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## Gazette notification to protect people - Pavithra

By Nadira Gunatilleke

Everything has been done to protect Sri Lankans from Covid-19. Issuing the Gazette notification is a part of this process, Health Minister Pavithra Wanniarachchi said. According

to Minister Wanniarachchi, imposing the Rs.10,000 fine and six months imprisonment for not following Covid-19 health guidelines as per the Gazette notification is not aimed at making people face hardships. ▶ TO PAGE 2



## GRANTING FRANCHISE RIGHTS TO LANKANS OVERSEAS MULLED

# PSC TO REVISE ELECTION LAWS

By Manjula Fernando

A Parliament Select Committee (PSC) will be appointed shortly to revise outdated election laws and explore the possibility of granting franchise rights to Sri Lankans overseas.

Election Commission spokesperson and Director Channa de Silva said the Prime Minister endorsed the idea of a Select Committee to look into issues and needs in the sector when Election Commission representatives met him

at Temple Trees on Friday. Chairman Mahinda Deshapriya said that the revision of the electoral law is a must to keep abreast with the new challenges and also to make it compatible with the changes contemplated in the strategic plan of the Election Commission.

A Select Committee under the chairmanship of former Minister Thalatha Athukorala too deliberated on granting franchise rights to expatriate workers, which had been a longstanding demand by workers during the last

Parliament. With the dissolution of Parliament the term of this Committee expired, the Election Commission spokesman said.

The Prime Minister's office in a media release also stated that the Premier pledged to propose a Select Committee in Parliament when Election Commission officials met him to discuss their strategic plan.

The Committee is expected to delve into the laws for campaign financing, deposits for political parties running for

elections and overseas voting.

The other matters discussed included expanding postal voting for sectors other than those which are already permitted, updating the electoral register every three months so that young voters can exercise their franchise rights soon after attaining 18 years.

Laws to facilitate specially equipped polling centres for the differently-abled and the need for a gradual transition towards electronic voting were also discussed at length, he said.

## Thirty-six quarantine law violators arrested

By Aanya Wipulasena

Thirty-six quarantine law violators were arrested yesterday increasing the total number to 203, a police media spokesman told the *Sunday Observer*.

This is a sequel to the health authorities, police and Tri-Forces continuing to control the spread of

Covid-19 to the community.

Health Minister Pavithra Wanniarachchi told the media yesterday that the country has still not reached a community spread, and since the country is not under a lockdown it cannot be guaranteed.

She said the newly detected cases are ... ▶ TO PAGE 2

## Archbishop challenges Riyaj's petition



By Wasantha Ramanayake

A petition was filed on behalf of Archbishop Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith in the Appeal Court on Friday challenging Riyaj Bathiudeen's petition that sought to prevent his possible re-arrest in connection with the Easter Sunday bomb attacks.

Rev. Fr. Lawrence Ramanayake, Director Seth Sarana - Caritas, the social action arm of the Colombo Archdiocese, filed the petition seeking to intervene in the petition filed by petitioner Riyaj Bathiudeen, the brother of former minister and parliamentarian Rishad Bathiudeen. ▶ TO PAGE 2

### Night curfew in France for one month



French President Emmanuel Macron tells the nation of the new steps, he hopes will help curb the spread of the Coronavirus as France imposed a night curfew in Paris and eight other main cities from last night to curb the spread of the Coronavirus. The night curfew daily is from 9 pm to 6 am the following day for at least four weeks. The world's international financial capital London was set to enter a tighter Covid-19 lockdown from midnight on Friday as Prime Minister Boris Johnson seeks to tackle a swiftly accelerating second Coronavirus wave. [Courtesy: www.dw.com](https://www.dw.com)

## JOURNO FOUND NEGATIVE IN SECOND TEST

# ITN CEO decries attempt to take political mileage

By Rajitha Jagoda Arachchi

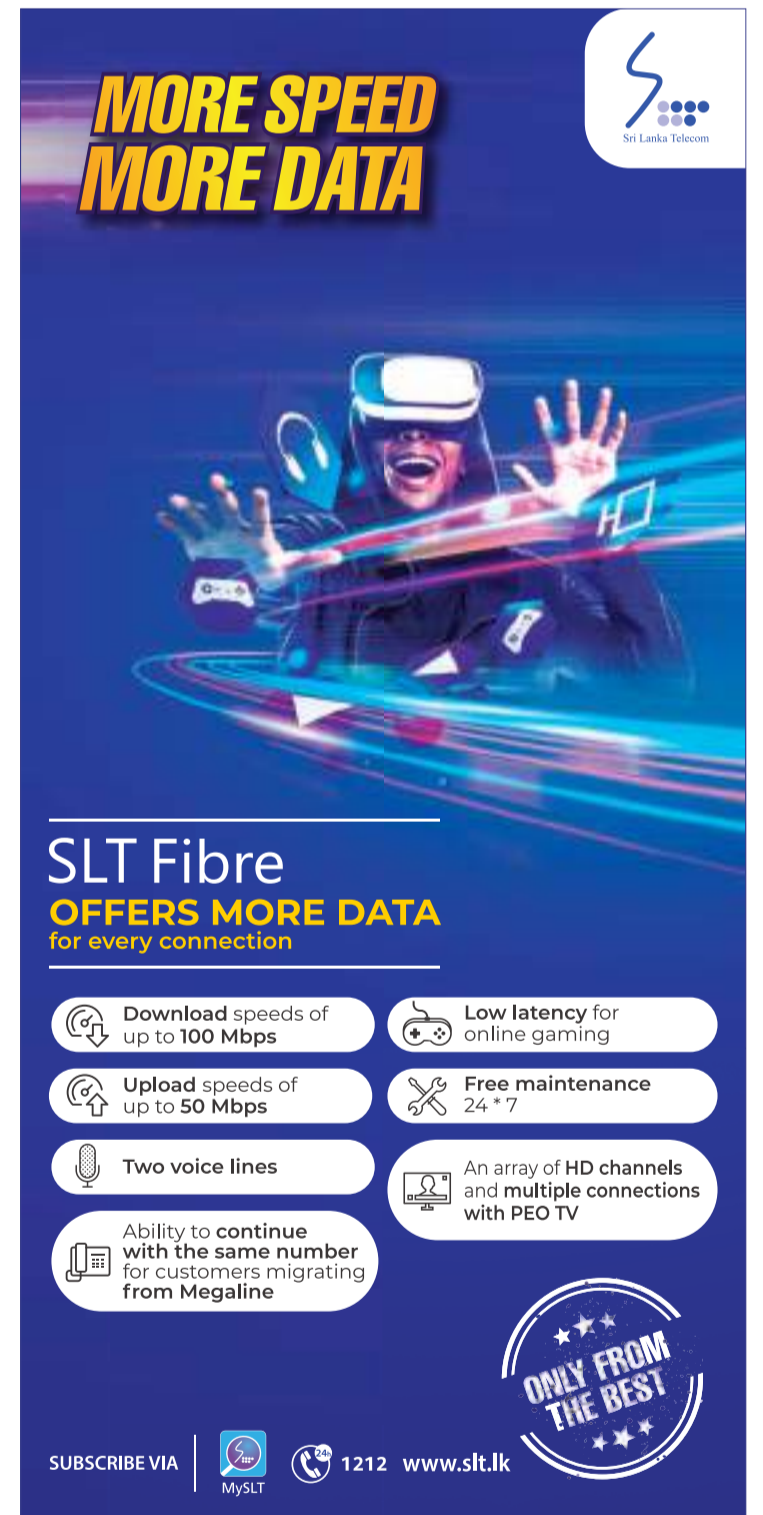
Chief Executive Officer of ITN Nalin Kumara Nissanka accused certain political parties of trying to gain cheap publicity and political advantage following an Independent

Television Network (ITN) journalist being tested positive for Covid-19 during a random PCR test conducted in the ITN premises.

The UNP in a media release on Friday called upon the government to hold an inquiry into the allegation that the state journalist had covered

press conferences while awaiting results of a Covid-19 test.

He told the *Sunday Observer* yesterday that the test was not done on suspicion but it was only a random test. He decried the irresponsible behaviour of social media and rumour mongers. ▶ TO PAGE 2

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## News

# Commonwealth Foreign Affairs Ministers' Meeting

## Dinesh calls for advancing e-commerce and e-governance

Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena leading the Sri Lanka delegation to the 20th Virtual Commonwealth Foreign Affairs Ministers Meeting (CFAMM) on the sidelines of the 75 UN General Assembly on October 14, called for innovative thinking, collective and integrated strategies to address the multi-dimensional and cross cutting challenges in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Highlighting that e-commerce and e-governance would define the competitive edge of countries in the post Covid-19 world, Minister Gunawardena called for assistance to advance digitalisation of economies and services within Commonwealth member states.

He cited Sri Lanka's experience of conducting the first tea and rubber auctions via a digital platform, while the country also remained the first in South Asia to adopt international standards for digital transactions. He proposed mobilising scientific and technical expertise and knowledge in



Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena addressing the 20th Virtual Commonwealth Foreign Affairs Ministers Meeting

the Commonwealth towards research related to Covid-19. The Foreign Minister highlighted the partnership between the University of Sri Jayewardenapura and Oxford University in sharing expertise and knowledge acquired in immune responses in people to dengue infection, to understand immune responses to Covid-19 infections.

Minister Gunawardena said the unprecedented and adverse economic and social impact induced by the crisis on countries, underlined the urgent need for debt relief, loan repayment moratoriums and financial stimulus to ease difficulties.

He said that Sri Lanka planned to reduce 30 percent of GHG emissions by 2030 and move towards a

resilient and cleaner future with low carbon economic growth by transitioning to hydro, solar and wind power. He underlined the need to identify the barriers, risks and potential opportunities for scaling-up climate finance for small states, including Sri Lanka.

The meeting was chaired by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and First Secretary of State of the United Kingdom, Dominic Raab MP, as Commonwealth Chair-in-Office. The CFAMM, which traditionally takes place on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, was held virtually this year amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Sri Lanka delegation to the virtual CFAAM included Foreign Secretary Admiral Prof. Jayanath Colombage, Sri Lanka's High Commissioner to the UK Saroja Sirisena and Dhammika Semasinghe, Director General, European Union and Commonwealth of the Foreign Ministry.



### New envoys meet Prime Minister

Four newly-appointed Sri Lankan envoys call on Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa at Temple Trees yesterday.

Ambassador designate to China Dr. Palitha Kohona and Ambassador-designate to Japan Sajiv Gunasekara, Permanent Representative-designate

of Sri Lanka to the United Nations in New York Mohan Peiris and Permanent Representative-designate of Sri Lanka to Geneva C.A. Chandraprema paid a courtesy call on the Prime Minister yesterday afternoon. The newly-appointed envoys will depart to take up their postings shortly.

## Mihindu Parinirwana national ceremony on October 23

The *Mihindu Parinirwana* national ceremony will be held at Mihintale on October 23, under State patronage to mark the 2280th anniversary of Arahath Mahinda Thera's parinirvana (passing away). It is organised under the auspices of Mihintale Raja Maha Viharadhipathi Ven. Dr. Walawhangunuwe Dhammarathana Nayaka Thera.

The Airforce will shower jasmine flowers on the Mahaseya and Mihintale precincts, while President Gotabaya Rajapaksa will lay the founda-

tion stone to mark the inauguration of renovation work on the Maha Seya.

A series of pinkamas under the auspices of Ven. Kiribathgoda Gnanananda Thera, the founder of the Mahamewuna Asapuwu and 1,000 bhikkhus will be held till 10.00pm on the same day. The ceremony will be telecast by the Shradha Rupavahini.

Restoration work will also include Mihindu Cave, the road leading to the cave, dharmashala, shrine room and Mihintale Seya.

## No Sunday Masses for two weeks

Archbishop Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith in consultation with the Auxiliary Bishops has decided to cancel all Sunday Masses in the Archdiocese for the next two consecutive Sundays in view of the Covid-19 pandemic in the country, said Archbishops House Administration Secretary Rev. Fr.

Deninton Subasinghe. Daily Masses, wedding Masses, funeral services and other services will be permitted with a limited congregation.

The health authorities in the area should be consulted for guidelines to avoid risk and confusion, he said.

## NIE, Maharagama temporarily closed

The National Institute of Education (NIE) at Maharagama has suspended its services temporarily until further notice due to Covid-19.

The NIE, in a media release, said that the direct line 011-7601601 will be open for the public to make inquiries regarding services re-

quirements.

The statement added that the website 'www.nie.lk' will be available to download teacher's guides, the youtube channel 'Channel NIE' to view and download educational programs and the facebook 'Channel NIE' for the information.

## Debate on 20th Amendment on October 21 and 22

BY UDITHA KUMARASINGHE

The Committee on Parliamentary Business chaired by Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana on Friday has decided to take up the debate on the 20th Amendment to the Constitution in Parliament on October 21 and 22 from 10.00am to 7.30 pm.

The Supreme Court determination on the 20th Amendment will be announced by the Speaker on October 20. The decision of the Supreme Court on the 20th Amendment has been conveyed to the President and the Speaker.

Parliament sources said that some Opposition lawmakers asked for a four-day debate on the 20th

Amendment Bill, but finally it was decided to hold the debate for two days. The round of questions for oral answers will not be held during these two days.

