bank relocates Moratuwa Branch to convenient location



CEO Lakshman Silva open the relocated branch. Achintha Hewanayake Chief Operating Officer, Kelum Perera Vice President and Regional Manager, Aasiri Iddamalagoda Senior Vice President Branch Banking and SME and Samitha Batawala Branch Manager also in picture

DFCC Bank PLC, recently relocated their Moratuwa Branch to provide a more efficient and convenient customer service experience for residents and businesses in the area.

In addition to a better service experience coupled with a more friendly atmosphere, the new location is significantly more accessible with ample parking space. The relocated branch is now at New Galle Road, Moratuwa.

As a full service Commercial Bank, the branch is equipped to serve retail banking customers with a range of services such as Saving Accounts, Current Accounts, Fixed Deposits, Credit and Debit Cards, Personal Loans, Housing Loans, Leasing, Pawning and many more financial solutions under one roof.

This new premises translates to a renewal of the Bank's profound relationships with individuals and businessmen in the area. Additionally, the Bank will continue to open its doors to aspiring entrepreneurs so they may benefit from the many customized SME financing facilities and advisory services to enable them to reach their financial aspirations with ease



Granting a housing loan to a customer by Lakshman Silva Chief Executive Officer and Aasiri Iddamalagoda Senior Vice President Branch Banking and SME

and convenience. Additionally, customers can also utilize the banking services after hours as the branch will feature a 24/7 digital self-banking solution from DFCC Myspace that includes a cash deposit machine, ATM's and CRM's (Cash recycling machines) which can be used for both deposits and withdrawals will also be available in order to further customer convenience. As DFCC continues to expand its footprint, more of these machines will also be pre-

sent on off site and on site locations. Speaking to those present at the branch relocation ceremony, DFCC Bank Chief Executive Officer Lakshman Silva shared his thoughts, "DFCC has always given our customers an unmatched value proposition in the financial services industry of Sri Lanka. The relocation of our Moratuwa Branch will reflect our benchmark financial solutions, together with the warm customer service that DFCC is known for. I am confident that not only

will this relocation add value and convenience to our clients, but will also attract an influx of potential future clients, encouraging the people of Moratuwa to bank with the bank for everyone." Supplemented by enhanced technology, DFCC Bank has extended its services through digital channels such as the DFCC Virtual Wallet and Online Banking service. All customers may experience value added services such as consolidated e-statements and DFCC SMS alerts.

Re Build Sri Lanka



රච්ච යන එකම නැන

THE PREMIER HOUSING & CONSTRUCTION INTERNATIONAL EXPO 2020

02 03 04

OCTOBER

10.00 a.m to 8.00 p.m

@BMICH

For More Information

071-01 22 709 | 070-391 391 0 | 071-99 59 656 | 070-30 48 765 | 076-86 29 395

Prasad Upali Kapila Sujeewa Ramesh

Title Sponsor INSEE CEMENT	Platinum Sponsor ADVANTIS ENGINEERS	Platinum Sponsor RHINO ENGINEERS	Gold Sponsor GALLIMEX	Gold Sponsor AJAX
Gold Sponsor LexDuco	Gold Sponsor US	Gold Sponsor Sika	Official Print Media Partner LAKE HOUSE Daily News	Official Sinhala Magazine Partner Sinhala Magazine



'Special Guarantee Fund to provide collateral to inventors'

SHIRAJIV SIRIMANE IN HAMBANTOTA

Sri Lanka urgently needs to set up a special Guarantee Fund to provide the much needed and the Central Bank and other financial institutions should work towards this, Minister of Industries Wimal Weerawansa said.

A Cabinet proposal has already been put forward in this regard he said.

The Minister said that one of the entrepreneurs (Eco-ma Packaging Pvt Ltd) had produced eco-friendly yoghurt cups and food packing units using the stem of the banana tree.

Pelwatta Dairy Product Company has agreed to use these yoghurt cups and this ground breaking product has even found a market in Australia where the order is for two containers per month. However all the banks he went to get credit to buy a machine from China has rejected, Chairman and Inventor, Eco-ma Packaging, Menaka Ariyaratne said "and this is a very sad plight."

Producing Food packaging using the banana stem will reduce the production and usage of plastic food packaging

thus reducing the amount of plastic wastage getting collected to the environment. "This is why we need a guarantee fund to provide collateral for inventors of this nature."

He was speaking at the SME Development Conference 2020, "Solutions to meet challenges faced by SMEs in Financial Management, Bank Funding and Entrepreneurial Leadership in the Post COVID - New Economy" organized by the "CMA Sri Lanka COVID - 19 SME Development Committee" on Sunday at Magam Ruhunupura International Convention Centre (MRICC), Hambantota. The event conducted by Institute Certified Management Accountants of Sri Lanka, (CMA) was assisted by the Hambantota Chamber of Commerce and Ministry of Industries.

Meanwhile, Managing Director, DSI Group Ratanunga Rajapaksa said that Sri Lanka should manufacture more tech savvy and new agricultural products and a new Export Trading House should be set up to market them globally. "This is successfully done in China and is the key institution that takes their products to the world."

President, CMA Prof. Lakshman R. Watawala said that SMEs contributed 52% to the GDP and provided 45% employment.

The event focused to build confidence of SME enterprisers and provide them valuable inputs on leadership, technology, marketing, labour management and other aspects.

Several seminars and technical sessions with outstanding speakers speaking on topics on financial management, bank funding, and entrepreneurial leadership, labour and marketing issues of SMEs combined with panel discussions were held.

Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa was the Chief Guest for the inaugural ceremony.

While Minister of Mahaweli Development and Irrigation, Chamal Rajapaksa, Minister of Environment, Mahinda Amaraweera, State Minister of Money & Capital Market and State Enterprise Reforms Ajith Nivard Cabraal and State Minister of Aviation Services and Export Zone Development D. V. Chanaka participated as special invitees.



Minister Wimal Weerawansa



Ajith Nivard Cabraal



Vignettes of the event

Pix by Shirajiv Sirimane



People's Bank expands network with Service Centre in Habarakada

People's Bank recently opened its Habarakada Service Centre with the aim of providing the Bank's valued customers a wider range of banking services with this expansion People's Bank Branch network in the largest in Sri Lanka, reaches 739.

Located at 274/2/5, Godagama Road, Habarakada, the new Service Centre offers customers the latest technology and specialised banking services.

By using the Self Banking Unit available at the Service Centre customers can conveniently withdraw and deposit cash 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



People's Bank Deputy General Manager (Channel Management) Lionel Galagedara, Assistant General Manager (Colombo Outer) Thushari Hewawasam, Assistant Regional Manager Madhawa Kananke Hewage, Assistant Regional Manager Priyanka Ratnasiri, Kottawa Branch Manager Asoka Delgodaarachchi, and Habarakada Service Centre Manager Ranuka Karunaratne, along with a large number of customers, also participated at the event

Sri Lanka Insurance relocates Ambalangoda Branch

Sri Lanka Insurance relocates the Ambalangoda Branch providing total insurance solutions with a hassle free customer experience for the customers in the area.

The relocated branch is located at Galle Road, Ambalangoda and opened its doors to customers amidst a gathering of staff members, well-wishers and members from the corporate management.

Along with the Ambalangoda branch SLIC serves customers through an extensive network of 158 branches.

Established in 1962, Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation is the largest government-owned insurance company in Sri Lanka, with a managed asset base of over Rs.211 billion and a Life fund in excess of Rs.116 billion, the largest in the local insurance industry. The company is also the first and only local insurer to secure Fitch Ratings AAA (1ka) rating for its long-term financial stability and sustainability and also Sri

Lanka Insurance ranked as the 'Most Loved Insurance Brand' and the 3rd Most Loved Consumer Brand in the country by Brand Finance.



Jagath Wellawatta Chairman of SLIC and Chandana L. Aluthgama opening the Ambalangoda branch and engaged in the commencing operations of the new Ambalangoda branch

Kandy to host World Tourism Day from September 25 to 27

Theme "Tourism and Rural Development"

Under the guidance of the Ministry of Tourism, Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority and the Department of Trade Commerce and Tourism of Central Provincial Council have organized a three-day special programme and several other events to celebrate the World Tourism Day 2020 in Kandy.

World Tourism Day was declared by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) to promote sustainable, responsible and universally accessible tourism. It is commemorated worldwide on the 27th of September every year.

This year's World Tourism Day will be celebrated under the theme "Tourism and Rural Development", focusing on fostering a people-centric, technology-driven and sustainable tourism sector from the grass-root level, to achieve overall economic development in the long run.

Tourism is an important driving force for pro-poor economic growth and poverty alleviation. It serves as a catalyst for job creation for youth, women, minorities, indigenous people and other marginalized groups,



and as a stimulant of infrastructure and public service development in rural areas.

Therefore, this year's World Tourism Day aims to incorporate key provisions of the Tourism Strategic Action Plan 2020-2022, by taking measures to upgrade community-based tourism products, improve strategic marketing of tourism products and enhance the capacities of tourism based-SMEs. Such initiatives are expected to encourage rural industries and communities to exploit opportunities available in tourism-based niche markets.

The official ceremony will commence at 9.00 a.m. on the 27th of September at the Kandy City Centre, under the patronage of Hon. Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksha and Hon. Minister of Tourism

Prasanna Ranathunga with the presence of other officials from Sri Lanka Tourism.

The highlights of World Tourism Day 2020 programme are as follows,

Main Celebration: September 27, from 9.00 am to 12 noon at Kandy City Centre (KCC). This event is jointly organized by Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority (SLTDA) and Central Provincial Council.

Industrial Exhibition: 25 to 27 from 9.00 am to 10.00 pm at Kandy City Centre to exhibit all local tourism industries in Central Province.

There will be 80 stalls organized by the Central Provincial Council. **Food Festival:** From 25 to 27 at Kandy City Centre, organized by the Central Provincial Council.

Kandy Cultural Event: From 25 to 27 at Kandy City Centre under the theme "Connecting Local Wisdom and Heritage for People-Centric Tourism Development" organized by the Central Provincial Council.

Culinary Exhibition with Tea Heritage and Spices: on September 25 from 1.00 pm to 5.00 pm on the theme "Explore the Land of Diversity with Tea Heritage and Sri Lankan Spices" organized by the Central Provincial Council.

Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority and Department of Trade Commerce and Tourism of Central Provincial Council are also conducting a Training Programme targeting rural industry entrepreneurs, tourism supply chains and students in the Central Province.

This aims to enhance the capacities of tourism-based SMEs, improve skills of tourism supply chains and encourage students and youth in the central province to engage in tourism-based industries to make use of opportunities available in the tourism sector.

Chevron Lubricants Lanka appoints new Managing Director, Chief Executive Officer

Chevron Lubricants Lanka PIC (CLLP) announced that Muhammad Najam Shamsuddin has been appointed as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Company effective October 1, 2020.

Shamsuddin's appointments follow the leadership transition of roles in CLLP with the resignation of Pat McCloud, as McCloud moves to a different role within Chevron. Shamsuddin brings more than 15 years of international industry experience in the oil and gas sector, joining Chevron in 2004 and moving through multiple positions of increasing responsibilities in Pakistan, the Middle East, and several markets in Asia.

"The Chevron Lubricants Lanka team is strong as demonstrated by the Company's improved performance and strong results in a period of great adversity," said CLLP's Chairperson, Rochna Kaul. "While we will miss Pat in Colombo, Najam's leadership and knowledge of the



Pat McCloud



Najam Shamsuddin

industry will prove to be a great benefit to the Company."

Prior to joining CLLP, Shamsuddin was the Area Business Manager for Chevron's Asia Pacific Cluster markets, a position he held since April 2019. In that role, Shamsuddin oversaw profitable growth for Chevron Lubricants in Malaysia, Singapore, Vietnam, Indonesia and other export countries.

Shamsuddin holds a Bachelor's in Business Administration (Hons) and a Master's in Business Administration from the Institute of Business

Administration Karachi, Pakistan.

McCloud joined CLLP in October 2018 and has led the Company to achieve top-line and bottom-line growth in FY2019. McCloud will assume a new position with Chevron based in the United Kingdom.

Kaul added, "Pat has made noteworthy achievements in his two years at CLLP, with his strong focus on customer needs and workforce morale. We thank him for his significant contributions to our business and the Chevron Lanka team."

Ceylinco Life opens 5-floor Green Branch in Nelliady

Ceylinco Life has opened its newest Green Branch in Nelliady, a purpose-designed five-floor edifice built on the third block of land owned by the Company in the Jaffna peninsula.



Ceylinco Life Chairman R. Renganathan and Managing Director Thushara Ranasinghe (top, second from right and extreme left) at the opening of the new Green branch in Nelliady (below).

The eco-friendly building located at Point Pedro Road, Nelliady, provides 8,692 square feet of floor space and is the 38th branch built by Ceylinco Life overall on company-owned land, and the first company-owned property in the Vadamarachchi region.

The Nelliady branch is designed for optimal use of natural light, is entirely solar powered, and has its own sewerage recycling system. It is also equipped with the latest energy-efficient lighting and air conditioning systems and has a rainwater harvesting facility.

Constructed in conformity with the 'Green Building' specifications adopted by the life insurance leader, the building has its own car park, a multi-function room that can accommodate up to 60 people at a time, an elevator and porous interlocking blocks to increase green patches in the premises, the Company said. The branch was completed 16 months after the laying of the foundation stone, despite the challenges imposed by the pandemic. The formal opening of the new building was presided over by Ceylinco Life Chairman Rajkumar Renganathan and was attended by directors and representatives of the senior management.

In September last year, Ceylinco Life declared open another impressive five-storey 'North Wing' next to its older office building in Jaffna. Extending to 17,290 square feet, the North Wing building is the second largest investment made by the company to date in a building, next to its headquarters in Colombo.

In January this year the Company opened its 37th branch on company-owned land at Malabe, in the process of constructing Green buildings for its branches in Divulapitiya and Pliyanadala, and is also extending the capacity of its Negombo branch.

Ceylinco Life currently owns the buildings housing its offices in Anuradhapura, Trincomalee, Jaffna, Batticaloa, Kandy, Kalutara, Kurunegala, Gampaha, Galle, Matara, Tissamaharama, Negombo, Ratnapura, Kotahena, Mount Lavinia and Wellawatte, many of which have already been converted to solar energy. New branch buildings purpose-built to the company's sustainable energy model are those at Horana, Panadura, Wennappuwa, Bandarawela, Chilaw, Kadawatha, Jaffna and Malabe. Ceylinco Life operates the largest network of 250 plus branches in Sri Lanka's life insurance industry, giving it a physical presence in 142 cities, towns and villages in every one of the island's 25 districts.

3,000 farmers receive training, agricultural support from CCB, Nestlé

Over 3,000 farmers and out growers in the Nestlé Coconut Plan received 150,000 kg of fertiliser and training on modern farming practices from the Coconut Cultivation Board and Nestlé, at a recent event which marked the completion of The Plan's fourth year.

To help address unstable coconut supply over the last few years, caused largely by drought and crop disease, the Nestlé Coconut Plan is helping people grow more resilient coconut varieties, and providing them better access to new technologies, best practices, quality planting materials, and professional agronomical support.

"Coconut is central to Sri Lankan life and is one of our most important crops. It gives me great pleasure to note the strong positive impact of the Nestlé Coconut Plan at the end of its fourth year, and the good growth of the distributed plantlets so far, which are showing a 95% success rate.

The success of this programme is a testament to the strength of the public-private partnership between the CCB and Nestlé" said Jayantha Wickramasinghe – Chairman of the Coconut Cultivation Board (CCB).

Started in 2016, the Nestlé Coconut Plan has provided 3,000 farming families 19,000 coconut plantlets of a special hybrid variety that is more resilient to adverse weather and crop disease. The first batch will mature in 2021.

To increase supply, The Plan supports people to grow coconut in their home gardens and in areas outside of the traditional coconut triangle and has four model farms to help train and develop programme participants.

It also encourages farmers to plant short-term vegetable cash crops (inter-cropping) to receive an alternative income until the coconut plantlets mature. As many coconut growers struggle without a steady supply of water for their crops, two of the model farms have been outfitted with a tube well and micro-irrigation system.



M. J. S. Rawisinghe, General Manager – Coconut Cultivation Board; Jayantha Wickramasinghe, Chairman – Coconut Cultivation Board; Bandula Egodage, Nestlé Vice President – Corporate and Regulatory Affairs; and Radhini De Costa, Nestlé Assistant Vice President – Communications; handing fertiliser to a Nestlé Coconut Plan farmer

"Coconut is central to Sri Lankan life and is one of our most important crops. It gives me great pleasure to note the strong positive impact of the Nestlé Coconut Plan at the end of its fourth year, and the good growth of the distributed plantlets so far, which are showing a 95% success rate."