A vote on the 20th Amendment Bill will be taken at the end of the debate with amendments to be introduced at the third reading of the Bill. The third reading of the Bill will be taken on October 22 at 7.30 pm.

The Government needs a two-thirds majority in Parliament to get the Bill passed.

The Draft Bill of the 20th Amendment to the Constitution was tabled in Parliament by Justice Minister Ali Sabri on September 22.

## Archbishop challenges... From page 1

Rev. Fr. Ramanayake in his intervention petition filed through his attorneys, Sanjeewa Jayawardena PC and Rukshan Senadheera stated that Riyaj was attempting to avoid his possible arrest and investigations on his alleged involvement in the Easter Sunday terrorist attacks.

He stated that the petitioner was a prime suspect in the terrorist attacks, brutally and senselessly massacring 259 people, and leaving some 500 people maimed, disabled and injured. He stated, among other things, that Riyaj is alleged to have received several phone calls from one of the suicide bomb attackers and met one of them at a hotel in Colombo before the attacks.

The Archbishop had expressed his strongest disapproval and gravest concerns over the sudden release of the petitioner as an innocent person from the custody of the Criminal Investigation Department who was arrested five months ago for being in contact with a terrorist group, Rev. Fr. Ramanayake stated.

He stated that Riyaj, moving to obtain preferential treatment and immunity, in respect of the other suspects, in the face of compelling evidence on his culpability is not only an attempt to thwart the on-going investigations, but also would amount to a grave breach of national security and sought to dismiss Riyaj's petition.

## TELE CINEMA VILLAGE NEEDS A FACELIFT



BY RAJA WAIIDYASEKERA, TISSAMAHARAMA CORR

Buildings at the Ranminitena Tele Cinema Village, Hambantota, are on the verge of destruction due to non maintenance by the the previous Government.

Dr. Sunil Ariyaratna said that he produced films, including Kusapaba Paththini, Yasodara and Vijayabakollaya at the Ranminitena Tele Cinema Village. He said during the previ-

ous regime, the Tele Cinema Village was left abandoned, adding that the Government has taken steps to give a new lease of life to the Village. Veteran actor Ravindra Randeniya, who was appointed chairman of the Tele

Cinema Village, said that several foreign films were produced in the Village.

He said that the previous regime tarnished the image of the Tele Cinema Village saying that it was a white elephant.

## Thirty-six quarantine... From page 1

...directly linked to the Minuwangoda Brandix cluster but called upon the public to follow health protocols to tackle the spread.

The authorities also took steps yesterday to shut down the Colombo Port partially after two workers of the dockyard tested Covid-19 positive.

The Government this week issued a Gazette notification on Covid-19 preventive regulations giving the authorities the green light to fine and imprison those who violate health protocols including wearing masks and maintaining a one metre distance between two people in public areas. (See page 7 for Gazette notification)

Accordingly, the authorities could slap a fine of Rs. 10,000 or sentence a person to six months in prison if found guilty.

The law ensures that employees and people entering workplaces wear face masks and body temperature is checked before entering the premises, and that hand washing and sanitising facilities are provided. Another requirement is to maintain the name, identity card number and contact details of every person entering an institution or a workplace.

Drivers and conductors of public buses have also been called

upon to maintain health protocols as the country aggressively tries to neutralise the new cluster of Covid-19 patients, the biggest number recorded to date with active cases reaching 1,956 yesterday noon, and 9,415 undergoing quarantine in 86 centres of the Tri-Forces, according to the National Operation Centre for Prevention of Covid-19 Outbreak.

Police arrested over 30 for violating curfew regulations on Friday, and this brings the number to 203 arrested.

The total number of active cases includes 71 overseas returnees receiving treatment in hotels, and 1,885 employees of the Minuwangoda Brandix facility and their close contacts. The breakdown of the new cluster by yesterday noon is as follows; 1,041 Brandix employees and 860 close contacts of these employees.

The total number of patients reported by 2pm yesterday was 5,353 including the 110 patients detected on Friday (16) who were all from the Minuwangoda Brandix cluster, and 1,538 overseas cases. Thirteen people died after contracting the virus. Health authorities conducted 7,675 PCR tests on Friday and were awaiting results from 673 tests. So far,

374,448 PCR tests have been conducted across the island since the outbreak.

The new cluster was reported simultaneously as the last patients of the previous cluster from the Sri Lanka Navy were discharged from hospitals. A female worker was tested positive on October 4 and that led to the detection of other patients, mostly asymptomatic.

Chief Epidemiologist Dr. Sudath Samaraweera said she may not have been the first case and warned that the newly detected patients had a virulent strain of the virus attack that can be highly contagious.

Since the outbreak, patients were detected from over 20 districts, mostly middle-aged and older people. The authorities imposed curfew in areas where most of the patients were traced.

A spokesperson for the Health Ministry, Dr. Jayaruwan Bandara told the media that their approach to contain the virus this time remains the same as before, which was to trace, isolate and provide swift treatment to patients.

A spokesman for the National Medicines Regulatory Authority (NMRA) on Friday said it had warned a leading private hospital in Colombo after it sold essential

medicines at a higher price than the prescribed maximum retail price.

The authorities imposed a lockdown in six villages in Rambukkana after two Covid-19 patients were found. Shops, restaurants and pharmacies will remain closed today in curfew-imposed areas, Police Media Spokesman DIG Ajith Rohana said.

This week under the *Saubagya* Covid-19 Renaissance Facility, the government approved Rs.178 billion of credit given to Covid-19 affected businesses surpassing its Rs. 150 billion limit. The credit is given through commercial lenders by the Central Bank.

Phase I of the Loan Scheme was implemented from April 1, 2020, the Central Bank stated in a press release adding that both Phase II and III of the Loan Scheme were introduced from July 1, 2020.

"The aim of these schemes was to provide Rs. 150 billion as working capital loans at an interest rate of 4 per cent per annum. These loans enjoyed a repayment period of 24 months, including a grace period of six months. The recipients were businesses, including self-employment and individuals, adversely affected by the Covid-19 outbreak," it added.

## Gazette... From page 1

The objective is to protect people from the virus. 'I was not happy to sign the Gazette but I had to do it on behalf of the people. Covid-19 has not reached the fourth level (community spread) yet in Sri Lanka', she said.

Community spread means Covid-19 patients are there in many parts of the country without an origin. But still there is an origin/link for all patients in the country. It is easy for the health authorities and others to control this virus under lockdown, similar to the past but people would suffer without an income if the country is locked down again, she added.

## ITN CEO decries attempt... From page 1

"Following the report of the first Covid-19 patient in Minuwangoda on October 3, the ITN management called upon the health authorities to conduct PCR tests on the 42-member ITN crew who participated in the Savanak Res TV program telecast from Minuwangoda on October 1.

Forty-two members of the media team had the PCR tests conducted and

40 other ITN members including the Chairman, General Manager and I voluntarily faced the test. However, one member of this group was found positive in the first report," Nissanka said.

Taking swift action, the management of the state media institution had isolated the employee and had conducted PCR tests of 30 close contacts of the employee.

"But we had doubts about the test result, since the particular employee did not show any symptoms whatsoever.

Therefore, we conducted a second test, which revealed that the employee had not been infected by the virus," the CEO said. All 30 contacts of the journalist were also found negative.

He said, "We as a responsible state

media institution, took maximum measures to prevent the Covid-19 spread in our work environment. We were the first media institution in the country to introduce disinfection rooms for those entering the premises.

We continued our services with one-fourth of our staff from March this year to comply with social distancing guidelines of the health authorities.

PCol on Easter Sunday attacks

# Blame game continues

Terror victims await justice

BY MANESHKA BORHAM

As the proceedings of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry on the Easter Sunday attacks continues to draw to a close, several key persons of the former government gave evidence before the Commission this week. Among them was former Prime Minister and Leader of the United National Party (UNP) Ranil Wickremesinghe. Providing evidence on two consecutive days the former Premier admitted the former government led by him should take collective responsibility for the terror attacks which took place on April 23, 2019.

Appearing before the Commission Wickremesinghe said that the security apparatus of the country had collapsed by the time the attacks took place. He said as a result the former government should collectively bear the responsibility for the attacks. Wickremesinghe also revealed that he was not called to attend Security Council meetings since October 2018, giving a glimpse of the conflicts within the government at the time. When asked by the Additional Solicitor General if there were conflicts within the government, Wickremesinghe denied it and said conflicts only occurred when appointments were being made.

Also providing evidence before the Commission this week was Former President Maithripala Sirisena. The Former President told the Commission that he believes the Easter Sunday attacks could have been prevented if steps had been taken. Sirisena blamed the officials who had failed to take action and said they should be responsible for the attacks and the ensuing carnage.

Suspects

The former President this week was also questioned by the Commissioners about the release of two of the four suspects, arrested during the CID raid on Wanathawilluwa terror training camp on January 16, 2019. Sirisena said that the person who recommended the release of the suspects should be held responsible for this.

However, the Commissioners then informed the former President that he had signed the documents releasing them to which Sirisena replied that he would sign a large number of documents brought to him by the CID and the Ministry of Defence and that it was not possible to check each one individually.

When asked by the Attorney General's Department representative whether it was not the responsibility of the Head of State to ensure the safety of the citizens, Sirisena in response said terrorist attacks take place in many countries of the world and leaders are not held responsible for all of them. Sirisena was then asked about a report submitted by the State Intelligence Service (SIS) on October 23, 2018 about 120 persons who held Islamic State (IS) ideologies.

According to the former President, the document was discussed at the Security Council meetings and instructions had been given and they should have acted on the instructions given.

The former President also noted that the former Director of the State Intelligence Service (SIS) Senior DIG Nilantha Jayawardena made a serious error by not informing him of the intelligence information received on April 4, 2019 which had warned of a possible terror attack.

According to Sirisena, he had instructed Jayawardena to personally inform him of any possible threats to national security. Sirisena said Jayawardena had been told at the Security Council to make him aware of matters relating to the underworld, drug trafficking and other threats to national security. The former President admitted before the Commission that he was in constant contact with Jayawardena.



St. Anthony's shrine Kochchikade after the Easter Sunday attacks



Former President Maithripala Sirisena and former Premier Ranil Wickremesinghe arrive at the PCoI on Easter Sunday attacks

While at a previous Commission hearing former Secretary of Defence Hemasiri Fernando had claimed Sirisena had offered an ambassadorial post to former IGP Pujith Jayasundara if he takes full responsibility for the attacks, when asked about it this week Sirisena claimed it was not true. Instead, Sirisena told the Commission he said he would give him such a post when he embarrassed himself by dancing at the Kandy Perahera. "I told the IGP to resign as his behavior did not suit an IGP. This happened way before the Easter Sunday attacks," he said.

Fernando giving evidence previously had also said the former President had told Jayasundara to remove CID investigator IP Nishantha Silva after a security council meeting the then Chief of Defence Staff Ravi Wijegunawardena lodged a complaint against the CID officer.

Sirisena told the commission that Silva had conducted most of

this investigations to please certain NGOs that are affiliated with the LTTE. When asked, Sirisena had instructed former IGP Pujith Jayasundara to transfer Silva to a National Security Council (NSC) meeting, Sirisena said he had received several complaints about investigations initiated by Silva against Buddhist monks, military and intelligence officers.

Decision

Jayasundara had then sent a letter to the National Police Commission stating that the decision to transfer was 'in accordance with instructions received at the National Security Council'. Sirisena said that this shouldn't have been revealed. He then said as a result the former IGP was uninvited for future security council meetings by him.

The Commission also asked Sirisena about several telephone

calls between Jayawardena and the former President's official residence on April 20, 2019. Jayawardena had made two telephone calls to the former President's residence at 7.59 a.m. and 8.01 a.m. The former President said that he was told that there had been several bomb blasts and that a large number of people had been killed. However, it was pointed out to Sirisena that the bomb blasts had not taken place at the time of these calls. Sirisena said that he may have not received the telephone calls in the morning.

He said he was abroad and can remember his call about an attack.

The Former President appeared before the Commission on Saturday (17) for the fourth consecutive day.

## Dr. Ruwan Gamage President SL Library Association



Newly elected Chairman Dr. Ruwan Gamage lights the oil lamp

The 60th Annual General Meeting of the Sri Lanka Library Association and the Advanced Diploma Certificate award ceremony was held recently at the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute. Acting Vice Chancellor of the University of Sri Jaywardenepura, Senior Professor Sudantha Liyanage graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.

Office bearers for the coming

year were also elected on this day and the Acting Director of the University of Colombo, Dr. Ruwan Gamage was unanimously elected as the President and the rest of the officers were elected by the members.

Immediate Past President of the Association, Dr. Nayana Wijesundera and several other distinguished members attended the event.

## Veteran actress Anula Bulathsinhala is no more

Veteran actress Anula Bulathsinhala passed away on Friday (October 16) at the age of 73 while receiving treatment at the Sri Jaywardenepura Hospital.

Anula Bulathsinhala was popular for her numerous acting roles in Sri Lankan cinema, teledramas and stage dramas. She was also an accomplished singer. She is well known for her roles in Sinhala movies *Bawathra* (2005), *Asandimitta* (2018) and *Nil Diya Yahana* (2008).

Her songs such as *Deekiri Deekiri*, like *Thattu Karanna* and *Bundun Wadina Me Dathin Wedala Kiyannam* are highly popular among local audiences.

Anula Bulathsinhala is the wife of veteran playwright, poet, stage



drama producer and lyricist Lucien Bulathsinhala. Her funeral was held at the General Cemetery, Colombo yesterday.

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- Mr. Peter Mayadunne - Director, Deakin International, Sri Lanka Country Office
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# Govt in all out battle to control spread of Covid-19

## State Minister Dilum Amunugama



By  
**Uditha Kumarasinghe**



State Minister of Vehicle Regulation, Bus Transport Services and Train Compartments and Motor Car Industry Dilum Amunugama said the Government has taken all possible steps to control the Covid-19 situation and Health authorities are trying their utmost to trace the last contract of every patient. In an interview with the *Sunday Observer*, the State Minister said the Government hopes it will be able to get the pandemic under control soon. Even if it is brought under control, perhaps there will be another cluster growing up in another place and it will be the same situation. This is the worldwide scenario and we may have to learn to live with it.

**Q: The Catholic Bishops' Conference has said that the 20th Amendment should not be proceeded with, in its entirety, and what the country needed is a new Constitution. What is your comment on this?**

A: The Catholic Bishops' Conference says exactly what we are saying. We also want to abolish the 19th Amendment and go back to the 18th Amendment and introduce a new Constitution. The only way to do that is to bring the 20th Amendment, there is no other way. That is why we don't wish to add pluses and minuses to 20A. Even Government lawmakers wish to add various features to the 20A draft. We don't need to do that at this particular time because soon after the 20A, we will go for a new Constitution. They can propose those salutary features at that time. If we try to add those features now, it would be like trying to draft a new Constitution in a couple of weeks.

That is not practical. At present, our main objective is to abolish the 19A. What is happening at the Presidential Commission on Easter Sunday attacks makes it clear that more than the terrorist attack, the cause for that disaster was the 19th Amendment. All churches and bishops need to understand this. This is a good example to show that we don't need the 19A.

**Q: Even some Opposition lawmakers question why the 20A is introduced without going for a new Constitution in a year?**

A: President Gotabaya Rajapaksa was elected to office for five years. One year has already elapsed. A new Constitution cannot be drafted within two months. It would take another year to draft a new Constitution.

The President will then have only three more years. We can't wait for another year to start work. We have to

commence work on behalf of the people and they want us to fulfil that task immediately. Therefore, a new Constitution can be introduced while work is in progress. If we try to carry on for another year without abolishing the 19A, it will be another year with no work done.

**Q: SLPP parliamentarian Dr. Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe has said that the nine-member expert committee couldn't fulfil the aspirations of the President and the people so that a parliamentary select committee should be entrusted with the task of drafting a new Constitution. Your comments?**

### FACT-FILE Dilum Amunugama



State Minister of Vehicle Regulation, Bus Transport Services, Train Compartments and Motor Car Industry

1981	Born in Kandy to a reputed political family. Primary and secondary education at Trinity College, Kandy. He is the nephew of former Cabinet Minister of Public Administration and Home Affairs and Deputy Minister of Finance and planning and Parliamentarian Dr. Sarath Amunugama.
2010	Elected to Parliament from Kandy district under United People's Freedom Alliance (UPFA)
2015	Re-elected to Parliament from Kandy district under United People's Freedom Alliance (UPFA)
2020	Re-elected to Parliament from Kandy District under Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) at the General Election on August 5, 2020 securing the highest number of preferential votes, 171,758 in the Kandy District
Aug, 2020	State Minister of Vehicle Regulation, Bus Transport Services, Train Compartments and Motor Car Industry in the Cabinet of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa

Source: Internet, Graphic: Mahil Wijesinghe

A: That could be done. The nine-member expert committee was appointed not to draft a new Constitution, but to seek the views of the people, organisations and NGOs regarding the new Constitution. We need a high protocol parliament select committee to look into this. There should be constitutional experts in the committee to study the present Constitution and come up with the initial draft which will be first debated within the Government parties and then with the Opposition and thereafter arrive at a final conclusion.

**Q: The Opposition tries to portray that the Government is not in a position to pass the 20A in Parliament with a two-thirds majority?**

A: That is not their business. No Government MP or a constituent party in the Government has said they are against the 20th Amendment. Certain constituent parties in the Government and some others have intimidated their personal ideas to be included in the 20A. All these suggestions are good.

But they should realise that we should first abolish the 19th Amendment and then go ahead with their ideas on the new Constitution. There will be debates and statements on the 20A. At the end of the day, we will vote as a team. As a team we voted for the 19th Amendment knowing well that it could be a disaster for the country. So why should Government members vote against 20A which was drafted by us.

**Q: The present Government had to take over a country with an economy which had suffered a severe setback due to the mismanagement of the former Yahapalana Government. Once again the economy has been adversely affected due to the Covid-19 outbreak. What are the Government's plans to rebuild the economy?**

A: We have already implemented financial strategies and managed to stop the depreciation of the rupee. At least it is not falling anymore. While trying to stabilise the rupee, 'you cannot eat the cake and have the cake'. There are shortages such as not importing vehicles and various other items. However, I would say our recovery strategy is successful as the rupee is not depreciating anymore.

Within one year, the Government's recovery strategy has been good amid the Covid-19 pandemic. We knew that Covid-19 would have an adverse impact on the economy.

However, the damage caused to the economy by the 'Yahapalana virus' was much worse than the Covid-19. We have to move on and that is what we plan to do. We are trying to start local production. There is nothing else to do than take advantage of the Covid-19 situation that has flooded the world. When our neighbouring coun-

tries are at their worst due to Covid-19, we have started to do something economically beneficial for the country. Unfortunately, we too have been hit by the Covid-19, though we hope to recover soon.

We need a new budget for the New Year, to carry out the development drive and restructure certain institutions. All that will be done at the beginning of 2021.

**Q: Another Covid-19 cluster has emerged and what are the steps taken by the Government to address the situation?**

A: The Government has taken all possible steps to control the situation. We are trying to trace the last contract in all cases. On the previous occasion, the largest cluster was the Navy cluster but it was restricted to one camp. Unfortunately, Brandix has its workers scattered throughout the country. Though they work in one factory, they lodge mostly in the same places so that the contract rate is high.

We hope to get it under control soon. Even if it is brought under control, there could be another cluster growing up in another place and it would be the same situation, perhaps. This is the worldwide scenario and we may have to learn to live with it.

**Q: Will the Government go for a total lockdown within the next few days depending on the situation?**

A: I don't think we should go for a lockdown at this juncture. Although the total number of Covid-19 infected cases is around 5,000, most of them have returned to their homes now. Actually, the number of cases is something close to 3,000. Some have tested positive for Covid-19 while some are recovering and are discharged from hospitals.

The death rate has dropped to a low level. For example, if we go for a total lockdown for one month and open the country again, there is the possibility of growing up another cluster somewhere. But if we need to go for a lockdown, we have to do it.

The health sector says the situation is not so bad.

As the State Minister of Transport, I have been talking to them daily and asking them whether we should stop public transport as it is a risky area which could lead to a large spread of the Covid-19. They say we need not go for a total stop of public transport yet.

**Q: Some complain that the Government has failed to bring the Treasury bond scam culprits to book. Your views?**

A: Certainly it has to be done. However, a court decision is awaited. The Government can bring them down from any country they are living at present. We have done that before with the terrorists. We can do the same with anyone else.

**BUT THEY SHOULD REALISE THAT WE SHOULD FIRST ABOLISH THE 19TH AMENDMENT AND THEN GO AHEAD WITH THEIR IDEAS ON THE NEW CONSTITUTION. THERE WILL BE DEBATES AND STATEMENTS ON THE 20A. AT THE END OF THE DAY, WE WILL VOTE AS A TEAM.**

**Q: What are your views on the ongoing investigations by the Presidential Commission on the Easter Sunday attacks?**

A: The proceedings of the Commission show that the main reason which led to that disaster was lack of coordination and mismanagement among the President, the Prime Minister, Police, Security Forces and the intelligence services. This happened due to the 19th Amendment.

The proceedings of the Commission are remarkably good as they have been able to go into matters in detail. There will be a final verdict issued, and whoever is responsible will have to be brought before the law. There will be two parties, one the terrorists who carried out the attacks and the other, those irresponsible in the political sector.

**Q: Over 100 Government MPs have made a written request to the President to re-arrest and conduct a fresh probe on former Minister Rishad Bathiudeen's brother Riyaj Bathiudeen in connection with the Easter Sunday attacks. Could you explain?**

A: Whatever the information we received was through the comments made by the police. It was shocking to hear the same police spokesman reverting and saying there is no evidence whatsoever even to proceed

with the case. It was the police which made a comment at one time that this person was involved in this incident.

Even the evidence given by former Army Commander Mahesh Senanayake and the statement by the then police spokesman said this person was deeply involved.

Government MPs have handed over a letter to the President requesting to conduct a fresh probe into this incident. I think someone should inquire why this has happened at the CID as well.

**Q: Some SJB parliamentarians try to portray the arrest of former Minister Rishad Bathiudeen as a political witch-hunt. Is there any truth in this?**

A: You can call it whatever you like, political or non-political. But it is clear that bombs were exploded at churches and hotels and close to 400 injured and dead.

There is no one in jail now responsible for this terrorist attack. When such an incident happens, there should be at least someone in custody.

This is a country where nearly 400 people were killed despite intelligence warnings but no action taken and no one is in custody up to now.

Some are appearing before the Presidential Commission and merely giving evidence. Unfortunately, none has claimed responsibility for this tragedy so far.

## Examined life of Sri Lankan youth

By  
**Dr. Thilhan U. Hewage**



The following is an extract of the text from a news item in the evening newscast of one of the TV channels on Sunday, October 11, 2020. "The Grade five scholarship examinations were held today under strict health regulations. 331,694 candidates sat the exam in 2,936 centres across the island. All students in quarantine will have special facilities where their answer scripts would be collected separately. Five students receiving treatment at the National Institute of Infectious Diseases (IDH hospital) sat the exam at the hospital premises, invigilated by an official of the Department of Examinations. The Examinations Department stated that all centres for the scholarship and Advanced Level examinations have been disinfected and are, therefore, safe. Students and the staff members are all advised to wear face masks conforming to safety regulations.

The Ministry of Education stated that, it is the responsibility of everyone in society to ensure that the mental peace of these children sitting the examinations is not disturbed enabling them to perform without stress, during

this pandemic situation." Some videos of children lined up to wash hands and parents breaking all the safety regulations and crowding the entrance to the centres were shown with these statements.

This may sound soothing and comforting to the viewer at first glance but if one could think a bit deeper into these statements one would jump out of that comfort zone in no time. Irrespective of the strength and accuracy of the disinfectant procedures followed, assuring the safety of the people at exam centres is not humanly possible since this virus has been known to survive in the air long enough and enter the human body through even the eyes.

### Mental peace

It is good if everyone in society takes the responsibility of ensuring the mental peace of the children sitting these examinations not just on the day of this exam but everyday of their lives. Most of these Grade five students have been attending tuition classes for at least one whole year in preparation for the exam.

Most of the students sitting the Advanced Level examination these days also have started their 'memorisation for exams' a marathon from Grade three, four or five. If any of them watched the news item about the scholarship exam, they would probably have



gone down memory lane and reminisced their experiences. They might even have felt happy about their survival through the barrage of examinations they had to face over the eight years since their scholarship exam. On the contrary, even if any of the Grade five students saw the same news item they may not have had any idea about what was said about the Advanced Level exams starting the next day and/or how much of mental peace they are going to lose within the next eight years of their lives.

The fact that one has to face an examination / evaluation, as a student, an employee or as a patient at a hospital, itself usually creates a significant amount of mental stress even under the best of circumstances. One can only imagine the level of mental ago-

ny children would be going through when they have to face examinations on which their whole future, in some cases the future of their whole family depends while fearing an invisible enemy who might kill them or one of their family members. There can be different ways to look at the reasons for and the methods of evaluating the knowledge or the level of performance of an individual in the field of education and in the work environment. Whichever way one tries to analyse it, the following three questions would help form the basis for such analysis:

i) Why have we become a nation who has no shame in shackling our youth to these heavy weights of 'high-stakes examinations'?

ii) Have we, as a nation, achieved what we expected from these exami-

nations? iii) After sending our youth through all these examinations and filtering have we ended up with a group of adults who are highly knowledgeable and capable of serving the nation and the rest of the world with pure intentions? If the answer to this last question is 'yes' then, of course we should continue what we have been doing with even more examinations. But, if the answer is 'no' we should examine the answer to question ii.

If the answer to that is 'yes' it means we have achieved what we expected from this system of examinations yet our adults are not really knowledgeable and also not capable of serving the country with pure intentions. We would then have to seriously examine what our expectations have been for torturing our youth with such a stressful life filled with examinations. If the answer to question ii is 'no' we should certainly find out the reason for not achieving what we have expected through these exams. That means we should be prepared to change these examination methods and/or the expectations we have by conducting such a system.

### Examinations

Governments around the world had to make similar decisions about the examinations/evaluation methods of their schoolchildren and of their

university students. Some countries cancelled all the exams altogether for the whole year, some postponed and held them when the threat of the virus went down and others postponed and have not rescheduled yet due to the second wave of the pandemic. Sri Lankans were on the right track with a gradual decrease of the infected numbers when these two main examinations were scheduled for October. Unfortunately, we let our guard down at some point letting the virus creep in again creating this situation with no other option but to conduct the exams before the end of the year.