"Supporting the local coconut industry has been close to our hearts for almost 35 years. Today we contribute to more than 6,000 farmers' livelihoods by buying the highest-quality Sri Lankan coconut for our Maggi Coconut Milk Powder. The Nestlé Coconut Plan, which supports another 3,000 farming families, is our latest endeavor to help support the industry," said Nestlé's Managing Director, Fabrice Cavallin. "We are helping more people grow coconut and increasing supply, by offering special hybrid varieties that mature quicker and are more resilient."

"It is part of our purpose as a Good food, Good life company, where we want consumers to know that Nestlé products are not only good for them but also good for their community"

Yaasir Muieen heads Junior Chamber International Colombo

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Junior Chamber International Colombo Chapter (JCI Colombo) was held recently at Royal College Skills Centre.

JCI Colombo has the distinction of introducing Jaycees to Sri Lanka way back in 1954. The name of the International Organization Jaycees

was later changed to Junior Chamber International (JCI).

National President of JCI Sri Lanka Isuru Samarage was the Chief Guest while Past World President Senator Isfahani Sameen attended as the Keynote Speaker.

Also attended were International Vice President Senator Khaleel

Ur-Rahman (Past President – JCI Colombo), Immediate Past National President Bathiya Hettiarachchi (Past President – JCI Colombo), Insaf Ismail (Past President – JCI Colombo), Mohamed Hameez (Immediate Past President – JCI Colombo) and Senator Rukmal De Silva

(Past President – JCI Colombo). Yaasir Muieen was elected as the President of the JCI Colombo Chapter while among the other Office Bearers Elected was Dr. Dilhan Sampath Jayatileke (Director - Individual) who is well known among many Professional and Social circles.



Junior Chamber International Colombo Chapter (JCI Colombo) office-bearers

SEC, CSE sign MOU with DRP



Rajeeva Bandaranaike, Chief Executive Officer CSE, Dilshan Wirasekera, Board Director CSE, Jayantha Fernando, Board Director CSE, Dumith Fernando, Chairman CSE, Yiyani Gunathilaka, Commissioner General DRP, Viraj Dayaratne PC, Chairman SEC, Chinthaka Mendis, Director General SEC and Naresh Abeysekera, Commission Member SEC

Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka (SEC) and the Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE) embarked on a progressive national digital initiative by entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Commissioner General, Department for Registration of Persons (DRP). This will enable the CSE and the Central Depository Systems (CDS) to obtain digital verification of the National Identity Card (NIC) details available with the DRP when a person wishes to open a CDS account via the CSE digital App, based on the consent obtained from the ID card holder. The feature of obtaining consent is also built into the App.

This was part of the initiative to digitalize the end-to-end operations of the Sri Lankan Stock Market, which was launched by the Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa on September 17, 2020.

The system to digitally verify the particulars of an ID card holder is supported by the Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka (ICTA). This is the first time this verification process with the Department for Registration of Persons (DRP) has been made available based on the provisions of the Registration of Persons Act read with the Regulations made under the Electronic Transactions Act No. 19 of 2006.

Rise and fall of The Finance Company

People's Forum to protect financial stability in Sri Lanka

T.R. KELLY

The Finance Company (TFC) was one of the premier financial institutions in Sri Lanka which was incorporated in 1940 and was managed by a Board of Directors appointed by the shareholders of TFC. In 2008 the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL) took control of TFC and entrusted its administration to Lankaputhra Development Bank Ltd., as the management agent of all affairs of TFC by the Monetary Board of CBSL under the advice of the Expert Group appointed by the Monetary Board of Sri Lanka on 6th March 2009.

The reason for taking over of TFC by the CBSL was attributed to the fact that TFC had severely been impacted by the failure of a number of financial institutions within the Ceylinco Group in 2008. While the CBSL talks of companies under the Ceylinco Group being financially unstable in 2008 it did not see any financial instability with TFC.

It is questionable as to why the CBSL had to take over TFC when in 2008 TFC was financially stable, had a sound client base of depositors who had confidence in TFC, high value of TFC shares, considerable assets. Up to the time of take over there wasn't a single complaint by a depositor against TFC as TFC made payment of their interest on their deposits in time and on a regular basis.

TFC was a company that was registered as a PQ1 company in 1940 and possessed a proud history of 79 years and was the first finance company to be established in Sri Lanka. Since the establishment the company has played a major role in providing financial and other assistance and sustaining the livelihood of Sri Lankans and has also been a useful partner in uplifting the economic stability of Sri Lanka.

A large number of persons have placed deposits with TFC. The majority of those who have deposited monies with TFC according to the statistics provided by TFC officials are elderly persons in retirement and others who would have placed their deposits with plenty of expectations for the future such as for their medications, surgical operations, children's education, to purchase properties commence a business and/or for several other important reasons. It is estimated that a large number of dependents of the depositors who had hopes for their future with the monies saved by their parents or relatives are not in a position to reap the benefits that would have been available to them.

TFC depositors recognized and had the confidence to place their deposits with TFC given the stability of TFC which possessed a large number of assets and was the premier financial institution in Sri Lanka.

In 2009 administration of TFC was vested with the government to be administered under the CBSL. The CBSL appointed Directors to manage and operate the business of TFC and from time to time. TFC is the only financial institution that was appointed by a Board of Directors appointed by the CBSL. Consequently to the takeover of TFC by CBSL, depositors of TFC did not panic and did not rush to withdraw their deposits similar to the situation when Golden Key Credit Card collapsed. In fact depositors were happy that the government CBSL had intervened and were confident that their deposits were secure. However, since the takeover of TFC by CBSL there was a steady decline in the financial stability of TFC except for the period September 2014 to August 2015 during which period the Board of Directors at the time took appropriate action and made correct decisions that were conducive to the revival of TFC. For unknown reasons the Directors that were appointed and who were responsible for bringing about stability of TFC were removed. Depositors are of the view what has transpired at TFC since the appointment of Directors by CBSL are attributed to bad management, wrong decisions, no plans or suggestions to revive TFC. It was apparent that the Directors of TFC had no intention of reviving TFC by providing funds. Instead during discussions between officials of TFC, CBSL it was stated by CBSL that they are looking for an investor.

On May 24, 2020 the Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka stated that 93% of the local depositors of TFC will be compensated via the Central Bank's Deposit Insurance Scheme and the remaining depositors will be settled after the liquidation of the company's assets.

While the Deputy Governor of the Central Bank is happy that 93% of the local depositors have been settled which is not the precise position regarding TFC deposits. The table 1 set out below shows the accurate position regarding TFC depositors as at January 2020.

According to the figures available with TFC out of the 145,172 depositors, 135,100 hold deposits less than Rs.600,000/-equivalent to Rs.4,693,690,017. The remaining 10,072 depositors hold deposits amounting to Rs 22,567,744,770.00. The 93% of depositors totaling 135,100 depositors whose problems have been solved as stated by the Deputy Director

at TFC so there was no need for the depositors to panic the reason being the Directors did not portray the true position at the time. In a way one would consider that the silence of the Directors of TFC in not highlighting the true facts regarding TFC saved the country from a calamity because if the depositors were made aware of what was happening at TFC they would have panicked and rushed to withdraw their deposits which would have been a disaster for the government.

Notwithstanding the actual situation that prevailed at TFC, TFC with the approval of CBSL commenced a promotion with effect from January 1 2019 to mobilize One Billion Rupees in One Month with the promotion period starting 1st January 2019 and ending January 31 2019. A detail of the Scheme was circulated to all branches and staff of TFC on December 31 2018 under the signatures of Kosala Wimalasiri and Nimal B. Mamaduwa ED/CEO.

The scheme entailed the objective of providing value additions to depositors of TFC and offered gift vouchers to the depositors under six

Scheme by the Board of Directors of TFC with the blessings of CBSL is a fraud perpetrated by the TFC and CBSL, Having achieved its target of collecting Rs. 1 billion in one month, 15 days later the CBSL issues an order under the Regulatory Actions on 15th February 2019 freezing all deposits of TFC. The question that is being posed by the depositors is why the TFC and CBSL had to promote a scheme of this nature bearing in mind the financial crisis of TFC if there was a crisis since 2008 which promoted CBSL to take over the administration of TFC. Having collected 1 billion at the end of January 2019 what did TFC do with this money?

Several transactions perpetrated by certain Directors have taken place particularly assets belonging to TFC have been sold. Large amounts of TFC money has been invested in entities to which certain Director were affiliated to. These illegal transactions perpetrated by certain Directors does not seem to have drawn the attention of CBSL may be for some very good reason. Whatever the cause may be these illegal transactions have all contributed to the downfall of TFC.

At the time a depositor placed his or her deposit they are not informed by TFC that their monies would be secured by the Sri Lanka Deposit Insurance and Liquidity Support Scheme and none of the depositors would have had any idea how the scheme works. TFC had an obligation and duty to inform the depositors at the time of placing their deposits details of the Insurance Deposit Scheme. This information would have been important to the depositors in the context set out in 2.5 of the gazette issued by the Monetary Board on September 28, 2010 where it is stated that the scheme will initially outline a mechanism to protect small depositors from failure of financial institutions, thereby promoting the stability of institutions by maintaining small depositors' confidence. If the intention of the Monetary Board was to protect small time depositors why did TFC obtain deposits from big time depositors who now account for 61% of the deposits totaling approximately a sum in excess of Rs.16 billion?

In terms of gazette extraordinary no:1673/11 2020 Nivard Ajith Leslie Cabraal Chairman Monetary Board in terms of the Monetary Law Act issued notices to the Central Bank of Sri Lanka on November 20 2010 set out regulations for operation of The Sri Lanka Deposit Insurance Scheme. The CBSL in terms of Section 5 of the Monetary Law Act, CBSL was authorized primarily two objectives namely (a) economic and price stability and (b) finance stability. If one considers maintaining the financial stability of TFC since it was taken over by CBSL in 2009, the obvious inference that could be drawn is total disaster by none other than the so called Directors who probably had academic qualifications to be appointed as Directors but lacked professional qualifications to meet the challenges they were appointed to sustain the stability of TFC. It is no secret that the some of the Directors that were appointed totally mismanaged TFC in the interest of some of them.

Section 2.5 of the gazette notification states as follows:

"The Deposit Insurance Scheme" will be implemented in the interest of the overall financial stability of the country and it will initially outline a mechanism to protect small depositors from failure of financial institutions thereby promoting the stability of financial institutions by maintaining small depositors' confidence.

Does this clause infer that only small time depositors would be insured? At the time a depositor places his deposit was the depositor apprised of the Insurance Scheme? Was the large depositors told that this insurance scheme is only for small time depositors? It does not appear that TFC has advised small time depositors or big time depositors of the scheme.

The Monetary Board Regulation states it intends to protect small time depositors but does not specify the value of a small time deposit. There is a lot of ambiguity in 2.5 of the Monetary Board Regulation which depositors would construe as the Monetary Board will take care of small time depositors and not guarantee the deposits of big time depositors.

Based on regulation 2.5 of the Gazette it would appear it would not be relevant to ask questions or seek answers as the CBSL in terms of the conditions of the Monetary Board has taken steps to protect small depositors. Accordingly, under the recently concluded agreement the CBSL agreed to pay a sum limited to Rs.600,000 per deposit which in real terms solved the problems of the small depositors.

The question that remains to be answered is how it intends to settle the 61% big time depositors who, based on the predicament there are now confronted with would have thought twice before placing their deposit in view of the Monetary Board's regulation to protect small depositors initially.

The depositors became aware of the financial crisis at TFC and in order to protect the rights of the depositors an organization was established called the Independent Organization to protect TFC Depositors. This organization held several discussions with TFC and CBSL officials. Several proposals were submitted to TFC during these discussions by the organiza-

tion to protect depositors as well as the TFC Union. Some of the proposal that were suggested by the Organization were as follows:

A) To invite an investor (one or more) with the capacity to invest an amount equivalent to the deposits with TFC in which event the investor would be entitled to secure all assets and liabilities of TFC.

B) If a credible investor could be secured the credibility of TFC could have been restored and confidence instilled in TFC depositors and TFC shares would have got a boost in the stock market.

C) The following was suggested as obligations of the investor.

i) To secure and guarantee the deposits of the depositors

ii) Payment of interest to the depositors

iii) Investors would have the right and freedom to appoint its own personnel as directors of the company

iv) In the event there is more than one investor, the majority shareholder would be entitled to the shares based on its investment

Among the principal proposals that were submitted, the primary objective of the proposal was to ensure by reviving TFC the credibility of TFC would be restored and more importantly a large number of jobs would have been saved. However, officials of TFC and CBSL always adopted a negative view of the proposals that were submitted by TFC's Union and also the Independent Organization to protect the rights of TFC depositors.

The depositors in their representations to His Excellency President Gotabaya Rajapaksa in the event of the failure of TFC Directors to agree to the proposal submitted to appoint a Presidential Commission of Inquiry in the face of financial frauds and financial irregularities that have transpired since CBSL took over the administration of TFC.

Depositors had suggested the following Mandate of the Commission.

(I) Receive complaints from depositors

(II) Monitor the valuation of assets of TFC

(III) Analyze the credentials of the prospective investors. If for any reason the prospective investor was rejected by CBSL to ascertain the reasons from CBSL the decision for such rejection.

(IV) One of the most important acts of the Presidential Commission is to request a complete audit of TFC accounts from the time of take over until the license was cancelled on 22nd May 2020 from an independent audit firm given the fraudulent financial transactions perpetrated by some of the Directors to which CBSL has shown blind eye.

By letter dated 21st August 2020 Deshamanaya Professor W.D. Lakshman Governor of Central Bank of Sri Lanka addressed the Independent Organization to Protect TFC Depositors states that since the financial status of the company had deteriorated as a result of the failure of a number of financial institutions within the Ceylinco Group.

The Governor admits that CBSL made all efforts to revive the company through different strategies which had failed and the continuity of the status of the company was detrimental to the interest of the depositors and other stakeholders of the company. Even though CBSL had intervened into the affairs of TFC by appointing Board of Directors / Management Panel with a view to safeguarding the interest of depositors, creditors and other stakeholders, it is important to note that maintaining proper business conduct and restructuring the company are amongst utmost responsibilities of the Board of Directors and Key Management of the persons of the Company.

In their own words the Governor of CBSL, the persons appointed as Directors to manage the affairs of TFC have failed miserably. His Excellency the Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa stated in public that the CBSL is responsible for the collapse of TFC and the full responsibility should be borne by CBSL. Even His Excellency President Gotabaya Rajapaksa admonished officials of CBSL for their inefficiency and lethargic attitude towards important issues. It is very clear from what has happened to TFC was due to the inefficiency of the Directors who were appointed by CBSL.

The Governor by the same letter states that it is also the responsibility of the depositors to be aware of the nature of financial institutions in which they deposit money. By this statement does the Governor imply that TFC was not a credit worthy company? The CBSL as the financial regulator of all financial institutions in Sri Lanka should advise Sri Lankans of the companies that are prone to financial crisis and that deposits made with such companies cannot be guaranteed by the CBSL. It is sad and unfair by the depositors for the CBSL to make such a statement after a crisis has occurred at TFC. There is no point shutting the door once the horse has bolted.

All financial institutions in Sri Lanka including Banks have an obligation to inform its customers particularly customers placing long term deposits of the Bank's obligation to protect their deposits and their entitlements in the event of bankruptcy of a bank or financial institution.

The Independent Organization for Protection of TFC depositors held several discussions with the President, Prime Minister, Ajith Nivard Cabraal, Presidential Secretary P.B. Jayasundera. The depositors are gratified by the response of the present government which acknowledged the fault of CBSL and agreed to pay a sum maximum of Rs.600,000 TFC Depositors. During a discussions with Prime Minister, Cabraal had stated that it was not the policy of the government to close down companies like TFC and had indicated that a proposal to revive TFC will be presented before January 2020.

The Depositors are particularly gratified by the stance of Cabraal which is the step in the right direction to revive TFC. Persons of the caliber of Cabraal with his experience in financial matters and also as Governor of the Central Bank would certainly have ideas and plans to revive TFC.