If we didn't have the scholarship exam those children cannot get into better schools that they have been dreaming of and not having the Advanced Level exam this year would delay the adult life of the students leaving school.

Therefore, this may be a good time to explore the answers to question i) and try to find ways to reduce the importance given to such examinations and also to introduce legitimate procedures of continuous assessment at every level so that the evaluation can be done even if an examination had to be cancelled.

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

# Repatriation of migrant workers to resume soon

—By—  
Aanya  
Wipulasena



Repatriation of migrant workers is due to resume by the end of this month or early November as the Government has made available enough spaces and beds for the returnees to quarantine, the Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment (SLFBE) spokesman, Mangala Randeniya said.

Nearly 48,000 migrant workers are awaiting to return to the country since repatriation flights were temporarily suspended after a new cluster of Covid-19 patients were found early this month.

The Bureau expects more people awaiting repatriation to register in the future.

## Health situation

Speaking to the media, the Director General of East Asia at the Foreign Relations Ministry Kandeepan Balasupramaniam said, the decision was made after weighing the ongoing health situation in the country after the identification of the Minuwangoda cluster which has reached over 1,800 cases.

The Government's decision came days after it said that flights will not be cancelled.

An official of the Foreign Ministry also said that flights bringing stranded Sri Lankans will be re-

stricted, depending on the capacity of the quarantine centres and hospitals as the authorities try to manage the new cluster.

## Domestic situation

"The domestic situation is not favourable for returnees, but we are hoping to bring them down soon. The Government has allocated several quarantine spaces and beds for the returnees," Randeniya said.

Migrant workers number up to 24 per cent of the country's labour force and make up 33 per cent of the total foreign exchange remittances, and 8.3 per cent of the GDP, with most of these migrant workers working as low skill migrant workers in Middle Eastern countries.

## Employers

Randeniya said that the SLBFE has made several requests to employers through foreign missions to retain or re-employ the workers.

"These discussions are at a satisfactory level. Countries such as Qatar, UAE, and Saudi Arabia have agreed to this," he said.

Some workers whose contracts have expired were given the opportunity to apply for the program to find other work in the countries they are residing in.

However, many migrant workers are stranded overseas with no place to go.

The situation was made worse when the Embassies in Kuwait and Qatar closed temporarily after employees contracted the

**MIGRANT WORKERS NUMBER UP TO 24 PER CENT OF THE COUNTRY'S LABOUR FORCE AND MAKE UP 33 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL FOREIGN EXCHANGE REMITTANCES, AND 8.3 PER CENT OF GDP, WITH MOST OF THESE MIGRANT WORKERS WORKING AS LOW SKILL MIGRANT WORKERS IN MIDDLE EASTERN COUNTRIES**

virus. Some have even resolved to sleep in parks after losing their jobs and accommodation due to the pandemic.

Their issues keep mounting as they are made to pay for a mandatory PCR test despite having no funds to find shelter or food.

According to statistics from the SLFBE, 68 Sri Lankan migrant workers have died overseas due



Expat workers at check-in counters at the BIA

to Covid-19. This includes 31 in Saudi Arabia.

## Compensation

The Government also initiated a program to give compensation up to Rs. 500,000 to families of migrant workers who died after contracting Covid-19. The payment will be made to families which have submitted

their claims to the Bureau. Fourteen families have already made claims for the compensation and the documentations have been submitted by the SLBFE to the Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation to proceed with the payments. The families included those of nine workers who died in Saudi Arabia, four who succumbed to the virus in Kuwait and one other in Dubai. A source said

that this compensation is paid to registered workers of the SLBFE, who died due to Covid-19 according to the Insurance Agreement for Migrant Workers entered between the Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment and the Sri Lanka Insurance Corporation.

A further Rs. 40,000 is paid for each family to conduct the final rites for the deceased person.

## Attorney-at-Law Ganesh R. Dharmawardana new Public Trustee



Minister of Justice Ali Sabry PC presents the appointment letter to Attorney-at-Law Ganesh R. Dharmawardana

Attorney-at-Law Ganesh R. Dharmawardana has been appointed as the new Public Trustee of Sri Lanka. The letter of appointment was handed over to him by the Minister of Justice, Ali Sabry PC at the Ministry of Justice on October 12, 2020.

He has 25 years of experience as an Attorney-at-Law and has served as the

Deputy Public Trustee. He has also been an Advisor to the Public Trustee.

Attorney-at-Law Ganesh R. Dharmawardana has served as the Director General of the Commission to Investigate Bribery or Corruption (CIABOC) and has also held the post of Additional Secretary, (Legal) to the Prime Minister.

## CSE scholarship for biz journalists

Following the successful completion of its second intake in 2019 the Advance Diploma in Financial Markets (ADFM) offered by the Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE) is set to commence its third intake on October 24.

In the intake the CSE has decided to offer media personnel who structure content on financial markets a scholarship opportunity to help them better understand financial markets and help strengthen financial journalism in the country.

The manner in which information is articulated impacts financial instruments and the movement of its value which has been long debated in the financial literature space. This largely depends on the channels and the ways in which the information is presented and communicated. The way in which information is shaped and delivered to investors can lead to completely different financial outcomes.

The ADFM was implemented in response to a growing demand for an entry-level academic qualification to enable greater knowledge on financial markets, with a specific focus on capital market operations and investment. This course which includes key concepts and constituents of market operations now being made available through a scholarship to media institutions would help them structure content with a better understanding on how material would impact investment decisions and its consequences.

The course conducted in English will be carried out for nine months by an eminent lineup of lecturers and industry experts including senior CSE professionals to offer unique insights on modules.

The course which consists of 10 modules provides students with a comprehensive understanding of financial markets and focuses on areas such as capital market



regulation, investment analysis, portfolio management, macro-economics and other related subject matters. The modules will be evaluated through quizzes, assignments, open book exams and presentations.

Commenting on the initiative CSE Head of Marketing Niroshan Wijesundere said "The course will pave the way for its students to apply theoretical knowledge while gaining a unique level of exposure into financial market operations."

"We have seen a growing interest in this qualification offered by us and we are very much encouraged by the positive feedback received. The opportunity made available for media institutions around the country to follow the ADFM program is a part of our efforts to strength financial literacy in the country which currently stands at 35%," he added.

This qualification is recognised by the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) and Certified Management Accountants (CMA) providing ADFM completed students an accelerated route to secure one of these globally recognised qualifications. CSE will also be providing internship opportunities at the exchange to top performers at this course. More information can be obtained via [www.cse.lk](http://www.cse.lk) or by calling 011 2356514.



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News Feature

# Two-day debate on 20A

● Vasu questions CIABOC's credibility ● Maithripala says political cohabitation, a mismatch

The Party Leaders' meeting on Friday has decided to debate the 20th Amendment to the Constitution in Parliament on October 21 and 22. Heated arguments had arisen between Government and Opposition lawmakers regarding the 20A debate at the Party Leaders' meeting chaired by the Speaker at his Parliament office on Friday.

Finally, it had been decided to hold a two-day debate on 20A in Parliament on October 21 and 22 from 10.00am to 7.30pm. However, the Opposition's request for a three-day debate had been rejected by Government lawmakers. Leader of the House Minister Dinesh Gunawardena and Chief Government Whip Minister Johnston Fernando had said that two dates can be allocated for the debate on the 20A.

Minister Gunawardena said, "only two days had been given even to debate the 19th Amendment in Parliament." Chief Opposition Whip Lakshman Kiriella said, "The 19th Amendment was brought with the consent of all political parties. The UNP had only 42 MPs, but all other MPs extended their support to pass the 19th Amendment. The 19A was discussed six or seven times at parliamentary committees. However, there is no consensus on the 20A and the Opposition is opposed to it. The Government even deprived the opportunity to discuss 20A in parliamentary committees. In a situation where coronavirus is spreading in the country, it is against the tradition to debate an issue, such as 20A in Parliament."

SJB Parliamentarian Ranjith Maduma Bandara also endorsed the point raised by MP Kiriella. This had led to a heated exchange of words between Minister Gunawardena and MP Kiriella.

### CIABOC's lethargy

Water Supply Minister Vasudeva Nanayakkara told the media that he will soon meet Attorney General Dappula de Livera to inform him of the lethargy displayed by the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption (CIABOC) and its failure to probe complaints, pertaining to acts of large scale fraud and corruption, lodged by the then Joint Opposition (JO) against 10 Ministers of the previous United National Front-led regime.

He said that he was still perturbed as to why the Commission had not probed the complaints lodged with it by the then JO Parliamentarians regarding 10 Ministers of the previous Yhapalana Government. He said that certain officers of the Commission and Police had engaged in a witch hunt against the former JO MPs who had lodged the complaints, rather than investigating the complaints.

Nanayakkara said that there was no positive response from the Commission when he asked the Commission about the complaints lodged by the former JO MPs. The Minister added that if the Commission continues to adopt a lukewarm attitude towards the complaints, the Government would need to think about the formation of a body, such as the Criminal Justice Commission to inquire into complaints. He said that he will soon brief the President, the Prime Minister and the Cabinet of Ministers on the situation at the CIABOC.

Former President Maithripala Sirisena said on October 12 at the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) investigating the Easter Sunday attacks that former Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe was a political devil and the former Yhapalana Government was akin to a mismatched nuptial knot. He told the



### University of Politics

By Prof. Backbencher



Commission that disputes arose between him and Wickremesinghe within the first week of establishing the Yhapalana Government. The former President said within the first week, Wickremesinghe wanted to appoint Arjuna Mahendran as the Governor of the Central Bank.

"I wasn't happy because Mahendran was a citizen of Singapore. Wickremesinghe insisted that Mahendran was the ideal person. Since I also did not want to create a conflict within a week of coming to power, I let it happen," Sirisena said. The

ex-President said that the relationship further deteriorated after he appointed the Presidential Commission of Inquiry to investigate the Central Bank Treasury Bond Scam. Sirisena said that he prevented several officials, including former IGP Pujith Jayasundara, from attending the National Security Council (NSC) due to issues in their conduct.

### People's aspirations

Minister Janaka Bandara Tennakoon said that once a Government is formed and portfolios are obtained, some forget the past. "We should not fall to such a level," he said. The Minister told a meeting at Dambulla that the Government is moving forward despite issues. "As there are many people's expectations, no room should be given to shatter them," he said. The Minister said, "We should act according to the hopes and aspirations of the people who voted and elected us. We should move forward by understanding the pulse of the people."

UNP senior John Amaratunga has said that if he is not given the UNP National list slot, he is getting ready to quit politics. Amaratunga had informed UNP Leader Wickremesinghe that it is not the tradition of the UNP to appoint defeated candidates from its National List. Amaratunga's name is listed first in the UNP National List. The UNP, which faced a humiliating defeat at the last General Election, secured only one National List slot. Even though two months have elapsed following the election, UNP Leader Wickremesinghe has failed to nominate a representative to the UNP National List slot.

There are media speculations that

Minister Mahinda Amaraweera will soon be elected as the new Leader of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) with the blessings of the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP), the ruling party. Amaraweera serves as the Senior Vice President of the SLFP. The goodwill between the SLPP and the SLFP is being maintained through Amaraweera, with his efforts to keep balance against disagreements. He also favours the recently proposed 20th Amendment to the Constitution.

### Relief packages

Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa said that the Government should offer relief packages to workers and families in the areas affected by the second wave of Covid-19 which has struck over 1,600 people. Premadasa, in a statement on October 15, said that the second wave is due to the negligence of the Government. He said large swathes of the populated Gampaha district are under Police or quarantine curfew, while factories and businesses are closed and many people's livelihoods have been affected.

"The Government is not taking measures to help those affected economically by this wave. It is only interested in increasing its power," Premadasa said. He said that daily wage earners were the worst affected. The Government must provide relief in the form of cash grants and dry rations, he said.

The Cabinet meeting chaired by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa was held at the Presidential Secretariat on October 12 at 5.00pm. It had laid emphasis on the third wave of Covid-19 in the country. Health Minister Pavithra Wanniarachchi had briefed the Cabinet of Ministers on the Co-

vid-19 situation in the country. The Minister had told the Cabinet that the health authorities have taken all possible measures to take the Covid-19 situation under control. The President had said that health authorities and security forces are trying their level best to control the third wave of Covid-19. The President said, "I am confident that we would be able to control this third wave in a similar way we managed to control the first and second Covid-19 waves. We need the support of the people in this regard."

### Economic hardships

Minister Prasanna Ranatunga has told the President that the majority of the people who live in curfew imposed divisional secretariat areas in the Gampaha district have faced economic hardships. Minister Ranatunga said, "It would be more appropriate if Rs.5000 allowance could be given to them."

Members of the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) have criticised SLPP Parliamentarian Dr. Wijeyadasa Rajapakse's remarks on the 20th amendment. Maharagama Urban Council SLPP member Kanthi Kodikara told the media, "I feel he made these statements as a result of not receiving a position that he hoped to receive."