To page 23

Customer wise Deposit Liability - The Finance Company PLC
(With Shares) Latest as at 1 January 2020*

Value Of The Deposit	Number of Depositors	Cumulative Number Of Depositors	Amount (Rs.)	Cumulative Amount of Deposits
0** - 25,000	109,690	109,690	257,793,405	257,793,405
25,001 - 100,000	12,143	121,833	689,759,781	947,553,186
100,001 - 300,000	8,237	130,070	1,514,469,895	2,462,023,081
300,001 - 600,000	5,030	135,100	2,231,666,936	4,693,690,017
600,001 - 800,000	1,850	136,950	1,295,438,624	5,989,128,641
801,000 - 1,000,000	1,463	138,413	1,352,470,302	7,341,598,942
1,000,001 - 1,500,000	2,207	140,620	2,729,136,337	10,070,735,279
1,500,001 - 5,000,000	3,756	144,376	9,868,936,292	19,939,671,572
above 5,000,000	796	145,172	7,321,763,215	27,261,434,787
Total	145,172		27,261,434,787	

TABLE TWO

Deposit Period	Deposit Slabs	Gift Voucher value	Normal	Senior
			Interest rate With Voucher (Monthly/Maturity)	Interest rate With Voucher (Monthly/Maturity)
03 Months	100,000	500	10.50%	11.50%
	250,000	1,250	10.50%	11.50%
	500,000	2,250	10.50%	11.50%
	750,000	3,500	10.50%	11.50%
	1,000,000	4,500	10.50%	11.50%
06 Months	2,000,000	9,000	10.50%	11.50%
	100,000	750	11%	12%
	250,000	1,500	11%	12%
	500,000	3,000	11%	12%
	750,000	4,500	11%	12%
13 Months	1,000,000	6,000	11%	12%
	2,000,000	12,000	11%	12%
	100,000	1,250	12%	13%
	250,000	3,250	12%	13%
	500,000	6,500	12%	13%
13 Months	750,000	10,000	12%	13%
	1,000,000	13,000	12%	13%
	2,000,000	26,000	12%	13%

amounts to only 17.22% of the Deposits. The remaining in excess of 10,072 depositors hold 82.78% of the deposits amounting to an amount in excess of Rs. 22 billion. In terms of the payments made by the CBSL under the Liquidity Support Insurance Fund 39% of the deposits have been settled by the payment of the sum of Rs.600,000 according to CBSL which leaves a balance of 61% totaling deposits of Rs. 16 billion to be settled.

The Monetary Board of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka decided to cancel the license issued to The Finance Company in terms of the Finance Act no: 42 of 2011 with effect from May 22 2020. Accordingly the Deputy Governor stated that TFC is not permitted to engage in finance business under the FBA with effect from such date.

The Deputy Governor states that currently TFC has 145,000 depositors with a deposit value of Rs.26 billion. The Deposit Insurance Scheme is allowing to pay Rs.600,000 per person and therefore can settle Rs 11 billion of the total Rs.27 billion. He further states that people will ask what will happen to the balance. He states that the balance would be settled using the liquidated funds.

The Deputy Governor states that the asset base of TFC has a book value of approximately Rs. 20 billion which its recoverable value is estimated to be around Rs.10 billion which would be used to settle the remaining depositors. If even under a process of liquidation of TFC assets according to the Deputy Governor only Rs.10 billion could be recovered whereas the 61% or 7% of the remaining deposits amount to an amount in excess of Rs.16 billion. The CBSL should clarify how it is going to meet this shortfall in order to settle the amounts due to the balance 7% high deposit customers.

Compensation payment will be made through the People's Bank as the agent bank appointed by CBSL for this purpose. The first phase of the compensation payment for individual depositors having a single payment will commence on June 7 at People's Bank branches in locations where TFC was previously operating.

In 2008 CBSL stated that the administration of TFC had to be taken over by the CBSL as a result of TFC being severely impacted by the failure of a number of financial institutions within the Ceylinco Group not TFC. If that was the decision of the Directors appointed to TFC by the CBSL in 2008 they were aware that TFC could not be revived basically the Directors did not have a plan to revive TFC and the only feasible task and option that was available to the Directors was to perform the last rights on behalf of TFC i.e. closure. Having comprehensive knowledge of the situation regarding TFC no alarm bells rang of any unhealthy situation

deposit slabs. The table 2 set out below sets out details of the gift vouchers allocated for the respective deposit slab and the interest offered for each deposit category. Branch Managers were given the responsibility of handling the gift vouchers and were authorized to purchase the gift vouchers from the nearest Cargill's outlet.

This scheme by TFC with the approval of CBSL was called "Special Deposit Campaign to collect 1 Billion in one month". In terms of this scheme which was promoted by TFC a total of 2474 depositors placed depositing amounting to Rs.947 million between January 1 and January 31 2019 deposits breakdown as set out in Table 3.

However, to the surprise and dismay of these 2474 depositors and other depositors on February 15 2019 the CBSL sent a letter to the Chairman of TFC Wasantha Kumarasiri under the signature of Ranaweera Director CBSL informing TFC to take steps under the Regulatory Actions submitted by the CBSL as follows:

a) TFC refrain from granting or make any further disbursements of loans, credit facilities or other types of financial accommodation except with the written approval of the Director Department of Supervision Non Banking Financial Institution.

b) Refrain from investing money whatsoever of the company.

c) Refrain from distributing profits retained overseas except with the approval of the Monetary Board.

d) Refrain from entering into any transactions for consideration or otherwise.

Consequent to the Regulatory Actions of the CBSL depositors who placed their deposits under the Special Deposit Scheme were informed that their deposits have been frozen and will not be permitted to withdraw their deposits on maturity. The depositors are of the view that the promotion of the Speed Deposit

Period (months):	No. of Depositors:	Amount Rs (Million):
01	200	79.98
03	534	242.02
06	106	36.17
12	151	30.54
13	183	58.25
15	07	4.54
18	04	11.6
24	08	5.71
30	188	16.71
36	01	10,000/- (only)
37	1057	678.68
48	05	719.5
60	15	8.75

LB Finance joins Central Bank to take LANKAQR to Matale

LB Finance (LBF), one of the country's leading Non-Banking Financial Institution, joined hands with the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL) to strengthen "Ratapuraama LANKAQR" public awareness campaign to promote digital payments using the national QR standard LankaQR.

The official campaign kicked off from Matale, titled "Ratapuraama LANKAQR", on September 12, 2020 at the CBSL Regional Office Matale.

The chief guest of this inaugural ceremony was Deshamanya Prof. W.D. Lakshman, Governor, CBSL. Matale event saw the participation of many leading banks and Financial Institutions who have developed LankaQR enabled Apps to collectively support the CBSL's vision of making Sri Lanka a "Less-Cash" society through higher usage of digital payments.

The primary objective of this public awareness campaign was to encourage the usage of LANKAQR QR code based digital payments due to its numerous benefits to the public, econo-



Governor of the Central of Sri Lanka, Deshamanya Prof. W D Lakshman making the first LANKAQR based digital donation using LB CIM App in the presence of Chairman of the Dambulla Sasanarakshaka Balamandala, Rangiri Dambulla Rajamaha Viharaya Uyanwatta Purana Vihara Chief Incumbent Ven. Halmillawewa Premaratana Thera.

my and to the customers in general. LANKAQR is a common Quick Response (QR) code standard adopted by financial institutions in Sri Lanka to facilitate fast, secure and low cost digital payments to any merchant, especially micro, small and medium enterpris-

es. The highlight of the event was the digital donation made by the Governor of the CBSL, Deshamanya Prof. W.D. Lakshman as the first official LANKAQR transaction of the "Ratapuraama LANKAQR" initiative to the Uyanwatta Rajamaha Viharaya, Dam-



R. A. A. Jayalath, Asst. Governor CBSL, Governor of the CBSL, Deshamanya Prof. W D Lakshman, Bimal Perera, Head of Digital Financial Services, LB Finance, D Kumaratunge, Director Payments and Settlements of CBSL

bulia. The digital donation was made possible through the LB Finance's popular mobile wallet LB CIM (Cash-In-Mobile) in the presence of the Chairman of the Dambulla Sasanarakshaka Balamandala, Rangiri Dambulla Rajamaha Viharaya Uyanwatta Purana

Vihara Chief Incumbent Ven. Halmillawewa Premaratana Thero, who incidentally is also a registered LB CIM user. LB Finance takes great pride in revolutionizing the payment landscape of the country by making simple everyday transactions secure, inclusive and

convenient through the CIM App. LB CIM smart phone application is available for Android & iOS based devices. It comes in the form of two separate mobile Apps; '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 tri-lingual mobile wallets available in the market and champions the concept of simplicity in its UI/UX offering. Company believes CIM's ultra-simple design gives it an advantage to become a truly inclusive digital payment solution to Sri Lankan masses.

Earlier this year Central Bank of Sri Lanka named the year 2020 as the "Year of Digital Transactions" and launched a promotional campaign named "Cash Wade" with the aim of popularizing the 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.

Finetech recognized as Google Expertise Partners for Work Transformation Google Meet

Finetech, the Google Premier Partner for Sri Lanka, the Maldives and Bangladesh has been recognized by Google as an Expertise Partner in the areas of Work Transformation and Google Meet. Further cementing the fact that Finetech is the go to company for all Google-related products and services, this achievement recognizes a company that has shown superior expertise with customer evidence in the specific areas.

Partner Expertise allows Google's partner organizations to highlight their success in product/technology, workload, and/or industry specific work, and is evaluated based on unique requirements for each Expertise area. Once a partner company is approved for an Expertise, customers can search by Expertise area and connect with partners through the Google Cloud Partner Directory, which also showcases validated success stories. In addition, the Google Sales Teams will be able to search the directory to select partners with Expertise and attach those partners to customer opportunities that come their way.

"Finetech has had a long-standing success story with Google and is the trusted name for Google-based products and services in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and the Mal-

dives. In this time and era where digital transformation is all the more important and tools such as Google Meet are being used by various sections of society to achieve their goals, we are proud to be certified as an Expertise Partner which adds value to the services we provide our customers", said Clehan Pulle, CEO/ Director and Co-Founder of Finetech.

Finetech which began operations in Sri Lanka for almost a decade and has built a portfolio of customers that span many sectors like banking and finance, education, aviation, hospitality, healthcare and the government sector among others. With more than 30 Google Certified Systems Engineers and one of the largest support teams in the region today, Finetech is also known for its superior customer service in introducing, transitioning and helping organizations embrace the new digital age.

"As a preferred Google products and services partner for this region Finetech is honoured with this achievement and will continue to strive towards greater expertise in the areas that we consult in. Our team has worked diligently to get to this point and I must also commend the continued efforts of our skilled Google technicians who are the backbone of our operations",

Pubudu Wickramarachchi, General Manager - Technology Services & Customer Support said.

As a Google Expertise Partner, Finetech can also continue to share its success stories on the Google Cloud Partner Directory and grow its expertise areas as well. Highlighting a variety of successes can generate new demand, strengthen credibility, and prioritize the company's ranking thereby bringing superior product knowledge and service levels for our customer base.



Pubudu Wickramarachchi

People's Leasing recognized among ten best CSR/Sustainability Projects

One of Sri Lanka's leading non-bank finance sector company, People's Leasing & Finance PLC was recognized as one of the Ten Best CSR/Sustainability projects, at the Ian Dias Abeyasinghe Memorial JASTECA CSR /Sustainability Awards 2020 recently.

The annual awards was presented for the 24th time by the Japan Sri Lanka Technical and Cultural Association aka JASTECA at the Galadari, Colombo.

Ian Dias Abeyasinghe Memorial JASTECA CSR /Sustainability Awards recognized People's Leasing commitment towards uplifting the early childhood education in Sri Lanka. The company invested in this initiative as investment in early years leads to better education, health, social and economic outcomes later on, increasing revenues for the nation and reducing the need for costly social spending.

People's Leasing spearheaded this initiative guided by the apex institutions specialized in early childhood education and care. Highlights of the key activities included the investment towards improving the indoor and outdoor learning environment of the Early



Laksanda Gunawardena, Deputy General Manager Marketing of People's Leasing receives the award for One of the Best Ten CSR/Sustainability Projects from Athula Edirisinghe, Trustee of JASTECA in the presence of Nimal Perera, President JASTECA and Nishan Fernando, Committee Member of JASTECA

Childhood Development Centres (ECDCs) located islandwide that are operated with minimal facilities. The centres were identified through the Children's Secretariat and the development work was monitored through the

Early Childhood Development Assistants and the Heads of the Branch network regionally and 121 ECDCs benefited through this investment. Further, a series of capacity building programmes for the preschool teachers

were financially supported by People's Leasing on activity based lesson planning and application of creativity in early childhood development to promote holistic development of preschoolers. Deputy General Manager Marketing, Laksanda Gunawardena said human capital is a critical part of our nation's sustainable progress and the quality of human capital can be improved through investment in early childhood education.

Our financial assistance was ably supported by staff members from islandwide branch network who volunteered their time and skills in successfully implementing these initiatives. People's Leasing also invests in uplifting school education and entrepreneurship building to contribute towards sustainable development in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)," he further said. PLC's responsible and inclusive financial services includes leasing, auto loans, fixed deposits, savings deposits, housing and business loans, gold loans, margin trading, factoring, and Islamic financial services.

GPV Lanka wins gold at Taiki Akimoto 5S Awards 2019

GPV Lanka (Pvt) Ltd won the Taiki Akimoto 5S Gold Award 2019 under the large category presented by Japanese Sri Lanka Technical and Cultural Association (JASTECA).

What was in particular special about this achievement was that, GPV Lanka (Pvt) Ltd won the Gold Award in the first attempt while competing against several other large-scale well reputable organisations in Sri Lanka.

GPV Lanka (Pvt) Ltd. is a subsidiary of GPV International A/S Denmark. GPV was founded in Denmark in 1961 and is today one of Europe's leading electronics manufacturers. GPV is a global EMS-partner providing complex electronics, cable-harness, mechatronics and box-build



The GPV Lanka team with the award

solutions including design and engineering activities to customers worldwide within high mix / low-medium volume.

GPV generates revenue at about USD 460 million with

around 3,700 employees and has production sites across Europe, Asia and the Americas. GPV Lanka (Pvt) Ltd is in the industry in Sri Lanka for more than 30 years and today it has

1,022 employees including 45 electronic engineers with a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility.

The company was recognized at the Sri Lanka Presi-

dential Export Award consecutively for four years in 2015/16/17/18, under the electronic & electrical sector for highest foreign exchange earner.

The JASTECA upholds the benchmark of excellence for companies practicing Japanese productivity concepts such as the globally accepted 5S system for organising, promoting efficiency, effectiveness and safety.

The award ceremony was held for the 24th consecutive year at the Grand Ballroom of Hotel Galadari on August 22, 2020 with a large gathering from representatives of all the award winners, JASTECA Members and the Chief Guest Toshihiro Kitamura, Minister Embassy of Japan Sri Lanka.

Litro Gas felicitates senior staff with Long Service Awards



Long Service Award Winners 2020 with the Chairman and CEO of Litro Gas Lanka and Litro Gas Terminal Lanka

Litro Gas has developed a unique legacy that combines the efficiency and tradition of a private enterprise with its state owned status.

In keeping with the Company's commitment towards recognizing and rewarding its employees who have grown with the Company, Litro Gas recently feted its senior most staff at the Long Service Awards ceremony 2020.

A total of 33 employees were recognized by the company for their loyal and dedicated service spanning up to 35 years of continuous service to the LPG industry.

W.H. Padmasiri (35 Years), D.C.P. Wijesinghe, D.K. Nanda, W.A.S.P. Perera, K.D.J.T. Gunasekara, A. Path-

marajah, H.B. Weerasena, L.N.G. Perera, A.L.A. Nandana, K.S. Chandrathilake (30 Years), K.K.M.P. Jayawardena, S.W.J. Senaratne, W.H.G. Wildeniya, B. Mahinda, H.K. Nilmini, M.S. Punchihewa, N.P.S.A.H. Kumara, K. Sarathchandra, K.A.A. Priyadarshana (25 Years), H.M. Chamani Pathirage, Shymalie Enoshie P Karunaratne, Ranil Palinda Seneviratne, W.M. Lakmali C. Hapuarachchi, H. Sune-thra Sahabandu, S. Hiran Senewirathne, P.H. Vidanagama, W.D.L. Nalin Achala, H.P. Pradeep Kumara, H.K. Chandraratne, Priya Kelum Alwis, D.K.N.G. Kumara Fernando, K.P. Weerasekera (20 Years), W.B. Sudeshini Wijewardena (15 Years).

"Recognizing our team members who have made a tremendous contribution to empowering the Litro Gas journey is an honour for us", said Anil Koswatte, Chairman and CEO of Litro Gas Lanka Ltd. and Litro Gas Terminal Lanka (Pvt) Ltd. "The team's commitment has helped us emerge as the market leader in the Sri Lankan LPG industry with a 75% market share. We will continue to recognize and reward our employees as a part of the culture we have inherited from the past and continue to nurture at Litro Gas - a small, efficient team of 234 members managing the entire operation."

He adds that those who have served through the years are an asset to the Com-

pany. "Their expertise and experiences have evolved through the years and have been a tremendous contribution to our success whilst upholding the Company's values and ethics and stringently complying with the Health, Safety and Environment policies and procedures".