She said the leaders of the country must be given strength instead of being pulled backwards. SLPP Avissawella organiser Atorney-at-Law Ravindra Jayasinghe said that people, such as Rajapakse do not have the right to comment on such matters. "Some persons did not witness how the SLPP was built at the grassroots," Jayasinghe said. Moratuwa Mayor Saman Lal Fernando has said that he hoped Rajapakse to be at the forefront in bringing the 20th amendment.

### Letter to President

Three prominent Bhikkhus have written a five-page letter to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa raising concerns about the 20th Amendment to the Constitution. The letter has been jointly written by Ven. Bengamuru Nalaka Thera, Ven. Muruttettuwa Ananda Thera and Ven. Elle Gunawansa Thera. Three Bhikkhus in their letter submitted to the President have urged him to reconsider the decision to ratify the proposed 20th Amendment to the Constitution, introducing amendments before passing it. They have stated that the 20th Amendment to the Constitution creates an arbitrary executive and a weak Cabinet. The three Bhikkhus had said if the new Bill is

INDIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER TO SRI LANKA GOPAL BAGLAY AND PRIME MINISTER MAHINDA RAJAPAKSA DISCUSSED SEVERAL PROJECTS AND POSSIBLE COOPERATION IN NEW SECTORS



### Yhapalana Government

enacted, it would prevent the masses from legally challenging any unconstitutional move by the Government.

SJB Parliamentarian Rajitha Senarathne said that the attempts to arrest Rishad Bathiudeen and his brother are politically motivated. "We can clearly see what's going on here. Riyaj Bathiudeen was released and 100 Government MPs filed a petition against it. He was released after an investigation. Has even one of those MPs read the investigation reports?" Senarathne asked. He said, "The Government is using this situation for their political gain. Some religious leaders made remarks on the suspect being released and then 100 Government Ministers filed a petition. Now, the suspect who was released after an investigation is again deemed a suspect. The Police Spokesman who spoke about evidence against Riyaj Bathiudeen was transferred to Kankasanthurai and the Director of the CID was also transferred. This is playing to a political audience."

SJB Parliamentarian Kabir Hashim on Thursday told the PCoI probing the Easter Sunday attacks that Muslim Ministers who served in the former Yhapalana Government resigned without supporting the no-confidence motion brought against Rishad Bathiudeen after the Easter Sunday attack, not to protect him, but to protect the UNP Government.

The former Minister, testifying before the Commission, said that he did not support Rishad Bathiudeen during the no-confidence motion realising that if he had supported him, he would have not been able to return to his native area. MP Hashim said so in response to a question raised by the representative from the Attorney General's Department as to why all Muslim Ministers in the former Yhapalana Government resigned together, after the Easter Sunday attack. He said, "At that time, I was the Chairman of the UNP. The Opposition brought a no-confidence motion in Parliament against Rishad Bathiudeen alleging his involvement in the Easter Sunday attack, but it was against the Government." He said if the UNP Ministers voted in favour of the no-confidence motion, it would have affected the Government and the stability of the country at that time.

### India-Sri Lanka ties

Indian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka Gopal Baglay called on Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa at Temple Trees on Thursday and discussed several projects and possible cooperation in new sectors. The primary purpose of the High Commissioner's visit was to follow-up on the virtual summit that was held between Prime Minister Rajapaksa and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi last month. Both leaders have expressed satisfaction on the virtual summit, which was the first virtual engagement of Rajapaksa since resumption of office as the Prime Minister. One priority sector for Prime Minister Rajapaksa is water and sanitation.

The High Commissioner noted several areas on which the two countries could collaborate, including water requirements in schools, sanitation, rainwater harvesting, building of toilets in underdeveloped areas and a project that could convert sewage into fertiliser. Prime Minister Rajapaksa said that the lack of safe drinking water in certain parts of the country is the main concern, including the role it plays in chronic kidney diseases. This is a key priority for the Government, he said.

High Commissioner Baglay spoke of the possibility to collaborate with Prime Minister Modi's "Jal Jeevan Mission" (Water for Life Mission), which is the Indian Government's program that aims to provide potable water for every household.

Prime Minister Rajapaksa said that the lack of drinking water is a serious problem in the dry zone of Sri Lanka. The Prime Minister also requested Indian assistance for the pharmaceutical sector.

HEALTH AUTHORITIES HAVE TAKEN ALL POSSIBLE MEASURES TO TAKE THE COVID-19 SITUATION UNDER CONTROL - HEALTH MINISTER PAVITHRA WANNIARACHCHI



THE FORMER YAHAPALANA GOVERNMENT RESIGNED WITHOUT SUPPORTING THE NO-CONFIDENCE MOTION BROUGHT AGAINST RISHAD BATHIUDEEN AFTER THE EASTER SUNDAY ATTACK, NOT TO PROTECT HIM, BUT TO PROTECT THE UNP GOVERNMENT - KABIR HASHIM

THERE ARE MEDIA SPECULATIONS THAT MINISTER MAHINDA AMARAWEEERA WILL SOON BE ELECTED AS THE NEW LEADER OF THE SRI LANKA FREEDOM PARTY (SLFP) WITH THE BLESSINGS OF THE SRI LANKA PODUJANA PERAMUNA (SLPP)

# Number of Covid-19 patients drops

■ Gazette on Covid prevention issued

■ Maximim PCR tests capacity per day reached

■ Globally half of world's workforce at risk of losing jobs

By  
**Rajitha Jagoda Arachchi**



While most parties still highlight the 'health' impact of Covid-19, the 'economic' impact the virus has unleashed across the globe is yet to be estimated. Issuing a joint statement on October 13, ILO (International Labour Organisation), FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations), IFAD (International Fund For Agricultural Development) and WHO (World Health Organisation) predict that nearly a half of world's 3.3 billion workforce is at risk of losing their jobs and livelihoods.

They also stress that the number of malnourished people, currently estimated at nearly 690 million, could upsurge by up to 132 million by the end of 2020.

## Apparels

These figures are quite alarming as Sri Lanka is now confronting a severe (as health authorities specify) second wave of Covid-19. The blow to the apparel industry came at a no better time with the detection of the first Covid-19 infected patient early this month.

Understanding the importance of standing together, the Sri Lanka Apparel Exporters Association

(SLAEA) issued a media release backing the affected apparel company.

"At this time of crisis, while wishing all affected parties a speedy recovery, SLAEA urges the public to be more compassionate and respectful towards all families who have been affected by the unfortunate situation. This will have financial stress on all stakeholders and the affected apparel companies and its employees" it stated.

The industry which generates an income of over USD 5 billion annually is the single largest foreign exchange generator to the country. It provides direct and indirect employment to over one million Sri Lankans.

"As a nation, we owe much to the apparel sector workers, who during the height of the pandemic have discharged their duties to Sri Lanka, to bring in the much-needed foreign exchange to the country.

The apparel industry has manufactured Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), such as masks and medical gowns for healthcare workers and armed forces.

The apparel industry also stepped-up during the peak of Covid-19 by donating funds, equipment and providing facilities to quarantine centres" the statement further denotes.

Meanwhile, Media Spokesperson of the Ministry of Health, Dr Jayarwan Bandara told the media on Friday that the Minuwangoda Covid cluster is yet at a manageable level with rigid efforts to contain the



Students entering Nalanda Girls School, Minuwangoda to sit for G.C.E Advanced Level examination last week while the area remained under quarantine curfew.

Pic by Samantha Weerasiri

spread of the virus.

"All recent Covid-19 patients are related to the Minuwangoda cluster. Therefore based on scientific facts, the Ministry of Health believes that the virus has not yet spread to the community". He said "We do not see an exponential increase in the number of patients".

The Minister of Health Pavitra Wanniarachchi issued an extraordinary gazette on Thursday (15), turning certain Covid preventive measures into laws.

Accordingly, everyone who enters a workplace or place of business must wear a face mask at all time, maintaining social distance of not less than one metre between two persons, measuring the body temperature before entering the workplace, providing adequate hand-washing facilities with sanitizers, maintain a document containing the name, identity card number and contact information of each visitor, the number of employees and other persons in the workplace not exceeding the maximum number were gazetted as laws under Sections 2 and 3 of the Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases Ordinance (Chapter 222).

Police Media Spokesperson, DIG Ajith Rohana told the Sunday Observer yesterday that after careful observation, the Police will start filing cases and imposing fines on those who do not comply with the laws. "We are educating people on the new laws. We may have to take stern actions if they do not comply" he said.

He said there is no need to impose island-wide curfew. Sri Lanka recorded 5,305 Covid cases while

**"ALL RECENT COVID PATIENTS ARE RELATED TO THE MINUWANGODA CLUSTER. THEREFORE BASED ON SCIENTIFIC FACTS, THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH BELIEVES THAT THE VIRUS HAS NOT YET SPREAD TO THE COMMUNITY"**

around 1,956 patients are yet receiving treatment at 21 hospitals.

Among them, 1,901 were reported from the Minuwangoda Brandix cluster while 1,079 patients are employees of the factory and 822 are close contacts of apparel workers.

Around 316 people have been admitted to hospitals for Covid-19 symptoms and under are close surveillance.

Around 9,556 people are yet in quarantine at 84 quarantine cen-

tres. Despite the large number of patients identified within the first three days since the first Covid-19 patient of the Minuwangoda cluster was identified, currently the number of patients has reduced while the number of PCR tests have been increased across the country.

Minister Wanniarachchi told the media last week that the Ministry of Health has reached 8,000 PCR tests per day with the sudden upsurge of patients.

The ban of visiting prisons is still in effect, the Commissioner of Prison Thushara Upuldeniya told the media last week. However, the Prisons Department has introduced a toll-free telephone to all prisons to enable inmate to speak to their families once a week.

"Priority should be given to addressing underlying food security and malnutrition challenges, tackling rural poverty, in particular through more and better jobs in the rural economy, extending social protection to all, facilitating safe migration pathways and promoting the formalisation of the informal economy" according to the statement of ILO, FAO, IFAD and WHO.



Health officials taking swab samples from employees of the Colombo Municipal Council after a worker was tested positive.

Pic: Sulochana Gamage

## The Gazette issued by the Health Ministry

# New guidelines on Covid-19

The Extra Ordinary gazette issued by the Health Ministry on new Covid-19 regulations empowers law enforcement authorities to take tough action on those violating the law.

**Extraordinary**  
No. 2197/25 - Thursday, October 15, 2020

Part I: Section (I) - General Government Notifications Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases Ordinance (Chapter 222)

Regulations made by the Minister of Health under Sections 2 and 3 of the Quarantine and Prevention of Diseases Ordinance (Chapter 222).

Pavithra Wanniarachchi, Minister of Health.

Regulations relating to Storage of Grain and Regulations relating to Anchylostomiasis published in Gazette No. 7481 of August 28, 1925, as amended from time to time, are hereby further amended as follows:-

(1) in regulation 3 thereof, by the insertion of new definition of expression "public place" immediately after the definition of expression "Pratique", of the following:-  
"The term of "public place" means any place to which the public have access, whether as of right or otherwise, whether on payment or not, whether on invitation or not.";

2A  
Part I: Sec. (I) - Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka - 15.10.2020

(2) by the addition of immediately after regulation 89 thereof, of the following new regulations :-

"90. Every person in a public place or every person in any other place where such person may come into close contact with another person, in any diseased locality in relation to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (Covid - 19) shall -

(a) Wear a face mask at all times; and  
(b) maintain social distancing of not less than one meter between two persons.

91. It shall be lawful for the proper authority in any diseased locality in relation to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (Covid-19) to -

(a) restrict the movement of per-

sons;

(b) take or require any person to take a diseased person or a person suspected to be diseased to a hospital, place of observation or quarantine centre for treatment or quarantine purpose; or

(c) direct any person suspected to be a diseased to be self-quarantined in his house, premises or place of residence for a period not exceeding the incubation period as may be determined by the proper authority for the whole of Sri Lanka.

92. (1) Every person shall, upon the restriction of movement of persons under regulation 91, stay in his house, premises or place of residence for such period as may be determined by the proper authority, for preventing the spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (Covid - 19).

(2) A person shall not, during the period determined under sub-regulation (1) -

(a) enter or leave;  
(b) travel, transport or enter any public place in; or  
(c) travel within.

(3) A person shall not open to the public any institution, place of business or any other similar premises in a diseased locality within the period determined under sub-regulation (1) unless being permitted by the proper authority.

93. The proper authority may allow operating or functioning of any institution, work place, super market, shop, sales outlet or any other place of business which provides essential services or any other service required for maintaining national security or public

health in any diseased locality in relation to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (Covid - 19).

94. The employer or person in charge of any institution or work place which provides essential services or any other service which is required for maintaining national security, national economy, public health or preventing the spread of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (Covid - 19) in any diseased locality in relation to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (Covid - 19) shall in carrying out such services, -

(a) not exceed the maximum number of employees and other persons permitted within the premises at a time stipulated by the proper authority;

3A

Part I : Sec. (I) - Gazette Extraordinary of the Democratic Socialist Republic if Sri Lanka - 15.10.2020

(b) ensure that every person who enters such institution or work place wears a face mask at all times;

(c) ensure social distancing not less than one metre between two persons;

(d) ensure that the body temperature of every person is measured before entering the institution or the workplace;

(e) provide adequate hand washing facility with soap or sanitizer for the persons entering the institution or the work place and ensure that every person who enters such institution or work place washes their hands before entering such institution or the work place;

(f) maintain a record of the name, identity card number and contact details of every person entering the institution or the work place; and  
(g) comply with such other disease preventive measures as may be determined, from time to time, by the proper authority.