The long service awards are a valuable component of Litro's overall employee recognition efforts and play a significant role in motivating and engaging staff. Rewarding loyalty and commitment by recognizing those who have dedicated their careers to the Company is proof that the organisation values and respects people who are committed and add value to the Company.

Rise and fall of The... From page 22

CBSL is now talking of settling the balance of the depositors by liquidating the assets. However, the CBSL does not seem to have concrete plans or any idea as to how it intends to solve the problems of TFC. Depositors believe that given the bad management, mismanagement and fraudulent acts committed by the Directors they have no answers because they did not formulate any plans.

The Yahapalana government came into power in 2015. The problem of TFC commenced in 2009 and the administrators of CBSL including the Finance Minister at the time did not make any comment regarding the situation at TFC and allowed the Directors appointed by CBSL to TFC to have their merry way. The present government under Prime Minister was prepared to listen to the depositors and offered the concession of paying Rs.600,000 to each of the depositors thereby technically agreeing to solve the problems of small time depositors. However, this scheme too has not been formulated by the CBSL as there seem to be a lot of problems by the depositors in obtaining the Rs.600,000 agreed by the CBSL.

Finally, the depositors are of the opinion that there are many unanswered questions to be clarified and answered by the Directors who were responsible for the collapse of TFC. The depositors also take this opportunity to thank the President and Hon Prime Minister for the patience hearing and understanding of the problem of the depositors and are confident under a responsible government this unfortunate episode of TFC will be brought to an end.

More details regarding this unfortunate episode confronted by the depositors emanating from the acts perpetrated by the Directors appointed by the CBSL since 2009 would be highlighted separately.

HNB, HNBA launches 'Lease Protector'

Hatton National Bank PLC (HNB) and its fully owned subsidiary HNB Assurance PLC (HNBA), announced the launch of 'Lease Protector', an exclusive new insurance cover where the bank will settle any outstanding lease payments of the lessee in the unfortunate event of their demise or total disability.

The cover will extend up-to a value of Rs 10 million and will include liability for customers up-to the age of 70. Both HNB and HNBA have also structured the 'Loan Protector' cover to be as simple

and easy to access as possible with minimal documentation.

HNB, Deputy General Manager - Retail and SME Banking, Sanjay Wijemanne stated: "With all of the major disruptions that we have witnessed in these constrained market conditions, the underlying need for affordable pathways to vehicle ownership remains quite strong. In such an environment, our goal is to provide as much support and value to customers as possible. This partnership advances both of these goals by provid-

ing customers with affordability and security in a single product."

Chief Executive Officer of HNBA and its fully owned subsidiary, HNB General Insurance Limited (HNBGI), Prasantha Fernando stated, "This tie-up is a unique business opportunity for both businesses and this would offer a significant long-term value creation to our stakeholders. 'Lease Protector' is another revolutionary solution developed in association with our Parent Company, HNB, enhancing Group synergies in order to address

the ever evolving customer needs for protection in the financial services spectrum".

HNB Assurance PLC (HNBA) is one of the fastest growing Insurance Companies in Sri Lanka with a network of 63 branches.

HNB with 252 customer centres across the country, is one of Sri Lanka's largest, most technologically innovative banks having won local and global recognition for its efforts to drive forward a new paradigm in digital banking.



From left: HNB Senior Manager - Bancassurance, Chandana Waidyatilaka, HNB Assurance Head of Partnerships, Sanesh Fernando, HNB Assurance CEO, Lasitha Wimalaratne, HNB Assurance CEO, Prasantha Fernando, HNB DGM - Retail and SME Banking, Sanjay Wijemanne, HNB AGM - Network Management, Vinodh Fernando, HNB Chief Manager/Head of Personal Financial Services, Kanchana Karunagama and HNB Senior Manager - Leasing, Niluka Amarasinghe

Airtel Lanka partners YouLead to mark World Youth Skills Day

Celebrating a month dedicated to empowering youth, Airtel Lanka partnered with the USAID-funded youth skills development and entrepreneurship project, YouLead to mark World Youth Skills Day (WYSD) and International Youth Day (IYD) 2020 under the theme of '21FOR21'.

The objective of the campaign was to introduce 21 critical skills for youth employment and entrepreneurship in the 21st century.

This year's WYSD & IYD took place in a challenging context. The COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown measures have led to worldwide slowing down and in most cases closure of educational institutions, threatening the continuity of learning and development. In an effort to support recovery, Airtel collaborated with YouLead to give youth an opportunity for uninterrupted skills development online during the pandemic.

Advocating certain skills important to Airtel such as critical thinking, leadership, innovation, technological literacy and diversity, the campaign featured a resource site, youlead.lk/skills, which hosted content including a series of videos highlighting the role of these skills in successful careers followed by multiple webinars to further hone in on the practi-



The 21for21 'Skills at Work' photo competition recently concluded with the winner's prize giving held at Airtel Lanka Head Office, World Trade Center, winners Nishanth Rajasegaram, Tharindu Dileepa, Kanchana Herath together with Chandrashekar Singh Chauhan, Chief Marketing Officer, Airtel Lanka, Reed Aeschliman, Mission Director, USAID Sri Lanka and Maldives, Vindya Silva, Partnerships Director, YouLead and Fawaz Nizamdeen, Head Contact Experience Airtel.

cal content and the importance of these skills at the work place.

Commenting on the partnership, Airtel's CEO & Managing Director, Ashish Chandra said: "The digital age has been characterised by a rapid shift from traditional industry to an economy primarily based upon information technology. Hence, it is vital that our youth recognize and adapt to the emerging skills demand-

ed by this broader shift. Doing so will be the key to leveraging new opportunities.

As a telco which champions youth empowerment in Sri Lanka, we are happy to partner with YouLead in training the next generation on innovation, problem solving, critical thinking, technology literacy and many other skills essential for them to thrive in the workplace of the future."

Funded by the American people, YouLead works to improve technical and vocational education and training, create a more skilled workforce, and increase employment by undertaking activities that support and strengthen students, teachers, institutions, and entrepreneurs. It is supported by the U.S. Government's development arm, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The '21FOR21' campaign concluded with a photography competition calling in submissions to capture "skills in action" at workplaces. The winners of the photography competition were awarded a smartphone device provided by Airtel, which could be utilised for work/study-from-home purposes.

As a global initiative spearheaded by Sri Lanka and adopted by the UN general assembly in December 2014, WYSD also serves as a reminder to young people and educators alike to cultivate demand-driven, industry-focused, high quality technical and vocational skills to generate youth employability. According to the Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey, only 30% of youth aged 15-24 entered the labour force and among these 21.4% were unemployed which was 53.4% of the total unemployment rate in Sri Lanka (Department of Census and Statistics, 2018).

SLIIT joins NITC-2020 as Gold Sponsor

Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (SLIIT) has joined hands with Computer Society of Sri Lanka (CSSL) as the Gold Sponsor for National IT Conference-2020 (NITC-2020), scheduled to be held

from on October 14-15, at Shangri-La Hotel, Colombo Sri Lanka.

NITC-2020, under the theme "Towards a Sustainable Digital Sri Lanka" is organized by CSSL for the 38th consecutive year.



Damith Hettihewa Vice President, CSSL, Uditha Gamage Director Development and Engineering Service SLIIT, Prabhath S. Wickramaratne President CSSL, Heshan Karunaratne Conference Chair/Assistant Secretary, CSSL

Keells Krest launches soya meat with new flavour to product range



Keells Food Products PLC the pioneer of processed convenience food, recently introduced "Keells Krest Soya Meat" as its latest product category.

The new introduction adds a new twist of flavour to the diverse portfolio and is expected to be a popular choice among the consumers. The new product range will feature two distinct flavours Chicken and Curry, enticing the Sri Lankan taste buds. The superior quality product

made with no added preservatives or flavour enhancers, can be enjoyed by both the young and old alike.

Soya meat, a popular plant based product is high in protein, fibre and nutritional value. It's a well-loved meat replacement which can be prepared in multiple ways to add flavorsome delight, making your meal times convenient, fun and enjoyable. The product will be available at leading retail outlets island-wide. With a solid history

spanning over more than 30 years, KFP is continuously focusing on offering the local consumer with many more exciting innovative products in the future to address the rising demands of the modern lifestyles of the consumers.

The Chief Executive Officer of KFP & Vice President - John Keells Holdings PLC, Sumudu Thanthirigoda stated, "As a pioneering company, we are focused on producing convenient food that

is easily accessible to our consumers. The latest addition will add value to our diversified product range and strengthen our portfolio. KFP is committed to delivering products with the best quality at the heart of it all."

KFP the leader of processed convenience food industry in Sri Lanka has been awarded ISO 9000 & 22000, GMP and HACCP certified for maintaining stringent food quality standards.

Headstart cites Musaeus College as shift to e-learning in lockdown

People, rather than the technologies deployed, are the key factor in driving a successful transition to online teaching, a leading facilitator has concluded after working with numerous schools during Sri Lanka's COVID-19 linked lockdown.

Headstart (Pvt) Ltd., the award-winning internationally-recognised Sri Lankan e-learning solutions provider, cites as an example the success of Musaeus College's online teaching model, powered by the Company's involvement in teacher capability improvement.

One of the first schools in the country to adopt the virtual teaching model in the lockdown period to deliver lessons on a regular school timetable, Musaeus College's quantifiable accomplishments include the active involvement of over 300 Primary grades to Advanced Level teachers in the tech-based teaching method, the participation of over 6,000 students



Students continue with digital learning after the end of the lockdown

from all grades via Headstart's single online platform, the development of a substantial digital content library by the teachers themselves, and the successful completion of online examinations for the second term for the entire school, the Company said. Headstart attributed the focus on teacher capability improvement, rather than preoccupation with tech support and hardware, as the cornerstone of Musaeus College's success.

While providing digitised learning material to Musaeus

College, Headstart's role in fostering e-learning also encompassed assessing teachers for their tech capabilities, training them on teaching with technology, and continuous engagement for training, support, and monitoring of key performance indicators (KIPs).

Commenting on Musaeus College's quick transition to e-learning in response to the pandemic, the Principal, Nelum Senadira said, "Our plans helped us to adapt very quickly and allowed us to begin conducting a very suc-

cessful online teaching program which started from March 20. The lessons were meticulously planned according to a set timetable for all classes from Grades 1 to 13 corresponding to the needs of the syllabus. This focused approach has, we are proud to report, seen us complete the 2nd Term's work targeting the end of 2nd term by the beginning of August. This would not have been possible if not for the special training provided by Headstart to the master teachers and IT teachers who trained all the others, usually in the late evenings or during the weekends along with the team from Headstart.

Headstart Director/CEO Hasitha Dela said, "The unwavering leadership from the Principal and Management of the school in embracing the shift to digital education, the investment commitment provided for teacher training and capability enhancement."

Atlas introduces anti bacterial range at Colombo Book Fair

Atlas has introduced Sri Lanka's first ever range of Anti-Bacterial stationery.

As Sri Lanka's most loved learning brand and the largest brand of stationery in the country, Atlas is pioneering school supplies that create a safe learning environment and ensures that our children are protected.

The need for hygiene and safety in the learning environment is more important than ever before. With schools having reopened, mothers around the country are concerned about their kids' health and safety. This revolutionary range of products has been developed by Atlas in partnership with SLINTEC (Sri Lanka Institute of Nanotechnology) and incorporates cutting-edge antibacterial technology, developed in Sri Lanka and proven to kill 99.9% of bacteria on the surfaces of these specialized books and pens.

The Atlas Anti-Bacterial range was launched on September 18, at Atlas Skills Factory, the company's flagship experience stall at the Colombo International Book Fair which is currently being held at the BMICH in Colombo from September 18-27.

Speaking about the launch, Asitha Samaraweera, Managing Director at Atlas Axillia Co. said, "For over 60 years, Atlas has been an integral part of the learning journey of millions of Sri Lankan children, pushing innovation in the stationery industry. Thus, we are very sensitive to the needs of our consumers



Kaushali Kusumpala Head of Marketing at Atlas Axillia, Wimal Gunaratne Additional Director at the Western Province Education Department, Prasanna Upashantha Principal of D.S. Senanayake College, Asitha Samaraweera Managing Director at Atlas Axillia, Dr. Rangika De Silva Head of Technology Transfer, SLINTEC, Dr. Azeesh Mubarak Chief of research and innovation, SLINTEC and the other members of Development Teams from SLINTEC and Atlas Axillia at the official launch of new Atlas Antibacterial Range

and always strive to be in sync with their aspirations."

Discussing the joint initiative, Heminda Jayaweera COO of SLINTEC commented, "We are proud to launch novel innovation on Antibacterial coatings together with Atlas, I would like to thank the Atlas team for driving the commercialization aspect of the project and our scientists Dr. Sanjeewa, Dr. Indunil, Sahana and Team for inventing this product."

The Atlas Anti-Bacterial range,

which is independently certified by accredited bodies to prove their efficacy, is one of many innovations that Atlas has developed over the years to revolutionize the stationery industry in Sri Lanka.

Atlas has also spearheaded other major efforts to get kids back to school safely, including partnering with the Ministry of Education to promote good health and safety practices in the classroom and school environment through a nationwide awareness campaign.

Singer Huawei September carnival offers discounts on laptops, smartphone

The exultant second run of Singer Huawei Carnival that awards discounts on even new hi-tech gadgets is now on till end of September.

Huawei, the innovative smartphone manufacturer and Singer, the country's premier consumer durables retailer have brought the bargain surprise of laptops, tabs and smartphones for the rest of September.

Titled the Singer Huawei Carnival 2020, the hi-tech gala which runs till September 30th at island-wide Singer outlets brings huge bargains on selected Huawei laptops, tablets and smartphones with unmissable discounts ranging from 7.5% to 20%!

Huawei's range of

smartphones from flagship to midrange and entry level are available at island wide Singer outlets with a 7.5% discount. The devices in line for this offer are Huawei P40 Pro that comes with a Ultra Vision Leica Quad Camera setup with 50x Super Sensing Zoom, Kirin 990 5G chipset and 40W wired and wireless Huawei Super Charge support, Huawei Nova 7i that features a 48MP Quad AI camera setup, Kirin 810 AI chipset, 4200mAh battery with 40W Huawei Super Charge, Huawei Y9 (2019) that features a 6.59-inch Fullview display, Triple Camera setup-15MP+8MP+2MP, 15MP Selfie camera and



400mAh battery, Huawei Y7 (2019) that features a 6.25-inch Dewdrop display, 4GB RAM + 64GB ROM, 13MP Dual Camera and 4000mAh battery, Huawei Y6P that features a Triple camera setup, 4GB RAM +64GB ROM and 5000mAh battery, Huawei Y6S that features a 3GB RAM +

64GBROM, Huawei Y5 (2019) that features a 5.71-inch Dewdrop display, 13MP Main camera, 5MP Selfie camera, Huawei Y5P that features a 2GB RAM + 32GB ROM, 8MP HD Main camera.

The leading global provider of information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure and smart devices Huawei is committed to bring latest technologies to every person, home and organization for a fully connected, intelligent world.

As a global tech giant, Huawei has been duly recognized at renowned awards ceremonies and been constantly featured in global brand rankings.

TOWN & COUNTRY

To re-ignite the passions of town & country folk

FEATURES EDITOR : (011) 242 9216 Fax : (011) 234 3694 E mail : features.dailynews@lakehouse.lk

TOWN & COUNTRY TOWN & COUNTRY TOWN & COUNTRY

STANDING UP FOR PEACE!



HEAD BOY OF WICKRAMABAHU CENTRAL COLLEGE
SUPUN DULANJANA

HEAD GIRL OF WICKRAMABAHU CENTRAL COLLEGE
DINETHRA ILANGANTHILAKE

Wickramabahu Central College, Gampola

PERFECT PREFECT



Wickramabahu Central College Prefect Board



Supun addresses the audience



ISHARA JAYAWARDANE

Believing that interpersonal relationships hold society together, Perfect Prefects features Head Prefects of Wickramabahu Central College Gampola, Supun Dulanjana and Dinethra Ilanganthilake who see social control as something very positive and liberating and something that leads to peace.

Today in the world we see so many teenagers complaining about the constraints that are imposed on them. Yet these two Head Prefects have been trained by Wickramabahu Central College to think differently. They believe that being kept within particular limits can be for your own good.

Head Boy Supun Dulanjana, passionately believes in loyalty and adhering to the rules. He believes in a society where everyone works for the common good and a society where the welfare of the individual is safeguarded by the belief in the common good. Drug addiction is a terrible menace in society and sadly is a result of a lack of constraint.