## Colombo University alumnus donates passenger bus to university

The Multiform Chemicals (Pvt) Ltd Chairman, Former President of the Alumni Association of the University of Colombo and Council Member of the University of Colombo Thilak Karunaratne donated a 33-seater air conditioned luxury passenger bus to the Faculty of Science of the University of Colombo at a simple ceremony at the College House of the University of Colombo recently.

The Vice Chancellor of the University of Colombo, Senior Professor Chandrika N. Wijeyaratne accepted the keys to the passenger bus from the Senior Alumnus Thilak Karunaratne.

Dean of the Faculty of Science, Senior Professor Upul Sonnadara, President of the Alumni Association Rajeev Amarasuriya, the Registrar K.A.S. Edward, Bursar S.Jayasooriya, Members of the Academic and Administrative Staff and Alumni were present.

The Vice Chancellor expressed the university's heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Karunaratne and his family. She

acknowledged their sincerity in filling a long-felt void in the academic schedules of the Faculty of Science in the provision of student learning and research opportunities through field visits. She highlighted the commitment of Alumni in the development of the University that will inspire the student body to value their Alma Mater throughout their life. Dean Faculty of Science recalled that this was the largest contribution received by the faculty from a single donor.

Alumni President Rajeev Amarasuriya said that Thilak Karunaratne has been a benefactor of the University of Colombo for many years now and was greatly appreciative of the latest donation of this Passenger Bus to the Science Faculty for the use of the students and staff.

He called upon more Alumni of the University to take a cue from Karunaratne and give back to the University of Colombo, when possible. We have received so much from the University, we must give back whenever possible, he said.



Multiform Chemicals (Pvt) Ltd Chairman Thilak Karunaratne presents the key to Vice Chancellor of the University of Colombo, Senior Professor Chandrika N. Wijeyaratne



Thilak Karunaratne with the alumni

## SUNDAY OBSERVER

### Let's defeat this contagion

The society and social media are abuzz with speculation that Sri Lanka is on the cusp of a so-called 'Second Wave' of the Coronavirus as seen in many of our neighbouring countries. This was after the detection of a cluster at a Brandix garment factory in Minuwangoda. While the exact origin of this cluster is still unclear, the Police and intelligence agencies now have the unenviable task of contact tracing, which is not easy given the travel patterns of some of the infected persons. This has resulted in the disease popping up in Colombo and elsewhere.

However, to their credit, the authorities sprang into action swiftly. They have successfully traced many contacts of infected persons and confined them to their homes. The Government has also substantially increased the number of PCR tests done daily islandwide.

Meanwhile, the online rumour mills are working overtime to paint a grim picture that the disease had spread to all corners and that Sri Lanka would soon become another Italy, Brazil or Spain. However, the authorities have reassured the public that such a scenario is not possible as all measures and precautions are being taken and that there is no need as yet for a lockdown. Some areas, though, have been isolated.

But we all have to admit one thing. Once the initial bout of the pandemic was over, complacency set in on the part of the public, despite the warnings of the authorities. Many people went about without masks, gave up on hand washing and social distancing and other health practices. Unfortunately, this has boomeranged on us.

We are battling an unseen enemy that can lurk anywhere. The latest research suggests that the Coronavirus can be airborne and also remain on some surfaces for up to 28 hours. It can apparently remain on human skin for around nine hours. The fact that the virus can be anywhere must not be forgotten. This is why all health advice and precautions must be observed and practised all the time.

The media must intensify the campaign on health precautions, lest the public has forgotten the basics. Now that fines have been announced for breaking health and quarantine laws, we hope there will be better compliance all around. But it is rather unfortunate that the Government had to introduce fines and jail terms to rein in the public. This is a time that all must get together to defeat this contagion.

Many other countries that experienced rapid social transmission of the disease did not have the efficient contact tracing capability that Sri Lanka has, even though some of them did have better technology such as contact tracing smartphone apps.

Contact tracing was the key to avoid social transmission as the first, second and even the third level contacts can be quickly identified and isolated and we hope that our agencies will be up to the task this time around as well. This has been made possible by the sheer dedication of the Military Intelligence Units and Police assigned to this rather difficult task.

One cannot expect the Government alone to control a pandemic of this nature that has now claimed nearly 1.1 million lives (13 in Sri Lanka) and infected around 39 million people (more than 5,000 in Sri Lanka) worldwide. Public cooperation is essential. We could clearly see a 'dropping of the guard' by many people and even institutions after Sri Lanka did not see any cases for weeks at a stretch.

However, one cannot take such liberties with a virulent pathogen, which can lurk anywhere. With the World Health Organization (WHO) now acknowledging that the virus can remain airborne for several hours, there is an even greater chance of catching it. This is also why we cannot dismiss the emergence of a second wave out of hand, even though we are in a far better position when compared to most other countries in the region and elsewhere.

Hence, the importance of wearing a mask whenever you are outdoors or indoors in an unfamiliar environment. Even US President Donald Trump, who ardently opposed the use of masks, was infected with Covid-19 and has since changed his stance for the most part. A good face mask can help save your life as well as those of others. So do yourself a favour - wear one. They are cheap and available everywhere, so there is no excuse not to wear one. The same goes for most of the other hygienic practices. Social distancing may not always be possible, especially, in crowded public transport, but one has to be conscious of the need to maintain the distance from the next person.

The key word here is 'New Normal.' It will not be possible to go back to our old lives and lifestyles for at least a couple of years, when an effective vaccine could finally be available at an affordable rate. Until then, we will have to live with certain restrictions and practices that may help save our lives. Some, like washing hands frequently or applying sanitizer, could actually be continued even after this danger passes.

Research done locally has found that respiratory diseases among the population have seen a drastic drop as most other viruses have also been destroyed as a result of hygiene practices. That is not a bad outcome at all. We must cooperate with the health authorities in every possible way to keep our country safe from the novel Coronavirus and other health dangers.

# Suffered from Rajapaksa Derangement Syndrome UNP-SJB, a damp squib

by  
Rajpal Abeynayake



The Light Rail project which was criticised by the former Secretary of the Ministry of Transportation Lalitha Siri Gunaruwan in the presence of the President last week, is the Holy Grail of all development projects according to the former government's SJB/UNP types.

These days, they are targeting Gunaruwan. Their chief criticism of him is about the minutiae of his submissions, involving details about level crossings and the viability of the Light Rail in terms of goods transportation, etc.

Gunaruwan can defend himself, but the Opposition's fealty to the cause of the Light Rail Project is amusing.

The part about the project that's most amusing is the aspect that the Opposition types rarely mention. They didn't finish it.

That's the whole point about projects that the UNP types go ballistic about. They never were able to finish them. If the UNP finished the Light Rail project, where is the need to quarrel with the Government about its completion?

One reason the previous government couldn't complete the Light Rail that it's former denizens are screaming about now, could have been its financial feasibility - or more precisely the lack of it.

#### Authors

Perhaps, securing funds was difficult and the project cost was steep, as experts such as Gunaruwan say now. But all that is beside the point, even if it was true.

The fact is that the UNP could not complete the project. They just couldn't deliver. So what's new? Tell us about a project that the UNP could deliver on, except perhaps the 19th Amendment project which was a disaster after completion, as per the Amendment's authors themselves? Not that the 19th Amendment was a development project, even though those who had pretensions about social-engineering may swear it was.

Those who couldn't deliver cannot afford to cavil about what was incomplete. That's truer, particularly when this was the only development project of any consequence they could talk about in a five year period in government.

Talking about a development project they couldn't finish in a full five years is a case of counting the chickens before the eggs are hatched - or when the eggs couldn't be hatched at all.

The then government may contend that they didn't have the full five years to work on the Light Rail.

No, but they can't be excused for not



having started it earlier! What does the UNP give the people? Delivery, or excuses?

Each time the UNP or SJB as the case may be bleats about the Light Rail, it's an admission of their failure to deliver. But the smugness with which the complaints are deadpanned is amazing.

They say the present government is stalling development. Sorry, that's factually so incorrect as to be delusional. The UNP government was retarded so to say, in its vision for development. They were stalling. They stalled so much that they could never deliver on a project - and the Light Rail wasn't the only one.

It was not as if they were working on so many development projects that they did not have time for this one. This - the Light Rail - was the only one they could even properly conceive of on their own.

Small wonder they are bleating about it. It's their crowning achievement except that it earned notoriety as a non-achievement.

The masses are now told to judge the UNP on the basis of this landmark non-starter. 'See how cruel it is,' they say. 'We started it, and the people are being deprived of it!'

How shocking! The UNP couldn't complete a project. It's not shocking at all though. The UNP never could deliver except verbiage, hot-air and million rupee propaganda. Those who cannot deliver are condemned to the consequences of non-delivery, such as the project being ditched by the government to follow.

Besides, this clinches the image of the UNP-SJB Opposition as a political entity that has all its projects imagined and in the air, and never on the ground delivering results. It was the UNP's boast that they thought of the highway projects in the first place.

They couldn't lay a brick towards seeing that vision come to fruition. If they are cricketers these people will say 'we have all the shots, and even some shots that have not yet been invented.'

Except that they wouldn't have put up a score that's greater than zero, ever. Sorry, if you couldn't deliver, get out of the way so that those who can will do it in the way that they envision. It's the least you could do with that record of yours.

#### Accessibility

There is another record that the UNP cannot be proud of, and that's the record with projects that had already been delivered on by the then Mahinda Rajapaksa government.

Take the motor bike racing track that was built close to the Mattala Airport in Hambantota. The UNP government landed a housing project there - one or two houses really - in the middle of a useable track. That was the end of that track.

The convention centre in Mattala was to go unused by government edict, during the entirety of UNP rule.

These are all facilities that could have brought more visitors to the Hambantota environs that had great potential for tourism due to the easy accessibility that was on offer to the game parks and the coastal attractions such as Arugam Bay, etc.

But the UNP government was suffering from the Rajapaksa Derangement Syndrome, and that entailed strange acts such as storing paddy within the Mattala Airport - a delivered project and not a project in the air - though it was an airport. The entire A/C system was damaged as a result of the storage adventure.

That was the level of heedless spite that flowed from UNP rule, when deliv-

ered projects were sent into cold storage while economies that could have been sustained through these projects were left to fend for themselves.

Today, the Mattala airport is the main conduit with regard to corona prevention amid reparations, due to logistical reasons.

I met folk in Hambantota who had tourist hotels to run, and had wished dearly that the Korean donated Mattala Convention Centre was used so that they could have more guests resulting from the influx of conference delegates and support staff, etc.

They would have wished that the race track was used - considering that this was a track where one should be built; after all the complaint used to be that races were held in busy cities.

The Ranminithenna tele-cinema village was left to rot, and millions have to be spent today for its refurbishment, even as producers are lining up to use it.

#### Conjecture

But everything done by the Rajapaksa Government - projects signed, sealed and delivered - was cast aside, because the UNP suffered from the Rajapaksa Derangement Syndrome. They say it's similar to the Trump Derangement Syndrome that cancels anything good that Donald Trump has done in the US.

But the purveyors of this politics of spite are now howling that their imaginary Light Rail in the air was abandoned. They'd say it was not imaginary as the project had already begun when their government was defeated.