We see so many teenagers who have ruined their lives using drugs simply because they disregarded the warnings by their parents and society.

"I believe in a society where people share good qualities and have the correct attitude. Altruism, thinking of others, opposition to anything that is unethical and patriotism are concepts that appeal to me. I also strongly believe in loyalty to society. Above all I feel that you need to be a good citizen. When I look at the world, I see problems like unemployment, drug addiction, poverty and families falling apart.

If everyone thinks of the welfare of others, we could create a beautiful world," explains Dulanjana.

Respecting his parents is something else that Dulanjana believes in. His parents have always been there for him. Their guidance and advice has helped him throughout his life. For this he is always grateful. And it is not just his parents he is grateful to. His teachers have always been there to steer him along the correct path.

"The reason for my success is the influence of my parents and teachers. They have always been my shadow. I think their unwavering support has helped me to achieve my objectives," said Dulanjana.

Too often we are too proud to seek help. However, he is intelligent enough to know when he needs help and intelligent to know that he needs someone else's help. He points out that he tries to handle problems by first practicing patience. Then, depending on the outcome he will decide whether he should ask for help.

The life of a soldier is something he is taking quite seriously. He states that he wishes to join the military service in order to serve his country. A patriot, he puts his country first. He obeys the rules that bind society together. He points out that he admires two men who lived during two different eras. One is King Dutugemunu and the other is the President of Sri Lanka Gotabaya Rajapaksha. Both are military men. Both are leaders of Sri Lanka. Both are patriots. He points out that he admires them because of their bravery and dedication to mother Lanka.

Dulanjana has many outside interests. He engages in sports like hiking, playing football and cycling. He is a great fan of Sherlock Holmes. He says that Holmes helps him to think logically. He is also into movies and really enjoys Harry Potter.

"The present society we live in, is somewhat different from the past. So, we have to be very selective. There are so many vices and pitfalls in life. We must always strive to do what is right. It is important that we do not possess false values, and that we possess true values," pointed out Dulanjana.

Head Girl, Dinethra Ilanganthilake believes in composure. Particularly in times of stress she maintains composure under stress. Her key feature is patience. She has trained herself to be patient and has learnt to wait for the desired outcome. She has learnt to regulate her emotions and control her actions.

Another one of her qualities she says is listening. Not all of us are good listeners. But it is something Ilanganthilake has trained herself to do. If we learn to listen, we will find that we can learn something of value.

"An eye for eye only ends up making the whole world blind - Mahatma Gandhi.

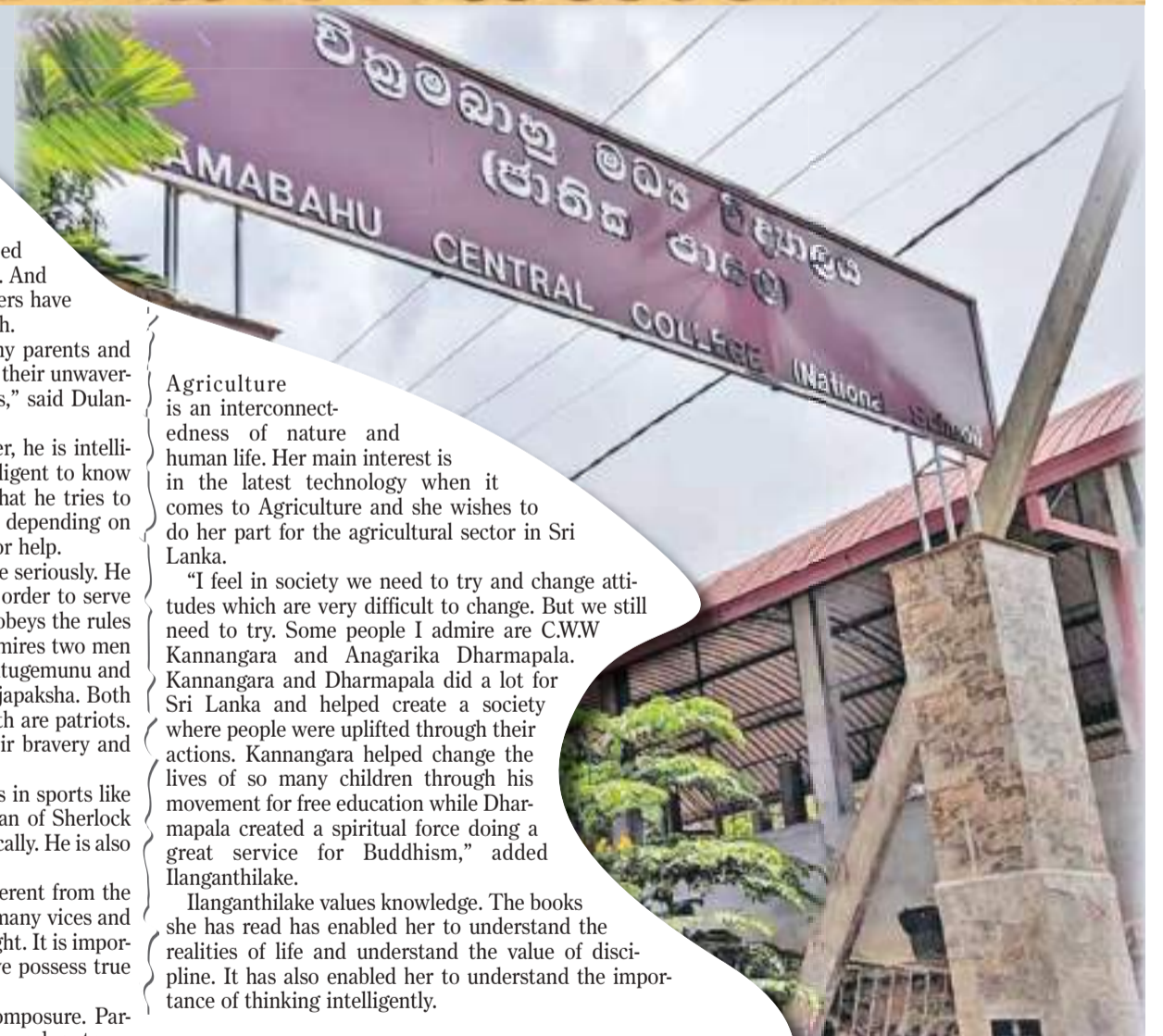
"Creating an altruistic society where everyone is treated equally is a belief I cherish. This is because when I look at the world around me, I see so many things that are terrifying. I see war and the fear of war and conflict. I see rivalry between people escalating to the point where people engage in such immoral and unethical behavior. I see these attempts to outdo each other resulting in such strife. Anger or bitter disagreement results in such sorrow," explained Ilanganthilake.

She states that her interest is in pursuing a career in Agriculture. Sri Lanka has a rich agricultural history dating back more than 2500 years. It was not just an economic activity but a way of life that shaped the society, culture, religion and economy.

Agriculture is an interconnectedness of nature and human life. Her main interest is in the latest technology when it comes to Agriculture and she wishes to do her part for the agricultural sector in Sri Lanka.

"I feel in society we need to try and change attitudes which are very difficult to change. But we still need to try. Some people I admire are C.W.W Kannangara and Anagarika Dharmapala. Kannangara and Dharmapala did a lot for Sri Lanka and helped create a society where people were uplifted through their actions. Kannangara helped change the lives of so many children through his movement for free education while Dharmapala created a spiritual force doing a great service for Buddhism," added Ilanganthilake.

Ilanganthilake values knowledge. The books she has read has enabled her to understand the realities of life and understand the value of discipline. It has also enabled her to understand the importance of thinking intelligently.



The Principal pins the badge on Supun



The Principal pins the badge on Dinethra

Grace Cancer Run celebrates a decade with 2020 Virtual Run

According to the World Health Organization 9.6 million people died of cancer in 2018 making it the second leading cause of death globally. With the COVID-19 pandemic taking centre stage currently many have forgotten that an age old silent killer is taking as many lives.

The annual Grace Cancer Run which aims to create awareness regarding cancer commemorates its 10th year in 2020. Organized annually by the Grace Cancer Foundation this year's VIRTUAL RUN will be held on October 10 in more than 100 nations around the globe.

Titled "Race for Grace" this year, the run is held in 3 categories of 5km, 10km and 21.1km and registrations can be done online at www.gracefoundation-gi.org/race

Speaking on this year's race Sri Lanka's Race Ambassador and the Founder of Nehemiah Consultants and Foodies Lanka Sanura Gunawardana noted, "The Grace Cancer Run aims to create awareness on a battle that we have been fighting for many years. Cancer has already taken so many lives and despite the millions of dollars worth of research done globally we are yet to find a permanent cure or solution. It is also a disease that affects anyone and



Sri Lanka's Race Ambassador Sanura Gunawardana with his Indian Counterpart World-Record-holder Dr. Benny Prasad

everyone without discrimination of any kind. In Sri Lanka, we have thousands who suffer daily without access to treatment, funds and the right information. As a former athlete who competed in 8 different sports, I feel this is a great opportunity for Sri Lanka's athletic and non-athletic community to come together and support a cause that personally moves me. We hope that the Grace Run can not only create awareness but

also help to degenerate much needed funds for treating cancer stricken patients who need it the most".

Cancer is a leading cause of mortality in Sri Lanka. According to the Registrar General's Department, the annual cancer mortality rate increased from 27.9 per 100,000 people in 1985 to 43.6 per 100,000 in 2003. These numbers are staggering to say the least and have kept increasing as lifestyles evolve to a faster

pace. A large number of cancer patients in Sri Lanka also go unrecorded as many do not seek treatment or have no access to it in the most rural communities.

The Grace Cancer Foundation was established in 2008 by Julie Pfeifer and Lisa Willman, two Grand Island, Nebraska breast cancer survivors who had a heartfelt need and desire to help local cancer patients and their families in their fight with this deadly disease.

The organization was originally named The GRACE Foundation, with GRACE standing for Grand Island Area Cancer Endowment. In 2018, for the organization's 10th Anniversary, it was renamed GRACE Cancer Foundation. Julie and Lisa's hope is to provide not only emotional support, but funds available through GRACE to assist with unique financial obligations and unmet needs for those fighting ALL types of cancer.

This year's Grace Run in Sri Lanka is also supported by Creative Casa who are on board supporting the cause with their creative genius.

For more information on this year's Grace Cancer Run you can visit the official race website or follow Sanura on <https://www.instagram.com/gunawardanasanura/>



REVAMPING VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Text and pictures by I L M RIZAN, Addalaichenai Central Corr

The Sainthamaruthu Vocational Training Centre (VTC) which functions under the Vocational Training Authority of Sri Lanka and the Skill Development,

Vocational Education, Research and Innovation Ministry held its awards ceremony for those who obtained their National Vocational Qualifications (NVQ), at the Bawa Royal Reception Hall in Sainthamaruthu recently.

Sainthamaruthu Vocational Training Centre (VTC) Officer In-Charge (OIC) M M Udumalbbe chaired the event. Former Law and

Order Ministry Additional Secretary A L M Saleem graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.

56 students received their NVQ certificates on completion of their ICT Technician, Plumber and Electrician courses of training.

The District Vocational Training Centre Deputy Director M B Nal-eem, Vocational Training Authority of Sri Lanka Training Officer M M Wazeem, Programme Officer M M Mouzoon, Tax and Evaluation Officer M I M Maqbool, former ICT Instructor S M Siyath, Sainthamaruthu Divisional Secretariat Skill Development Officer A Issadeen,

Instructor (Graphic Design) M H M Hazeer and Instructor (Plumbing) S Abul Hassan were present.



MARMADUKE



"Move away. Your tail thumping is throwing off my rhythm."

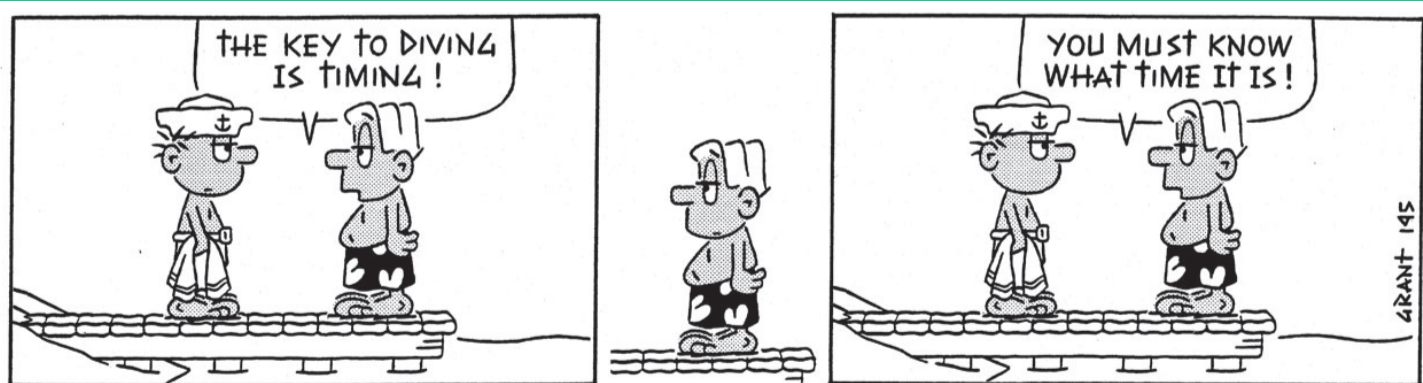
MUTT AND JEFF



ARCHIE



FISH TALES



UP & RUNNING



CAN I BE NEXT TO TRY THAT FUN RIDE?



Vice Principal R Herathge hoists the flags



GET SPORTY!

Text and pictures by
SUNIL GUNAWARDHANA,
Kundasale Group Corr

The Annual Inter-House Athletic Meet of Colombo International School, Kandy, was held a few months ago at Digana Sports Complex. Vice Principal R Herathge was the Chief Guest. Students had fun as they took part in sports activities representing the Blue, Red, Yellow and Green Houses.

A MATTER OF PRIDE



Head Prefect garlands the Minister



Welcoming the Minister

Text and pictures by
RUZAIK FAROOK

Minister of Justice and distinguished old boy of Zahira College Colombo President Council Ali Sabry was felicitated at the College Ghaffoor Hall recently. He was garlanded by the Head Prefect of the College Aman Azhar.

The welcome address was delivered by

Principal Trizviy Mrikkar. He congratulated and wished Minister Sabry. Minister Sabry, Chairman of the Board Governors Fowzul Hameed, and Deputy Minister of Student Behavior Development in the Student Parliament of the College Nafee Casseem addressed the gathering. The Principal also presented the memento to Ali Sabry at this ceremony. Secretary of the Board of Governors

Alavi Mukhtar, Treasure Hilal Sanoon, Members of the Board of Governors, President and Members of the Old Boys Association, Parents Teachers Association, Deputy Principals, Vice Principals, Sectional Heads, teachers and students were presented.

Deputy Speaker of the Student Parliament Adhil Anan proposed the Vote of Thanks.



Principal Trizviy Marikkar addressing the gathering



Principal presenting a memento to the Minister



Encouraging young achievers to excel

Colombo South International College, Kalubowila, were present at the function. The achievements of the students are as follows.

ESOL - English Speakers of other Languages class, Cambridge Young Learners English Examination conducted by Cambridge University of London awards ceremony was held on September 2 at the College under the patronage of the school Chairman/Managing Director. Mangala Wijeyakularatne and our Principal W Dunugama. The parents also

Starter Class: Fathima Tazmeen Firzi

Mover Class: Aishath Shawash

Flyer Class: Mohamed Thalha Firzi, Uhaishin Mohamed Ahsan, Almaan Ali, Aqeel Shafraz Kamaldeen.

Pet Class: Highest achievement was class "B" by Aishath Reem

Class "C": Aiman Mohamed, Aishath Eashal, Savindu Samarasinghe, Sesandi Vidanapathirana, Senithu Madiv, Shanchaya Vitharana, Lesanda Thillakeratne.



Simple living, high thinking

Text and pictures by
I L M RIZAN,
Addalaichenai Central Corr

M A Alfer Ahamed a Grade 11 student of Al-Hira Maha Vidyalaya, Kattankudy coming under the purview of Batticaloa Central Educational Zone has invented an automatic water tap using waste materials to wash hands at the entrance of his school.

Eastern Province Governor Anuradha Yahampath appreciated the

inventor by calling him to the Governor's Secretariat in Trincomalee. She awarded him and related that such people should be encouraged to proceed with their work.

Ahamed also exhibited an electric hot plate at the exhibition of Young Inventor at the University of Colombo in 2019.

The Secretary of the Eastern Province Governor, father of the student and Provincial Correspondent M H M Anver and others were present.