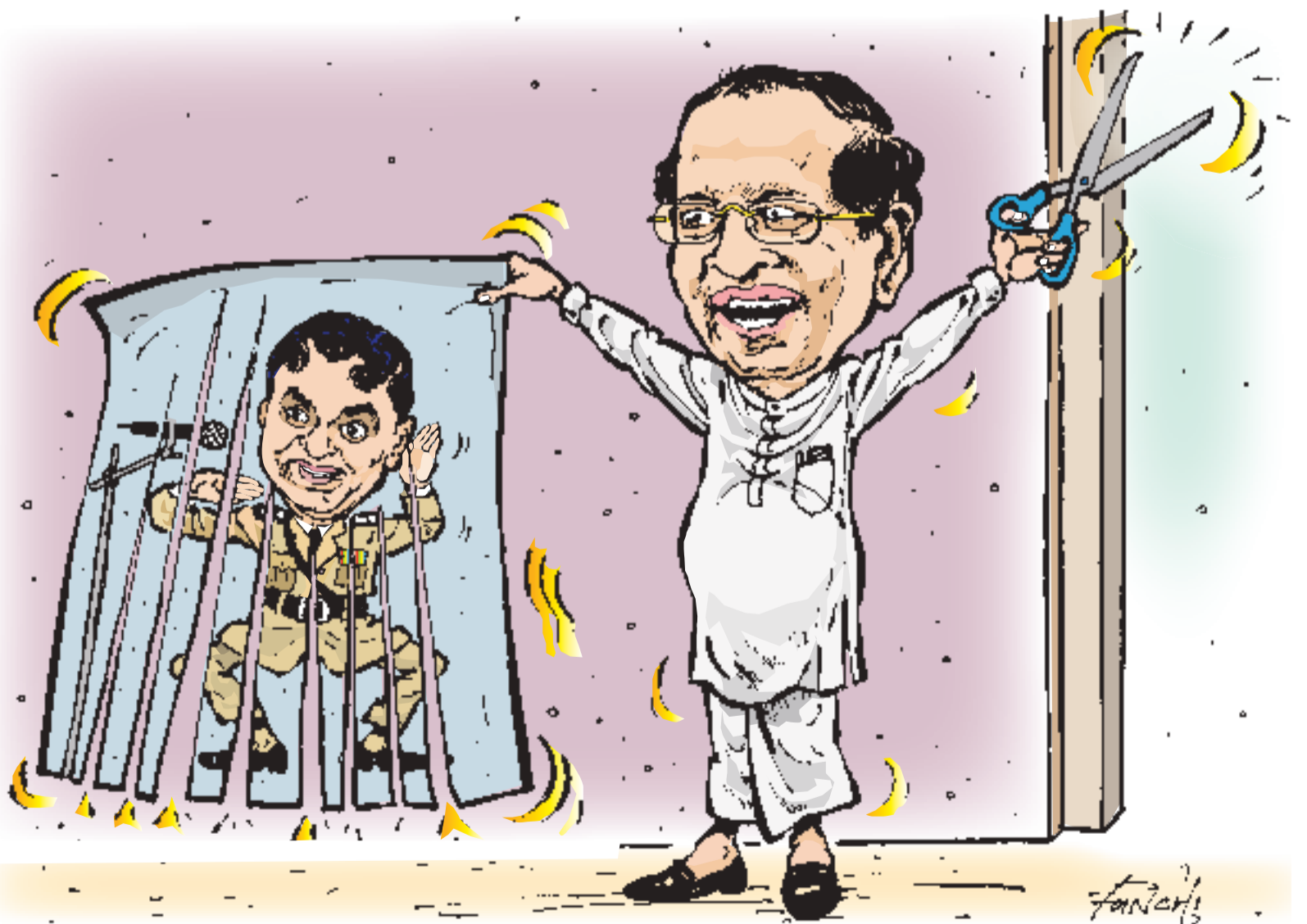
In reality, anything that's not completed is imagined. The Light Rail project was nowhere near completion. It was equivalent to an empty boast that may or may not have come to fruition.

They say that the donor nations were keen on its completion but that's still conjecture in the topsy-turvy world of today, with its pandemics and other such calamities.

The UNP-SJB folk couldn't sleep one night without having vilified the Rajapaksas. The other thing the UNP was famous for was empty boasts about unfinished or half finished projects. The Light Rail adds to that long string of dubious dreams that amounted to braggadocio and a great deal of propaganda hype.

If anybody wanted to be a hero touting the Light Rail, they should have completed it. But how could they? They couldn't complete the Hambantota stretch of the Southern Highway for five years. Finally, they opened a stretch of road that led to nowhere just weeks before the key Presidential election. People who embarked on a highway jaunt emerged into thick jungle, and had to beat back a hasty retreat with leeches lapping at their breeches.

These are the jokers that now have the audacity to shed copious tears about their Light Rail. I'd say, RIP LRT.







# Protecting biodiversity for economic survival

by  
Hemantha  
Kulatunga



In the past decades, there has been intense dialogue about the moral and ecological consequences of biodiversity loss the world over. However, until recently, much attention was not paid to the impact of the loss of biodiversity and the economic implications. The world now realises that the economy and biodiversity are not only inter-related but also dependent on each other. The ecological network is the source of raw-material and energy. They also provide the means to absorb and process the pollution and waste generated by humans apart from playing a fundamental role in human welfare.

The global leaders, in unison, declared at the United Nations biodiversity summit held recently that the world should either save nature or risk economic disaster. Addressing the summit, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa said the Government is committed to protect and sustainably manage the natural resources of the country. Addressing a digital audience, the President said there is a critical need for change in the relationship between nature and the people.

## Highest biodiversity density

Sri Lanka, relatively small in size, is considered one of the twenty-five biodiversity hotspots in the world and carries the highest biodiversity density in Asia.

The protection of this unusually high and rich natural wealth is an important task of the citizenry as a whole. There are strong and compelling economic motives attached to the diversity of plants and animals in the country.

The rich natural resources carry great economic value in several spheres through direct and indirect values. Biodiversity losses can create adverse effects on the economic system as well as human society. The



magnitude of the issue was evident at the recent UN summit as the leaders of powerful countries attempted to find solutions as early as possible.

People throughout the world rely on various plants, animals, and other natural resources for food, raw material, medicine, and other requirements.

The weakening of biodiversity directly threatens food security, in the long term. Also, this phenomenon would have adverse effects on aesthetics that have a direct link to Sri Lanka's rich tourism industry that is expected to be at the helm in the near future.

Ecosystem services directly and indirectly contribute to human welfare by supplying tangible goods such as food, raw material, soil formation, pest control, and water purification. It also contributes by way of intangible benefits such as tourism, environmental education, and so forth.

However, unlike the physically visible goods, benefits brought in by cultural and environmental benefits tend to be neglected or overlooked in the markets.

Deforestation is one of the most pressing issues and a major challenge at present. Full or partial deliberate removal of trees systematically destroys the forest, creating immense economic and social harm and also damage biological existence. Loss of land cover in the country stands at an alarming 27%, a decrease from approximately 80% that existed in the 1950s.

## Forest cover

It is no secret that poor coordination and inferior management of the authorities together with illicit felling of trees by nefarious groups, often with help from corrupt regional politicians present a crucial threat to the health of the forest cover.

Realising the importance of the inter-relation of the economy and biodiversity, in his manifesto, 'Vistas of Prosperity', President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has dedicated an important segment promising proactive action to protect the ecological resources.

He has pledged to increase forest cover, develop urban vegetation and the incorporation of biodiversity into tourism and education.

Although public awareness prevails on protecting biodiversity, the economic impact is not discussed adequately by the authorities. Several programs sponsored by the Government, the private sector, and the media creditably contribute to protect and manage the ecosystems. However, the drastic economic loss due to the loss of diverseness has not been brought into focus yet by the authorities or the media.

Biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation, two

major challenges to Sri Lanka are intricately related.

While biological diversity is mainly focused on public welfare, its economic value is often undervalued. Generally, the ecosystem is a means of subsistence and income for the poor.

## Circular economy

Therefore, the conservation of every natural resource is linked to poverty alleviation addressed by the Government at the highest level.

A circular economy is a system of closed loops in which raw material, components, and products lose their value as little as possible.

This is one definition among hundreds of others. However, the importance of the circular economy is to understand how it can boost biodiversity. Waste including plastics, textiles, food, electronics, and more, have an immense toll on the

environment. We often witness chaotic and careless disposal of waste by a section of irresponsible people, as highlighted in the media.

The circular economy that promotes the elimination of waste and the use of safe natural resources offer an alternative that can save millions of public funds.

Circular economy, regenerative model, cradle to cradle manufacturing, or whatever the name that the experts call recycling, it is not necessary that waste elimination processes be laminated onto nature.

## Biodiversity conservation

Related values of biodiversity in Sri Lanka can be under three different categories.

First, productive use is assigned to the products that contain commercial significance related to individual and national income.

Secondly, the consumptive use that is related to natural products which are consumed directly, and thirdly, the non-consumptive indirect use connected with the functions of the ecosystem.

However, the indirect use of biodiversity such as ecological balance, conservation of related resources, prevention of soil erosion, and so forth is considered significant.

Biodiversity conservation is the protection, strength, and management of the ecosystem to obtain sustainable benefits for the future generation.

Considering the significance of the subject, none other the President of China, arguably the highest-polluting nation, has openly said, "The loss of biodiversity and the degradation of the ecosystem pose a major risk to human survival and development".

Therefore, it is time for every citizen of Sri Lanka to honestly concentrate on preventing the cutting down of trees, hunting animals, efficient utilisation of natural resources, and developing the protected areas. Biodiversity, besides its ecological importance, provides a strong socio-economic asset to the country. Ecosystems provide essential goods and services often with monetary values. Human societies depend on these resources and their diversity.

# Development challenges in the East

BY ENG. (DR.) A.M.A. SAJA AND  
ENG. (DR.) S.M. JUNAIDEEN

The aim of this article is to present the key challenges to sustainable development in the Eastern region of Sri Lanka, with a view to initiating a wider multi-stakeholder dialogue to find innovative solutions within an integrated sustainable development framework. In this context, rather than elaborating a detailed account or research findings for each of the development priorities, it also provides a basis for further discussion among the policy makers and concerned stakeholders to enable well-informed and participatory decision making at all levels.

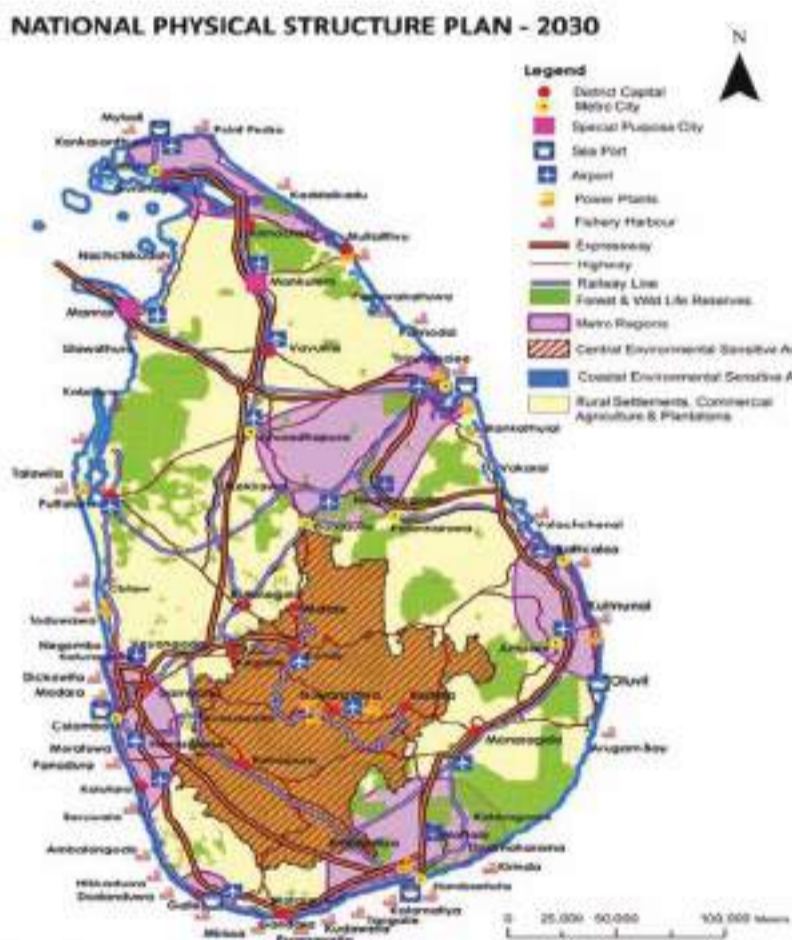
## The Eastern Province

In the National Physical Planning Policy and Plan Sri Lanka-2030, prepared by the National Physical Planning Department, the Eastern Province is identified as one of the five Metropolitan Regions in the country. It is envisioned that the Eastern Province will be a vibrant 'Sun Rise Region' by 2030 with a sound regional economy, enhanced income levels and a socially, harmonious human settlement structure whilst maintaining the uniqueness of the Province.

The Eastern Province comprises three administrative districts; Ampara, Batticaloa and Trincomalee, and covers an area about 10,000 km<sup>2</sup>. It has a great share of the great wealth of the country's natural resources, approximately 25 per cent of the coast, 25 per cent of the lagoons, 28 per cent of mangroves, and 31 per cent fresh marshes. The population of the Province was about 1.54 million as per the statistics from 2012, which is about 8 per cent of the total population of Sri Lanka.

The National Physical Plan 2030 shows the potential metro regions in the country connecting high population cities (Figure 1). The Eastern Metro region, along the stretch of the coastal towns from Vaalachenai towards Oluvil, in the districts of Batticaloa and Ampara and including the inland cities such as Sammanthurai and Ampara towns, is expected to have a one million population by 2030 (Kurukulasuriya 2012). This region includes key municipalities and emerging towns.

The economic significance of



collection and forecasting of waste generation data, as well as use of big data, internet of things and a dashboard to facilitate the complete process of solid waste management.

The generation of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) in Sri Lanka is 7210 tons/day, however, the collection efficiency is only around 27 per cent (Basnayake et al. 2018). The Eastern region is no exception, for example, the Kalmunai Municipal Council is in a crisis situation today with a huge quantity of MSW (35 - 40 tons per day) having to be managed on a daily basis.

## B) Wastewater Management (WWM)

Wastewater management continues to be a challenge in the Eastern province. There has been no centralised wastewater treatment system nor proper wastewater disposal systems in many congested cities in the eastern region leading to onsite wastewater disposal harming the environment and resulting in significant public health issues.

The municipalities and urban areas in the East coast should be prioritised for constructing suitable wastewater disposal system(s) as they fall under the top 15 most congested cities in Sri Lanka. The wastewater disposal systems have already been planned and are in the pipeline for the Batticaloa Municipality and Kattankudde urban council areas.

## C) Traffic Congestions and Accidents (TCA)

The Eastern coastline has increasingly become congested within many urban centres since the end of the battle against terrorism in

2009. There has also been a corresponding increase in the number of vehicles on roads. With the limited expansion potential of road infrastructure along the coastline, traffic accidents have become a major cause of death.