At i-SING Singapore 2019



Receiving her award at the Oman Gavel Championship 2019

Multitasking at a tender age

YENULI BINARA

TAKES TUNES BY STORM!



Receiving her award at Euro pop 2019 in Berlin

SURESHNI PILAPITIA

In today's TnC we present Yenuli Binara Dewage, a smart 11-year-old who is in her 7th grade. Yet she seems to have received a considerable number of achievements for her age. She has attended the London Music College, Sultanate of Oman, and have successfully completed a course on The Art of Persuasive writing and Public speaking held at the Harvard University, (successfully completed at that) and she participated at the i-sing International Singing competition 2019 held at Stockholm, Sweden. 42 contestants participated at the event. Yenuli represented Oman at this event. As a result of her talent, she won the 1st runners up award and the best audience performer award. She also performed at the Euro pop 2019 -Berlin, Germany, attended by all European countries, with her representing the Sultanate of Oman, which is indeed an honor for Sri Lanka. She won a special jury award for singing performance, becoming the best singer in Europe, and holds a special Music Diploma for singing performance. Her other achievements include, in public speaking, leader of the winning champion team, and the best debater, (Inter House Debate Competition -Sri Lankan School - Muscat 2019/2020, Sri Lankan School Championship of Public Speaking -2019/20, Championship (Junior) Sinhala Language, Championship (Junior) English Language, Oman Gavel Championship of public speaking -2019 -Sultanate of Oman (participated by 37 Gavel Club Contestants) ,1st runners up -International Speech category. Her talent in public speaking includes more such as the Inter house debate competition Sri Lankan School -Muscat -2016/2017, and member of the winning champion team. Her latest song, 'Wake up mom' has made her even more special, and

made her quite popular on you tube and get quite a number of views. The song consists of serious content dedicated to the planet earth, and this is what she refers to as 'Wake up mom' because she refers to planet earth as a 'mother'. Yenuli sings it so passionately, full of energy and emotion, that she has succeeded in conveying her message to the audience, that is, to stop polluting and destroying the beautiful nature and environment, wildlife and the natural habitat. She sings with a strong and passionate voice, with facial expressions and movements according to the occasion, which is amazing for a youngster of her age. The music video shows the destruction, and the harm humans have caused the planet, under the name of development. The video shows more clips showcasing the demolished surroundings and environment. And at the beginning, covered with greenery, the earth can be seen in the form of a woman.

Q: TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY.

My name is Yenuli Binara. I am 11 years old. I was born in Sri Lanka but I currently live in Oman. I study in grade 7, Sri Lankan School Muscat in Oman.

I have four members in my family: my father (Prashan Rasanjaya), my mother (Dilrukshi Dewage), my brother (Rithika Bimsilu), and me.

Q: YOU HAVE ACHIEVED QUITE A LOT FOR AN 11-YEAR-OLD, THROUGH SPEECH, DRAMA AND MUSIC.

I feel very happy, about that because I earned all these glories with my hard work and dedication towards my goal.

Q: TELL US ABOUT YOUR NEW SONG 'WAKE UP MOM' WHICH WAS JUST RELEASED. HOW WAS IT CREATED?

This is my first original song. From the beginning of my childhood I love the nature. When I see the danger, which is being caused to the nature and animals, I feel a sense of sadness which I can't bare within myself. I felt that as human beings if we continue to do the wrong thing, we will be getting closer to the destruction of Mother Nature.

About that sometimes I wrote, gave speeches, drew picture but I approach only few people. So I thought a way in few minutes to give this message to all the busy people all over the world. Finally, all my feeling about our mother nature I wrote as a song.

No matter how much we say about pollution we say people will not feel much about it so I took mother as an example because everyone loves their mother and nobody likes to see their mother dying. I used that feeling as a help to make people realize our Mother Nature is in danger. I matched every body part of our mother with the nature body parts.

I record the melody I got in my mind when I was writing it. When I wrote the song I first got advice from my music teacher who is in USA, Yildrys Furones who is a music professor at ISA, University of the Arts. The music director Tharindu Jayathilaka uncle made the song more beautiful by making the music arrangements and composition of the song and his orchestra: Buddika Perera uncle, Manjula Kaluarachchi uncle and Nalina Kashmeera uncle.

I can't forget my loving father and mother, and my brother who all supported me continuously as a shade from the beginning until the end of my song. My brother Rithika Bimsilu gave me lots of creative ideas when making the song

Q: WHO GUIDED YOU TO DO WELL IN PUBLIC SPEAKING AND ARTS?

In public speaking, I started it when I was in grade three in school, I first participate in that time as a member of the junior debate team and we won the championship. During that time my mother guided me in public speaking, after that my school teachers also encouraged and gave advices to me. The Oman toastmasters and DTM's (Distinguished Toastmasters) gave me a lot of advices, encouragements and compliments.

My mother helped me at the very beginning of my music journey and later my music teachers from London Music College (Oman branch) and my music teacher Yildrys Furones in USA are helping me.



Yenuli Binara Dewage



Q: WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR FAVORITE MOMENT SO FAR?

I have a few favorite moments in my life, and my most favorite is the day I released my first original song.

The days I got i-Sing World Awards (Sweden) and the Euro pop awards (Germen), public speaking competition awards are also important to me because they are times that I get valued to myself but in the day I released my first original song, was a very important for me because it was the day I gave a good message to the world.

Q: HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO DESCRIBE YOURSELF?

I would like to be called as a simple girl who loves the nature and does something new to give a message to the world while taking our Sri Lankan qualities and trying to do a good service to the world from my abilities.

Q: WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO DO IN FUTURE?

I like to be a person who does a good profession for living and to give a good service to the world using my all abilities.

I wish to thank the Ambassador to the Sultanate of Oman Omar Lebbe Ameerajwad who always encourages me every time.



Online violin recital

Children's songs CD launch

The Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre (SVCC), High Commission of India, Colombo, will be holding an Online Violin Recital by Isuru Dayantha Kondasinghe on September 23 at 6 p.m. on SVCC, Colombo FACEBOOK page <https://www.facebook.com/ICCRSriLanka>.

Isuru Dayantha Kondasinghe completed his BPA (Special) in 2011 with First class and MPA (in Music) in 2015 with First class at the University of Visual and Performing Arts, Sri Lanka. He is presently reading for Ph.D. in Music from Indira Kala Sangit Vishwavidyalaya, Khairagarh, India. He has participated in national and international festivals and events, and received awards both at nation and international levels. Several of his research works are published, such as the book titled "Bharathiya Violin Vadana Kalawa". Currently, he is working as an Assistant Lecturer at National Institute of Education, Department of Aesthetic Education.

All are cordially invited to attend. For further details contact the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre on telephone no: 2684698 and Email: iccrcolombo2@gmail.com.

Text and picture by RUZAIK FAROOK

O ddamavadi Retired Education Officer M J Salaman Wahab's children songs CD launching ceremony was held at the Al Imtiyaz Conference Hall, Maradana, Colombo recently. Student of Kanza College Umar Khan received the copy of the CD from

Tower Hall Foundation Director Hassim Omar.

Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna Muslim Federation National Organizer and Former Provincial Councilor A L M Uvais, journalist and writer Musdeen Mohamed, Hameed Al Hussein College Staff Shamila Musdeen and Salman Wahab were also present.



EXTENTION OF BID DOUCMENT ISSUING AND BID CLOSING DATE



Date: 22nd September 2020

Loan and Title: 3699-SRI: Science and Technology Human Resource Development Project

Contract No. and Title: MOHE/STHRD/SJ-E7 -Procurement of Mechatronic Data Processing and Automation Equipment for the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

- Reference the Paper advertisement published on Newspapers "Daily News", "Dinamina" and "Thinakaran" on 27th August 2020 for the above contract.
- Bidding document issuing date and bid closing dates are extended as follows:
Bid document issuing date: 05th October 2020 at 15.00 hrs
Bid closing date: 06th October 2020 at 14.30 hrs
- All the other conditions remain unchanged

Chairman
Department Procurement Committee
University of Sri Jayewardenepura
Gangodawila
Nugegoda
Sri Lanka.

22nd September 2020

Government Notice National Consumer Price Index

Computed by the Department of Census and Statistics
(Base: 2013 - 100)

It is hereby notified for general information that the National Consumer Price Index computed by the Department of Census and Statistics for the month of August 2020 was 137.8 (One Hundred and Thirty Seven point Eight).

Dr. I.R. Bandara,
Director General of Census and Statistics

Department of Census and Statistics,
P.O. Box. 121,
Battaramulla.
21st September 2020

Correction Notice

Wattala Mabola Urban Council Computerizing Office Work - Second Stage

Reference the above advertisement which appeared on page 28 of the Daily Newspaper dated September 2, 2020, the date and time of bid opening which does not appear therein due to an oversight must be taken in as 2.15 p.m. on 29.09.2020.

Chairman,
Wattala Mabola Urban Council.
Telephone No. 011-2932275

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA



MINISTRY OF WATER SUPPLY

NATIONAL WATER SUPPLY & DRAINAGE BOARD



ADDENDUM - 2 TO INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Date	: 22/09/2020
Loan No. & Title	: ADB Loan 3029-SRI; ADB Assisted Greater Colombo Water & Wastewater Management Improvement Investment Programme - Project 2
Contract No.	: GCWWMIP/ADB/VEHI/NRW/ICB/35
Title	: Supply & delivery of crew cabs with suitable platforms to accommodate water tanks (30 nos), water bowsers (10 nos) and accessories

This Addendum modifies the original Invitation for Bid (IFB) for the Procurement of goods for the "Supply & delivery of crew cabs with suitable platforms to accommodate water tanks (30 nos), water bowsers (10 nos) and accessories" published in Daily News, Dinamina, Nawamani newspapers and National Water Supply and Drainage Board website on 12th August 2020. All the requirements of the Addendum 2 are herein made a part of the bidding document. The Addendum-1 (Pre-bid meeting minute with responses for clarification) shall be collected from **Tender Branch, National Water Supply & Drainage Board (NWSDB), Galle Road, Ratmalana.**

The deadline for bid submission has been extended up to **10:00 A.M (Local Time) on 07th October 2020.** The period for the issuing of bidding document is until **6th October 2020** during **09.00 hours to 15.00 hours** on normal working days.

To be eligible and qualified for a contract award, the successful bidder shall fulfill the revised qualification requirements as given below.

- ✓ Successfully Completed as the main supplier within last **five (05) Years**, Supply and delivery of 165 Million valued **crew cabs and water / fuel bowsers** with nature, and complexity similar to the scope of supply described in section 6 (Schedule of Supply).
- ✓ The Bidder shall demonstrate that the goods offered
 - o been available of spare parts and services of similar equipment in Sri Lanka for the past **Ten (10) years.**
 - o **been sold a minimum of 1000 Nos of vehicles** (any type) **during last ten (10) years;**
 - o been in use for the quoted similar type or models of vehicles in **South Asia** for a minimum of **ten (10) years** (should have proven record of suitability for local and climatic conditions in South Asia).

All other terms and conditions of the original bidding document remain unchanged.

Chairman
Department Procurement Committee (DPC)
National Water Supply and Drainage Board



SRI LANKA PORTS AUTHORITY

REGISTRATION OF SUPPLIERS FOR THE YEAR 2021

Applications are hereby invited from recognized Manufacturers, Distributors, Companies, Corporations and Co-operative Societies who wish to register themselves with the Sri Lanka Ports Authority for the supply of goods in undermentioned categories for the Year 2021.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Batteries, lead, acid & other types | 14 Grit blasting materials & foundry sand |
| 2 Bearings for Machinery and equipment | 15 Hoses (Hydraulic, Pneumatic fire, etc.) |
| 3 Building materials (Bricks, all types of tiles, cement blocks, sand & lime etc., PVC pipe, fittings and other PVC products, roofing & ceiling sheets) | 16 Lubricants |
| 4 Chemicals, industrial chemicals, carbolic & laundry soap, detergents and disinfectants - pesticides, weed killer, etc. | 17 Manila, polypropylene and nylon ropes |
| 5 Clothing materials and uniforms | 18 Mobile Phone |
| 6 Computers, computer spares, toner, fax machines, photocopy, printers and software packages | 19 Office stationery (including computer stationery), printed stationery |
| 7 Electrical appliances (all household electrical items) video & audio equipment & air-conditioners, refrigerators and spares | 20 Paints - enamel & emulsion, polishes, sealing compounds, spray paints, filler pastes & thinner for spray painting paints - marine quality & thinner for such paints |
| 8 Electrical cables, and telecommunication cable | 21 Porcelain item, Sanitaryware |
| 9 Electrical control system accessories, electrical fittings and accessories | 22 Road paving materials (metal, asphalt & asphalt concrete) cement and other cement accessories |
| 10 Electronic equipment including telecommunication equipment & accessories for VHF | 23 Rubber & vulcanized products |
| 11 Engineering tools & equipment, machines, pumps including power tools, gas and kitchen equipment, welding equipment, accessories & consumables | 24 Safety item equipment & fire fighting equipment, diving equipment and other accessories |
| 12 Footware - canvas and leather shoes, boots, safety shoes etc. | 25 Spare parts for all vehicles, radiator & radiator core |
| 13 General hardware including bolts & nuts, brass fittings, pipes & fittings, metal plates, rods & profiles, wire mesh, brooms, coir ropes and other coir products, brushes (wire brushes and all types of paint brushes) glass sheet, fiber glass materials (GRP materials) & products, Plywood board and MDF boards etc, valves | 26 Spare parts for all types of cranes & earth moving equipment fork lifts, top lifts, prime movers, yard tractors etc & spare parts for marine equipment |
| | 27 Steel and wooden furniture and all other domestic furniture |
| | 28 Timber |
| | 29 Tyres & tubes |
| | 30 Wire ropes |
| | 31 Western and Ayurvedic medical equipment |
| | 32 Printing of photography (including design/editing), Laminating, Ply mounting, Framing (Wooden), Albuming, Flex Printing, News Paper Printing, Media (Artworks / Banners / Stalls Plaques) |

CONDITIONS

- If the intended Supplier is a limited liability company, a copy of the certificate of Incorporation and if otherwise a copy of certificate of Registration should be attached to the application.
- Separate applications for Registration should be forwarded for Category Nos. 1 to 32 mentioned above. Applicants should clearly indicate in their applications the relevant Category Nos. for which the Registration is sought. Application forms for Registration could be obtained between 9.00 a.m. and 03.00 p.m. on any working day up to 30.11.2020 from the Office of the **Chief Manager (Supplies and Material Management), Supplies & Material Management Division, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, No 45, Leyden Bastian Road, Colombo 01** on payment of Rs. 1000/= + VAT for each category for which the Registration is sought. (Request Letter).
- Quotations for the supply of goods will normally be called from the list of registered Suppliers. However the Sri Lanka Ports Authority reserves the right to obtain quotations and make purchases from non-registered Suppliers as well.
- Names of registered Suppliers who fail to quote or forward samples promptly when requested or fail to make deliveries within the specified time as per the purchase orders or who supply substandard materials are liable to be struck off from the list of registered Suppliers of the Sri Lanka Ports Authority.
- All applications should be forwarded under Registered Cover and addressed to the Chief Manager (Supplies and Material Management), Supplies and Material Management Division, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, No. 45, Layden Bastian Road, Colombo 01 to reach him on or before 30.11.2020 with the words **"REGISTRATION OF LOCAL SUPPLIERS FOR 2021"** written at the top left-hand corner of the envelope. Late Applications, without required supporting documents will not be entertained. Applications could also be personally handed over at the Chief Manager (S&MM)'s Office.
- Further information could be obtained by contacting the undersigned on **Tel. Nos. 2323102, 2432866, 2328342, 2320250, 2482761.**

Chief Manager (Supplies and Material Management)
Supplies Division
Sri Lanka Ports Authority
No. 45, Layden Bastian Road,
Colombo 01.



National Institute of Education



INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of 100kW Solar PV Roof Top System for National Institute of Education, Meepe

Contract No: NIE/EE/2019/74

- National Institute of Education invites sealed bids from suitable suppliers for Supply, Installation, commissioning and Maintenance of 100kW Solar PV Roof Top System for NIE, Maharagama. Complete details are included in the bidding documents. Expected delivery period is 4 to 6 weeks from the letter of acceptance. Bidder shall quote for all the items and the bid must be accompanied by a bid security as indicated below.

Ser. No.	Brief Description	QTY	Amount of Bid Security (Rs:)	Non-refundable Cash Payment (Rs.)
01	Procurement of Supply, Installation, Commissioning & Maintenance of 100kW Solar PV Roof Top System for National Institute of Education, Meepe	01	175,000.00	4,500.00

- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language and interested eligible bidder must be a registered solar PV service provider at Sri Lanka Sustainable Energy Authority (SLSEA) and may purchase bidding documents during normal working days from **9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.** from the office of the **"Engineering Services Department", National Institute of Education, High Level Road, Maharagama** on payment of a non-refundable fee Account No. 607628 of the Director General at the Bank of Ceylon, Maharagama (The payment method will be by cash). The deadline for inspection and issue of the bidding documents is **2.00 p.m. on 14.10.2020.**
- Pre-bid meeting will be held at **10.00 a.m. on 05.10.2020** at Engineering Services Department, National Institute of Education, Maharagama. Bidders are advised to visit National Institute of Education, High-Level Road, Maharagama site after consulting Director Engineering Services (Telephone No. 0117601600 or 0117601603) before pre bid meeting.
- Sealed bids marked **"Supply, Installation, Commissioning & Maintenance of 100kW Solar PV Roof Top System for NIE"** on the top left-hand corner of the envelope shall be sent to reach the Procurement Division, National Institute of Education, Maharagama through hand delivery or by registered post at or before **2.00 p.m. on 15.10.2020.** Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing time in the presence of the bidders or bidders' representatives who desire to attend. All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security of **SLRs 175, 000.00** and valid until **12.02.2021.**
- Further details may be obtained by calling telephone numbers 0117601600 or 0117601603 during office hours.

Director General,
P.O.Box 21,
National Institute of Education,
Maharagama.

WAGES BOARDS ORDINANCE

The rates of wages applicable to workers covered by the decisions of the following Wages Boards for the month of July 2020 are given below.

A. Wimalaweera
Commissioner General of Labour

Department of Labour,
Colombo 05.

10.09.2020

Cocoa, Cardamon and
Pepper Growing &
Manufacturing Trade

Worker Daily Rs. 858.69

❖ In addition, the allowance payable in terms of the Budgetary Relief Allowance Act, No. 36 of 2005 and the Budgetary Relief Allowance Act, No. 04 of 2016 should be paid to the workers by the Employer.

VEHICLES FOR TENDER		
Vehicle No	Make	Yard
THREE WHEELERS		
NW QV-0847	BAJAJ AUTO AR45	KURUNEGALA
EP YO-1610	TVS KING	BATTICALOA
NW AAH-0846	RE 205	MORATUWA
NP YI-8584	TVS KING	MORATUWA
CP QI-1451	BAJAJ AUTO AR45	MORATUWA
SP GI-2376	BAJAJ AR45	MORATUWA
NW QD-0944	BAJAJ AUTO AR45	MORATUWA
CP QD-8890	BAJAJ AUTO AR45	MORATUWA
MOTOR BIKES		
SP BFT-9186	YAMAHA RAY ZR	GALLE
SP BFV-4873	TVS APPOCHI	GALLE
SP BGD-7550	DISCOVER 100 4G	GALLE
SP BGE-2625	PULSAR 150	GALLE
SP BHO-9596	TVS STRIKER	GALLE
SP BHIQ-8029	YAMAHA FZ	GALLE
NP BGD-8345	BAJAJ V15	MORATUWA
NP BHT-3561	TVS/STRIKER	MORATUWA
NP BEE-9545	HERO/GLAMOUR	MORATUWA
SP BHF-4358	TVS NTORQ	MORATUWA
SP BGS-8899	FZ - 5 DARK NIGHT	MORATUWA
EP BDJ-0613	FAJER	BATTICALOA
EP BHY-7362	MAESTRO	BATTICALOA
EP BHF-6595	RAY ZR	BATTICALOA
EP BFT-5658	BAJAJ PULSAR	BATTICALOA
EP BFI-2121	BAJAJ PULSAR	BATTICALOA
EP BGN-2162	APACHE 150	BATTICALOA
EP BHD-8071	ITM - KTM DUKE 200	BATTICALOA

Further Details contact us on Following Numbers
 Ravindu Madiwela Yard 071-0110160
 Manoj Prasad Kurunegala Yard 071-7338442
 Sugandhi Batticaloa Yard 0772237388
 Maduranga Galle Yard 0752757342

These Vehicles can be inspected on weekdays 9.00 a.m to 4.30 p.m
 Tender will be closed at 5.30 p.m. on 23-09-2020
 The Company reserves the right to withdraw any vehicle / vehicles from the sale without prior notice.

ASIA ASSET FINANCE PVT. LTD.
 76/1, Dharmapala Mawatha, Colombo-05. Tel: 2574682-5

TEACHING HOSPITAL, ANURADHAPURA

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

INVITATION FOR THE REGISTRATION OF CONTRACTORS

- The Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee of Teaching Hospital, Anuradhapura will receive applications from contractors of North Central Province who have been registered with Institute for Construction Training and Development as given in the following schedule from 22nd September 2020 up to 10.00 a.m. on 14th October 2020 for the registration of maintenance contractors for the year 2021.
- Accordingly, application forms and other documents could be obtained from the Head Office of the hospital up to 13.10.2020 on working days of the week between 9.30 a.m. and 3.00 p.m.. Necessary documents to prove qualifications and the receipt obtained from the hospital Shroff for the payment of due fees should be forwarded to obtain the said documents.

S/No.	Subject	Eligibility	Application fees
1.	Registration of maintenance contractors for the Teaching Hospital, Anuradhapura for the year 2021	C9 or above	Rs. 1,500.00

For further particulars please contact telephone 025-2222261 - 107/113

Documents relevant to registration could be inspected free of charge during office hours. The Procurement Committee reserves the right to accept or reject applications.

Chairman,
Regional Procurement Committee,
Teaching Hospital,
Anuradhapura.

OBSERVER JOBS

BREAKING
BOUNDARIES

THE COUNTRY'S
LARGEST
RECRUITMENT
DATABASE

FOR
JOBSEEKERS

www.observerjobs.lk

Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine

Provision of Cleaning Services to Hospitals and Health Institutions – 2020/2021

Bid Notice

Bids are invited by the Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee "C1" of the Ministry of Health from registered institutions for the supply of cleaning services to the undermentioned hospitals and health institutions under the Ministry of Health for Year 2020/2021.

1. Following qualifications should have been fulfilled for this contract

- It should be an institution registered at least one year before the date of publication of this advertisement as an institution supplying Cleaning Services under the Business Registration Act of Sri Lanka or under the Companies Act No. 07 of 2007.
- Should have at least one (01) year's experience in a government / semi government or reputed private institution regarding supply of cleaning services and it should be proved by the letter granting the contract and the letters obtained from that institution.
- Registration Certificate under Section 08 of the Public Contracts Act (Separate Registration Certificates should be submitted for respective hospitals and institutions)
- Assets Certificate in Form General 170 (original) obtained from the Divisional Secretary within 06 months to the values mentioned below relevant to the hospitals and health institutions (Certificate should be equivalent or more than the total value if the contractor is submitting quotations for several hospitals/institutions). Further, the annual value as per the hospital/institution for which you are applying for is as follows):

	Annual Value
1. Ministry of Health / Teaching Hospitals and General Hospitals	Rs. 1,000,000.00
2. Base Hospitals and District Hospitals	Rs. 500,000.00
3. Health Institutions	Rs. 300,000.00

- Letter (Original) issued by the bankers of the contractor stating that Bank Overdraft Facilities for the values mentioned against each hospital / institution mentioned in the table below will be given (Certificate should be equivalent or more than the total value if the contractor is submitting quotations for several hospitals/institutions).
 - Receipts obtained from the Central Bank of Sri Lanka / Employees Trust Fund for making the contributions to the Employees Provident Fund and Employees Trust Fund for all the employees engaged in service for the provision of Cleaning Services under the registered business name for the previous year and the C report obtained for crediting to respective accounts in favour of the employees or documents pertaining to electronically executed payments including up to 30.06.2020 should be submitted. (For the last 12 months relevant to year 2019/2020.)
 - Documentary proofs should be submitted for the payment of VAT / Income Tax in the name of the Cleaning Company for the previous year of assessment. (Documentary proofs should be submitted to the effect that VAT/ Income Tax has been paid in the name of the Company in case of Limited Liability Companies and in the name of all partners for sole proprietorship / partnership businesses). (For year 2018/2019 only)
 - A Bid Bond valid for 119 days from the closing date of bids drawn in favour of the Secretary, Ministry of Health, No. 385, Suwasiripaya, Rev. Baddegama Wimalawansa Thero Mawatha, Colombo 10 obtained from a Financial Institution / Insurance Institution approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka to the value of Rs. should be submitted. (As per Annexure Form 01) (Should be valid from 13.10.2020 until 08.02.2021)
2. Bid applications may be obtained from the Procurement Branch (New Building) of the Ministry of Health, No. 26, 2nd Floor, Sri Sangaraja Mawatha, Colombo 10 between 9.00 a.m. & 2.00 p.m. on working days from 22.09.2020 until 12.10.2020. Receipt obtained from the Shroff of this ministry for the payment of non refundable fee for each hospital/ institution as mentioned in the schedule below and the letter of request for Bid Documents should be submitted for obtaining bid documents.

INSTITUTION / HOSPITAL

Ser. No.	Name of Hospital	Tender No.	Value of Assets Certificate (Rs.)	Value of Credit Facilities (Rs.) (or not below)	Bid Security (Rs.)	Bid Document Fee (Rs.)
01	National Hospital – Bandaranaike Building and area surrounding	MH/PB/CL/01/2020	1,000,000.00	950,925.62	381,000.00	3,500.00
02	Teaching Hospital – Kandy (Section I)	MH/PB/CL/02/2020	1,000,000.00	4,023,771.16	1,610,000.00	20,000.00
03	Teaching Hospital, Kandy – Section II (Nursing School)	MH/PB/CL/03/2020	1,000,000.00	271,223.13	109,000.00	3,500.00
04	Teaching Hospital, Kandy – Section III (Hospital Grounds and Drain System around)	MH/PB/CL/04/2020	1,000,000.00	778,915.66	312,000.00	3,500.00
05	General Hospital, Hambantota	MH/PB/CL/05/2020	1,000,000.00	2,447,572.67	980,000.00	12,500.00
06	Teaching Hospital, Mahamodera and Nursing School	MH/PB/CL/06/2020	1,000,000.00	454,881.87	182,000.00	3,500.00
07	Teaching Hospital, Karapitiya	MH/PB/CL/07/2020	1,000,000.00	2,694,642.01	1,078,000.00	20,000.00
08	Medical Supplies Division	MH/PB/CL/08/2020	300,000.00	329,596.42	132,000.00	3,500.00
09	Apeksha Hospital, Maharagama, Rasavi Medical Complex	MH/PB/CL/09/2020	1,000,000.00	1,009,421.58	404,000.00	3,500.00
10	Teaching Hospital, Jaffna	MH/PB/CL/10/2020	1,000,000.00	1,959,831.74	784,000.00	12,500.00
11	Teaching Hospital and Nursing School, Kurunegala	MH/PB/CL/11/2020	1,000,000.00	2,494,097.63	998,000.00	12,500.00
12	National Eye Hospital, Colombo 10	MH/PB/CL/12/2020	1,000,000.00	599,603.34	240,000.00	3,500.00
13	Judicial Medical Officer and Institute of Toxicology, Colombo 10	MH/PB/CL/13/2020	300,000.00	72,384.10	29,000.00	3,500.00
14	General Hospital, Kalutara	MH/PB/CL/14/2020	1,000,000.00	1,887,346.33	755,000.00	12,500.00
15	National Hospital for Respiratory Diseases, Welisara	MH/PB/CL/15/2020	1,000,000.00	1,151,439.67	461,000.00	3,500.00
16	Teaching Hospital, Kantale	MH/PB/CL/16/2020	300,000.00	694,147.50	278,000.00	3,500.00
17	Colombo North Teaching Hospital, Ragama	MH/PB/CL/17/2020	1,000,000.00	2,538,739.73	1,016,000.00	20,000.00
18	Lady Ridgeway Children's Hospital, Colombo 08	MH/PB/CL/18/2020	1,000,000.00	3,115,370.46	1,247,000.00	20,000.00
19	Leprosy Hospital, Hendala	MH/PB/CL/19/2020	500,000.00	163,800.00	66,000.00	3,500.00
20	Public Health Building Complex (Other institutions including Anti Malaria Campaign)	MH/PB/CL/20/2020	300,000.00	190,309.09	77,000.00	3,500.00

Ser. No.	Name of Hospital	Tender No.	Value of Assets Certificate (Rs.)	Value of Credit Facilities (Rs.) (or not below)	Bid Security (Rs.)	Bid Document Fee (Rs.)
21	National Blood Transfusion Service, Narahenpita	MH/PB/CL/21/2020	300,000.00	295,819.51	119,000.00	3,500.00
22	National Institute for Non Infectious Diseases, Angoda	MH/PB/CL/22/2020	500,000.00	1,189,464.04	476,000.00	3,500.00
23	Teaching Hospital, Anuradhapura	MH/PB/CL/23/2020	1,000,000.00	3,761,503.60	1,505,000.00	20,000.00
24	Dental Hospital, Peradeniya	MH/PB/CL/24/2020	500,000.00	273,296.90	110,000.00	3,500.00
25	Teaching Hospital, Peradeniya	MH/PB/CL/25/2020	1,000,000.00	1,040,040.00	417,000.00	3,500.00
26	General Hospital, Polonnaruwa	MH/PB/CL/26/2020	1,000,000.00	3,169,048.77	1,268,000.00	20,000.00
27	General Hospital, Nuwara Eliya	MH/PB/CL/27/2020	1,000,000.00	2,375,000.00	950,000.00	12,500.00
28	National Centre for Nephrology Dialysis and Kidney Transplant, Maligawatta, Colombo 10	MH/PB/CL/28/2020	300,000.00	458,216.53	184,000.00	3,500.00
29	National Programme on Veneral Diseases and AIDS Control	MH/PB/CL/29/2020	300,000.00	103,994.30	42,000.00	3,500.00
30	Oral Health Institute, Maharagama	MH/PB/CL/30/2020	300,000.00	221,506.10	89,000.00	3,500.00
31	Base Hospital, Kalmunai (North)	MH/PB/CL/31/2020	300,000.00	2,025,005.63	811,000.00	12,500.00

- Duly perfected bids may either be sent by registered post addressed to 'Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee "C1", Ministry of Health, (New Building), 2nd Floor, No. 26, Sri Sangaraja Mawatha, Colombo 10' or deposited in the Tender Box kept at the Office of the Additional Secretary, (Procurement), 2nd Floor, New Building, Ministry of Health or handed over to receive before 10.00 a.m. on 13.10.2020. The caption 'Provision of Cleaning Services for theHospital/Institute for Year 2020/2021' should be mentioned on the left hand top corner of the envelope containing the bid. Late bids will be rejected.
- Separate bids should be submitted for each institution for the provision of cleaning services to the Hospitals and Institutions under the Ministry of Health and the original of the required documents may be submitted with one bid and the certified copies may be submitted with other bids.
- Bids should be in duplicate in separate covers marked 'original' and 'duplicate' and submitted, reinserted in a single envelope.
- Bids will be received up to 10.00 a.m. on 13.10.2020 at the Office of the Additional Secretary (Procurement), 2nd Floor, New Building, Ministry of Health, No. 26, Sri Sangaraja Mawatha, Colombo 10. Bids will be opened immediately after closing of bids and the bidder or his authorized representative may be present at the time of opening of bids. For further details, please call the Additional Secretary (Procurement). (Tel. Nos. 011-2112713, 011-2112717)
- Procurement Committee reserves the right to accept or reject relevant bids in full or part thereof.

Chairman
Ministry Procurement Committee "C1"
Procurement Division
Ministry of Health, (New Building)
Second Floor,
No. 26, Sri Sangaraja Mawatha,
Colombo 10.

Daily News

Classifieds



SG BIB-2102 Honda Navi, 2017, motorcycle for highest offer. Vallibel Finance PLC, No.310, Galle Road, Colombo-03. Tel: 0711 210810. 055832



SG BHQ-8911 TVS NATORA, 2019, motorcycle for highest offer. Vallibel Finance PLC, No.310, Galle Road, Colombo 03. Tel: 0711-210810. 055828

Repeat Your ad For Better Offers

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

ATTANAGALLA PRADESHIYA SABHA

It is hereby kindly notified that the closing date of acceptance of bids / quotations in procurement notice as given in the newspaper advertisement of Dinamina, in its page 27, published on 11.09.2020, pertaining to calling quotations for the purchase of materials, required for the "Sisu Diriya" programme, to be conducted by the **Attanagalla Pradeshiya Sabha** is to be amended as 30.09.2020.

Chairman, Attanagalla Pradeshiya Sabha.

AUCTION SALE OF UNREDEEMED PAWNED ARTICLES

The Ambalangoda Multipurpose co-operative Society Limited, being the representative of the People's Bank, shall sell by Public Auction the articles pawned at their Batapola, Gonapinuwala, Aluthwala, Meethiyagoda, Ambalangoda, Karuwalabedda, Nindana, Thilakapura Rural Banks up to 31st December 2018 inclusive of that date and yet unredeemed as at 09th October 2020 Ambalangoda head office premises of the Ambalangoda Multipurpose Co-operative Society Limited of following address commencing at

10th, 11th, 17th October 2020 at 9.00 a.m.

General Manager, Ambalangoda M.P.C.S. Ltd., 264, Main Street, Ambalangoda.

T.P. 091-2258220/091-2254729

2020.09.19

UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Internal & External Repainting Work of Girls' Hostel "B" & "C" at University of Moratuwa

Contract/Bid No.: UM/CWS/MD/CIVIL/2019/41

- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee on behalf of the University of Moratuwa now invites sealed bids from eligible & qualified bidders for **Internal & External Repainting Work of Girls' Hostel "B" & "C"** at University of Moratuwa as described below:
Location of Project:
The Premises of the University of Moratuwa, Katubedda, Moratuwa.
The construction period is 150 Days. Approximate Cost Estimate is LKR. 6.9 Million (excluding VAT and Contingencies).
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure. However, limited to the bidders who are registered within the administration boundary of the Western Province.
- To be eligible for the award of the contract, the successful bidder shall not have been black listed and shall be registered in the Building Construction Field Grade C7 or higher OR Specialized field of Floor, Wall & Ceiling Finishes (FW&C) Grade SP4 or higher grade with the Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA), valid until the date of award.
- Qualification requirements to qualify for awarding the contract include:
 - Average of the annual volume of construction work performed in the last three years shall be at least LKR. 25,000,000/-.
 - Experience in similar nature and size of works to a value of LKR. 7,000,000/- or above in one contract, either in Public Sector or Private Sector over the last 3 years.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information **SAR Capital Works & Services (Tel: 011-2651594)** and any specific technical information of the job from **Works Engineer, Maintenance Division of University of Moratuwa, (Tel: 0112-650042)** and may inspect the bidding documents at the office of the **Capital Works & Services Division, University of Moratuwa, Katubedda, Moratuwa** from 10.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. until 09.10.2020.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English Language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the **Senior Assistant Registrar, Capital Works & Services Division, University of Moratuwa, Katubedda, Moratuwa** in the office hours between 9.00 a.m. & 3.00 p.m. from 23.09.2019 to 09.10.2020 upon payment of a non-refundable fee of LKR. 2,800/-. The method of payment will be in cash.
- Bids shall be delivered in duplicate and placed in the box available at **Senior Assistant Registrar, Capital Works & Services Division, University of Moratuwa, Katubedda, Moratuwa** at or before 2.30 p.m. on 15.10.2020. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend. Alternative Bids shall not be accepted.
- Bids shall be valid up to the date of 13.01.2021.
- All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security of LKR. 118,000/- valid up to 10.02.2021.
- Pre-bid meeting will be held at 10.00 a.m. on 09.10.2020 at **Capital Works & Services Division, University of Moratuwa**. Please note that it is necessary to purchase bidding documents before participating at the pre-bid meeting.

The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, University of Moratuwa, Katubedda, Moratuwa.

The Housewives' companion Classifieds on Daily News

UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Supply and Installation of Permanent Air-Conditioner units with Power Supply of the affected classrooms in the Department of Transport & Logistics Management

Contract/Bid No.: UM/CWS/MD/ELECT/2019/09

- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee on behalf of the University of Moratuwa now invites sealed bids from eligible & qualified bidders for **Supply and Installation of Permanent Air-Conditioner units with Power Supply of the affected classrooms in the Department of Transport & Logistics Management** as described below:
Location of Project:
The Premises of the University of Moratuwa, Katubedda, Moratuwa.
The construction period is 90 Days.
The type of Air-Conditioners are Split Inverter type.
Approximate cost estimate is LKR 5.6 million (excluding VAT and contingencies).
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure. However, limited to the bidders who are registered within the administration boundary of the Western Province.
- To be eligible for the award of the contract, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall be registered in the Specialized field of Electrical Installations Grade EM4 or higher OR Specialized field of Mechanical Ventilation and Air-Conditioning (MVAC) for grade EM4 or higher, with the Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA), valid until the date of award.
- Qualification requirements to qualify for awarding the contract include:
 - Average of the annual volume of construction work performed in the last three years shall be at least LKR. 34,000,000/-.
 - Experience in at least 5 projects in the design, installation, commissioning of similar nature with same or higher capacity AND at least one contract among them with a contract value of LKR 5,600,000.00 (annual) or above in Sri Lanka during last 3 years.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from **SAR Capital Works & Services (Tel: 011-2651594)** and any specific technical information of the job from **Works Engineer, Maintenance Division of University of Moratuwa, (Tel: 0112-650042)** and may inspect the bidding documents at the office of the **Capital Works & Services Division, University of Moratuwa, Katubedda, Moratuwa** from 10.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. until 09.10.2020.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English Language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the **Senior Assistant Registrar, Capital Works & Services Division, University of Moratuwa, Katubedda, Moratuwa** during office hours from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. from 23.09.2020 to 09.10.2020 upon payment of a non-refundable fee of LKR. 2,500/-. The method of payment will be in cash.
- Bids shall be delivered in duplicate and placed in the box available at **Senior Assistant Registrar, Capital Works & Services Division, University of Moratuwa, Katubedda, Moratuwa** at or before 2.30 p.m. on 15.10.2020. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend. Alternative Bids shall not be accepted.
- Bids shall be valid up to the date of 13.01.2021.
- All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security of LKR. 96,000/- valid up to 10.02.2021.
- A pre-bid meeting will be held at 10.30 a.m. on 09.10.2020 at **Capital Works & Services Division, University of Moratuwa**. Please note that it is necessary to purchase bidding documents before participating at the pre-bid meeting.

The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, University of Moratuwa, Katubedda, Moratuwa.



Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

Ministry of Wildlife and Forest Conservation

Department of Wildlife Conservation

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Provision of Cleaning Service to the Head office of the Department of Wildlife Conservation 2020/2021

WL/02/20/CL.SER/2020/2021

Sealed bids are invited from eligible and qualified bidders for the provision of Cleaning Service for the year 2020/2021 to the Head Office of Department of Wildlife Conservation under National Competitive Bidding procedure.

- Information on providing cleaning service is included in the bid documents and if required could be inspected at the office and submit Bids.
 - The relevant company should possess the business registration to maintain a cleaning institute and an experience exceeding 10 years and should be in the process of providing similar services for at least ten (10) years to other institutes by the date of submitting of Bids.
 - It should be proved through documentary evidence that services not less than Rs. 300,000.00 per month and not less than Rs. 3,600,000.00 per year have been provided during past 03 years and audited finance reports for the preceding 03 years should be forwarded to establish that it is a reputed firm with financial stability.
 - The institute should have at least a cadre of 25 persons by this time and it should be proved by documents of Employees Provident Fund.
 - Bid documents could be inspected upto 12.10.2020 from 9.00 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. at the Finance Division of the Department of Wildlife Conservation and Bid documents could be purchased on submission of a written application on a letterhead to the Director General, Department of Wildlife Conservation and upon payment of a non refundable fee of Rs. 1,500.00 to the Shroff of the department.
 - A Bid security of the value of Rs. 50,000.00 should be submitted along with procurement documents and it could be obtained by a commercial bank approved by the Government or should be paid to the Shroff of Department of Wildlife Conservation by cash before 2.00 p.m. on 12.10.2020. Bids without the bid security will be rejected.
 - The bid security should be valid at least for 90 days from the date of opening of Bids.
 - Perfected bid documents inserted in two separate covers as original and duplicate and both enclosed in one sealed envelope having the contract name & number marked on the top left hand corner should either be sent to reach the following address by registered post or deposited in the tender box kept at the Finance Division of the Department of Wildlife Conservation before 2.00 p.m. on 13.10.2020. Bids will be opened at 2.00 p.m. the same day and bidders or their authorized representatives could be present at the time.
 - Further details should be had from the Deputy Director (Finance) of the Department through telephone No. 0112-871537.
- The Department Procurement Committee reserves the right on making decisions over the bids and the Director General of the Department of Wildlife Conservation holds the right to decide over procurement work mentioned or not mentioned in this notice.

The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee will not be responsible for any cost incurred in the preparation of bid documents.

Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, Department of Wildlife Conservation, No. 811/A, Jayanthipura Road, Battaramulla.



Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

Ministry of Wildlife and Forest Conservation

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

INVITATION OF BIDS

- Sealed bids are invited by the Chairman, Departmental Procurement Board of the Department of Wildlife Conservation from pre qualified bidders for the following works.

Bid No	Procurement No.	Name of Work	Engineering Estimate (Without VAT) (Rs. In Millions)	ICTAD Registration	Non Refundable Bid Fee (Rs.)	Value of the Bid Security (Rs.)
01	WL/02/20/T-01-2020	Repairing the Okanda Wewa at the Kumana National Park	6.7	C 7 or Above (Irrigation)	2,500/-	101,000/- Should be valid up to 27.01.2021

- Bids will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
- Interested bidders may inspect bid documents free of charge at the Accounts Division of the Department of Wildlife Conservation, Battaramulla between 9.00 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. on government working days up to 13.10.2020.
- Bid documents are prepared in English language and may be obtained up to 13.10.2020 between 9.00 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. on submission of a written request to the Director General of Wildlife, Department of Wildlife Conservation and the Original of the ICTAD Registration Book upon payment of the non refundable fee to the Shroff of the department.
- Interested bidders should submit bids after inspecting the relevant project site.
- If the abovementioned bid security is submitted by a bank guarantee, it should be to the value mentioned above valid up to the date mentioned in the table and should have been obtained from a government recognized commercial bank. If the bid security is paid in cash, it should be paid to the Shroff of this department and the copy of the receipt obtained should be attached to the bid. Bids without the bid security will be rejected. PCA 03 Certificate obtained upon registration with the Department of Registrar of Companies under Public Contract Act No. 03 of 1987 should be submitted with the bid and the bids without the PCA 03 Certificate will be rejected.
- Duly perfected bids in duplicate in separate sealed covers as Original and Duplicate, should be reinserted in a single cover, sealed mentioning the name and number of the contract on the left hand top corner of the envelope and may either be sent by registered post to the address given below or deposited in the bid box kept at the Finance Division of the Department of Wildlife Conservation to receive before 2.30 p.m. on 14.10.2020 and the late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened at 2.30 p.m. on the same day (14.10.2020) and the bidder or his authorized representative may be present at the time of opening of bids.
- Further details regarding the bid may be obtained from the Deputy Director (Finance) of this Department by calling Tel. No. 0112-871537. Departmental Procurement Board reserves the right to take decision on the bid and the Director General of Wildlife reserves the right to take decisions on matters regarding this bid process that are mentioned or not mentioned in this notice or in the bid documents.
- Chairman of the Departmental Procurement Committee is not responsible for any costs incurred in the preparation of bids.

Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee, Department of Wildlife Conservation, No. 811/A, Jayanthipura Road, Battaramulla.

**42ND OBSERVER MOBILTEL SCHOOL CRICKETER - 2020
AWARD CEREMONY**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FROM
EVENT CO-ORDINATORS**

LPA/08/2020

The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited together with Mobitel will be organizing the above event and we request proposals from reputed and experienced event co-ordinators to provide the following:

- * Total Event Management (excluding venue and refreshment charges).
- * Lighting, sounds and acts.
- * Stage setting, backdrop, digital screens and related equipment for BMICH.
- * Compering (Male & Female).
- * Provide high res video, 3D video, programming and live playback.
- * 6 to 7 Acts with dancing troops, Sinhala, Tamil, English and Hindi

Please submit your proposals covering the above requirement, including the details of previous events handled in a sealed envelope marked "Proposals for Event Co-ordinators" on the top left — hand corner to the undersigned on or before **28th September 2020**. Details of previous events handled could be submitted in a CD form.

Further information could be obtained from 011 2429257.

The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Ltd. reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers without assigning any reason what so ever.



**Head of Procurement
THE ASSOCIATED NEWSPAPERS OF CEYLON LIMITED
No. 35, Lake House,
D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha, Colombo 10.
011-2429422 / 451 / 257**

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

**Purchase of Equipment needed for the
Disabled / Difenrently abled persons - 2020**

Uva Provincial Department of Social Services

Sealed bids are hereby invited by the Chairman, Procurement Committee, of the Uva Provincial Department of Social Services from Local Manufacturers, Suppliers and Importers for the Purchase of undermentioned equipment, required for the Disabled / Differently abled persons.

Serial No.	Category	Required Quantity expected to Buy (purchase)	Refundable bid security deposit (Rs.)		Non refundable bid form fees (Rs.)
			In Cash (1%)	Bank guarantee (2%)	
01	Ordinary Wheel Chairs	100	25,000.00	50,000.00	3,000.00
02	Wheel Chairs with Commodes	75			
03	Tricycles	05			
04	Spectacles (Eye glasses)	1350	50,000.00	100,000.00	2,500.00
05	Hearing aids (Audio equipment)	50			
06	Armpit (elbow) Crutches / Hand Crutches (Supports)	125	30,000.00	60,000.00	3,500.00
07	Walking supports / aids / walkers / walking sticks	50			
08	Adjustable foldable rollaters	on demand as / according to the requests			
09	Artificial limbs and electrically operated limbs (Hands & legs)	as per the request / demand	30,000.00	60,000.00	3,500.00
10	Air Mattresses / Water Mattresses	50			

02. Bidding documents (forms) could be obtained by the interested bidders, on production of the receipt obtained for the payment of the required fees (in Sri Lankan valid currency only), as described in the schedule / table above, during office hours, from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. on working days, paid to the Uva Provincial Director of Social Services.

Bidding documents will be issued, and bids are accepted / entertained and opened as follows:

- Issue of Bid forms** : at the Uva Provincial Department of Social Services, R.H. Gunawardena Mawatha, Badulla from 23.09.2020.
- Acceptance of Bids** :- Bids should either be sent by registered post addressed to the Uva Provincial Department of Social Services, or deposited in the tender box kept at the Department of Social Services, Uva Province to be received on or before 2.00 p.m. on 14.10.2020.
- Opening of Bids** :- Bids thus received will be opened immediately after the closing of bids, at the Department of Social Services, Uva Province at the following address at 2.00 p.m. on 14.10.2020.

Further details, in this regard, could be had, visiting at the Uva Provincial Department of Social Services, R.H. Gunawardena Mawatha, Badulla or contacting over the telephone No. 055-2230787 and 055-4934905. The decision of the Procurement Committee, of the Department of Social Services, Uva Province, Badulla, will be the final and binding with regard to the matters pertaining to this bid of purchasing equipment for the disabled / differently abled persons.

**R.H.C. Priyanthi,
Acting Director of Social Services**

**Department of Social Services,
Uva Province,
R.H. Gunawardena Mawatha,
Badulla.
22.09.2020**

BE BETTER INFORMED! News you can trust now free on your mobile phone.



Visit - apps.lakehouse.lk

DOWNLOAD TODAY!



**OBSERVER
JOBS**

**BREAKING
BOUNDARIES**

**THE COUNTRY'S
LARGEST
RECRUITMENT
DATABASE**

**FOR
JOBSEEKERS**

www.observerjobs.lk

To Buy Your Dream Vehicle within your Budget

If it is a vehicle you want,

**YOU NAME IT,
WE HAVE IT**



**THE ONLY PLACE TO
BUY YOUR
DREAM CAR!**

erodua Viva Elite 2013
White, Manual Gears, Alloy wheels, Original Fog Lamp, Crystal Headlight, Central locking with Remote Key, Power Shutters, Power Mirrors, Reverse Sensors, Original Carpets, Power Steering, Second Owner, Home use.
077 7 657 40



- Auto Focus

- Vehicle Rent / Wanted

**ADZ Magazine Issued with
Sunday Observer**

Hot Line - 011 2 429 369/ 011 2 429 368

E-mail - adzsu@gmail.com

Toyota CR41 TownAce
4 seat, A/C, C/Lock, 4 door, Alloy, in very good condition, C/lights, rotating seat, highest offer.
E1xxxxxx 9997

Toyota KB42, JK
Alloy Wheel, Adjust seats, 3C Engine, Air conditioned, Full Opti Door 0775 xxxxxx

- Photo Classifieds

- HOUSES**
- LANDS**
- COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES**
- APARTMENTS**

Sunday Observer



- Buy & Sell**
- Rent or Lease**
- Wanted**

HOUSE & PROPERTY

SECTION



**ADZ magazine Issued with
Sunday Observer**