According to the 2019 vehicle registry in the Motor Traffic Department, more than 400,000 vehicles have been registered in the Eastern Province. The ever increasing vehicle population has serious consequences in public vehicle parking spaces causing huge traffic congestions and accidents.

Alternative mass transport systems, such as the opportunity to expand the railway line from Batticaloa towards Pottuvil should be explored. The National Physical Planning Policy and the Plan 2030 included an extension of eastern coastal railway connecting to the southern region.

## D) Coastal Erosion (CE)

The coastal areas around the Oluvil harbour are facing severe erosion, affecting the livelihood of fishermen in the region. The sediment transport in the near shore has resulted in deposition of sand in the harbour entrance and severe erosion on the north side of the harbour.

Hundreds of acres of land have been lost and thousands of coconut trees have been uprooted north of the harbour by coastal erosion.

Without proper parking places and storage arrangements, fishing boats and accessories had been damaged in the past paralysing the fishing industry in the area.

Although some short-term remedial measures were implemented by the authorities, long term risk assessment and necessary preventive measures need to be taken by the authorities regarding coastal erosion.

## E) Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC)

The damage to agricultural crops has become the most common consequence of the human-elephant conflict and reported more frequently than the attacks on human and physical infrastructure. There is a need for immediate solutions to mitigate the impact of human-elephant conflict, which demands advance technological solutions that can track the movement of elephants into the human settlements and report the intrusion of elephants to the respective authorities for immediate actions.

The intrusion of elephants in the agriculture fields and human settlements are seasonal.

Many different types of mitigation measures have been proposed and implemented such as electric or bio-fences, establishing elephant corridors and enriching the elephant's habitat.

Further research studies are needed to explore the use of advanced technologies to assist people at risk and the authorities, enabling an effective emergency communication and management system to mitigate the damage due to human-elephant conflict.

## Sustainable Development Goals with the emerging themes

These thematic focus areas for addressing the key developmental challenges are in line with the policies of Vistas of Prosperity and Splendour of President of Gotabaya Rajapaksa, for a prosperous Sri Lanka. Moreover, they have closer relevance to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In general, SDGs such as Clean water and sanitation (SDG 6), Affordable clean energy (SDG 7), Industry/Innovation/Infrastructure (SDG 9), Sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11), and Responsible consumption and production (SDG 12) have direct linkages to research and development in Engineering and Technology.

Hence, urgent attention needs to be given to initiate a multi-stakeholder regional level consultation and research with thematic experts with the Engineering and Development Experts in the region, since engineering research and portfolios have a greater role to play in addressing the above highlighted emerging challenges.

**[Some of the contents in this article are from the panel discussion on "Achievement of Sustainable Development Goals and contribution of Engineers", organised at the event held on March 4, 2020 to mark the World Engineering Day 2020 for Sustainable Development at the Faculty of Engineering, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka.]**

*The writers are members of the Faculty of Engineering, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka, Oluvil*

# Govt and clergy say no in its present form

## Amendments to 20A at Cowmmitee stage

BY MANJULA FERNANDO

The Supreme Court (SC) ruling on the petitions against the proposed 20th Amendment will be announced in Parliament by Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena on Tuesday, October 20.

Yet, the media, citing an allegedly leaked document last week reported that the five-member bench headed by Chief Justice Jayantha Jayasuriya, which heard the petitions, has ruled that the Bill can be passed in Parliament with a two-thirds majority, provided the government introduced amendments to four Articles in the proposed Bill at the Committee Stage. These reports claimed the questionable Articles that were inconsistent with the Constitution were Article 3, 5, 14 and 22.

Article 3 refers to the powers and functions of the President, Article 5 refers to Immunity for the President from lawsuits, Article 14 refers to summoning, prorogation and dissolution of parliament and Article 22 refers to offences spelt out under Election Commission directions.

### Amendments during debate

The Government, through the Attorney General, conveyed to the SC at the outset of the hearing of the petitions that it planned to introduce amendments to correct the said inconsistencies in the draft Bill at the third reading of the Parliamentary debate. The amendments to the Bill were filed in a motion during the SC hearing and also referred to the petitioner's lawyers at the behest of the Bench.

After the 20th amendment was tabled in Parliament, a record 39 petitions, many opposing and some supporting the amendment were filed in the Supreme Court. The bench which heard the petitions included Justices Buwaneka Aluwihare, Sisira de Abrew, Priyantha Jayawardena and Vijith Malalgoda. The hearing of the petitions began on September 29 and concluded on October 5.

Despite the undertaking by the Government to introduce amendments to remove questionable clauses, several organisations, individuals and religious entities continued to express concern over the



Gevindu Cumaratunga

proposed law.

Among them is the Yuthukama organisation which made a significant contribution at the November 2019 Presidential election and the subsequent General Election where the SLPP-led government coalition received a landslide and a near two-thirds majority which was considered impossible under the present system of election.

The organisation has written to Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa seeking to revise seven clauses in the proposed 20th Amendment. The organisation underscored that their action strove to uphold justice to the massive people's mandate received by the Government in August this year.

### Seven proposals

It has pointed out that the following democratic features should be included in the proposed 20th Amendment Bill that is currently before Parliament.

The seven proposals are:

- Limiting the number of Cabinet Ministers to 30 and non-cabinet ministers to 40.
- Removal of the Article permitting emergency Bills in parliament - it will limit the right of the people to go to courts against undemocratic laws.
- Removal of the Article which allows State Ministers, in addition to Cabinet Ministers to hold office after a dissolution (in an election phase).
- Appointments to high posts and Independent Commissions to be made by the President on the recommendation of Parliament.
- President to consult the Prime Minister in appointing the



Cabinet of Ministers.

- Have regulations to prevent non-citizens and dual citizens from running for Presidency or Parliament.
- The institutions of which the State or local government bodies hold more than 50% shares to be subject to Government audit.

The Amarapura and Ramanna Nikayas and the Catholic Bishops Conference of Sri Lanka have also raised concerns about the 20th Amendment being implemented in its original form.

Holding a press conference, the top representatives of the Amarapura and Ramanna Nikayas on Monday said the proposed amendment "undermines the system of checks and balances that maintains equilibrium between the executive, legislature, and the judiciary".

The two Sects echoed the concerns expressed earlier by the Malwathu and Asgiriya Chapters and endorsed that a new Constitution that upholds the rule of law and democracy should be the national priority today.

### HOWEVER, THE CHIEF PRELATES OF THE AMARAPURA AND RAMANNA NIKAYAS STATED LATER THAT THEY WERE NOT CONSULTED BEFORE THE DECREE TO OPPOSE THE 20A WAS MADE BY THE SANGHA SABHA

However, the chief prelates of the Amarapura and Ramanna Nikayas stated later that they were not consulted before the decree to oppose the 20A was made by the Sangha Sabha.

### Unwise gesture

SLPP MP Wijeyadasa Rajapakse who defected to the Government from the UNP due to the former's non-friendly people policies and extended allegiance to the President during the last election was the latest to join in the chorus opposing the 20A.

In a letter to the President, he

wrote, "When the country was struggling to overcome post-covid-19 economic woes and other serious challenges aggravated by the global pandemic it was an unwise gesture to create a Constitutional crisis and political upheaval in the country.

Refuting the allegation that the 19th Amendment was a fearsome 'boogeyman' all over, he has pointed out the removal of IGP and the Attorney General is neither governed by the 19A, nor the appointment of a Cabinet Sub-committee on economy where Ranil Wickremasinghe was accused of having an arbitrary kitchen cabinet with



Wijeyadasa Rajapakse

his own team.

He has presented ten points to argue his case why the 20th Amendment is detrimental to a democratic governance.

Listing these out he said, certain duties and responsibilities thrust upon the President under the Constitution, including being responsible for free and fair elections, and being accountable to parliament has been removed by the 20A.

He said it has also removed people's right to challenge an action or a lapse on the part of the President via a fundamental rights petition.

The former UNF MP has also stressed that the removal of the Audit Commission and procurement commission, two organs of the government which are important to curtail bribery and corruption in the State sector as another flaw.

Among the other issues are the removal of limits on the number of members to the Cabinet and other ministerial positions, powers to dissolve parliament one year after an election, re-enactment of provisions to present emergency bills, permitting dual citizens to run for executive and legislature, exempting the President's office and Prime Minister's office from the purview of the Auditor General, removal of certain powers from the Commission to Investigate Allegations of Bribery or Corruption and removal of the constitutional pledge "the country will not be divided" are serious concerns.

The parliamentary debate on the 20th Amendment is expected to begin next week.

## Rishad's writ application to be taken up on Tuesday



File picture of Rishad Bathiudeen with the media.

BY WASANTHA RAMANAYAKE

The Court of Appeal (CA) will take up on Tuesday, October 20, the writ application filed by All Ceylon Makkal Congress (ACMC) Parliamentarian and former Minister Rishad Bathiudeen, seeking to prevent his arrest in connection with the alleged misappropriation of public funds and violation of election rules.

Parliamentarian Bathiudeen filing the petition through his attorneys stated that he had obtained the services of 222 Sri Lanka Transport Board buses with Finance Ministry approval to transport internally displaced people from Puttalam to polling stations during the 2019 Presidential elections.

He sought an interim order preventing his arrest on the basis that he had not misappropriated any public funds or committed any of-

fences under the election laws.

Earlier, on Tuesday, the Colombo Fort Magistrate issued a travel ban on the ex-minister and another.

The CID also made an application to the Court seeking an arrest warrant on him and two others.

The court refusing the application noted that the CID could arrest them without warrants since they are alleged to have committed offences relating to the misappropriation of public funds.

The police later on Tuesday arrested three people including an accountant and two security personnel along with two vehicles in this connection.

The Attorney General had earlier instructed the Acting IGP to arrest Rishad Bathiudeen and two others in connection with the offences.

Meanwhile, ex-minister Rishad Bathiudeen's brother Riyaj Bathiudeen on Tuesday, October 13 filed a

petition in the Court of Appeal seeking an interim order against a possible re-arrest in connection with his alleged involvement in the Easter Sunday attacks.

Riyaj Bathiudeen stated that he was arrested by CID on April 14, 2020 and was released on September 29 as there was no evidence against him.

The writ petition was filed following a call by 100 government parliamentarians for his re-arrest.

A statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office said that 100 government MPs signed a petition seeking Riyaj's re-arrest.

The MPs alleged that the CID had improperly released Riyaj Bathiudeen, without producing before any court or taking any legal sanction.

They had called on the President and the Prime Minister to order a full investigation into the allegations.

## Indian High Commissioner calls on Prime Minister

### Follow up on virtual bilateral summit

The High Commissioner of India Gopal Baglay called on Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa last week.

This was their first meeting after the Virtual Bilateral Summit (VBS) between the Prime Ministers of India and Sri Lanka held on September 26, and afforded an excellent opportunity to follow up on implementation of the decisions taken in that high level interaction last month.

Referring to the tone set by the two leaders in the VBS for expanding existing mutually beneficial bilateral cooperation in a number of areas, the High Commissioner sought the guidance of Prime Minister Rajapaksa for further steps, including in the spheres of priority to Sri Lanka.

The High Commissioner told the Prime Minister that he and his colleagues in the High Commission had fruitful discussions in the days since VBS with a num-

ber of senior members of Sri Lanka's Council of Ministers, including in the areas of economy, connectivity, power and energy, agriculture and animal husbandry, development cooperation, education and capacity building, water and sanitation, health and pharmaceuticals, culture and people-to-people relations.

In the context of the Government of Sri Lanka's high priority attached to water, sanitation, agriculture and manufacturing, the High Commissioner referred to India's recent experience in these areas and stated that India was ready for developing further bilateral cooperation in accordance with Sri Lanka's requirements.

He responded positively to the suggestions of the Prime Minister Rajapaksa for Indian investment in research and manufacturing in Sri Lanka, including in pharmaceutical sector.

The High Commissioner stressed the significance of facilitating mutually beneficial trade and investment between India and Sri Lanka, which are close maritime neighbours and friends.

The High Commissioner thanked the Prime Minister for his continued guidance for expeditious implementation of mutually beneficial projects.

Recalling the importance attached by Prime Minister Modi to promoting people-to-people relations between the two countries, the High Commissioner stressed in this context the significance of the grant assistance of US \$ 15 million announced by Prime Minister Modi during VBS for promoting Buddhist ties between the two countries.

He mentioned that details of its implementation are being discussed with the Sri Lankan authorities concerned.

## Former President before PCoI for fourth time



Maithripala Sirisena

Former President Maithripala Sirisena yesterday for the fourth time appeared before the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) probing the Easter Sunday terror attacks.

He arrived at the Commission yesterday at around 10.00 am to testify on the coordinated bomb blasts. Former President Maithripala Sirisena left the (PCoI) prob-

ing the Easter Sunday terror attacks after recording a statement for more than three hours.

According to reports, he has been notified to appear before the Commission for a 5th time on October 22.

Giving evidence before the panel on previous occasions, the former President had stated that his Government was unable to

suppress the activities of extremist groups, due to action by foreign embassies and NGOs, who worked in defence of the rights of these organisations.

He also stated that the Heads of States do not bear the full responsibility for the mishaps that take place in a country, and that it is the responsibility of the security forces to suppress it.





# “Let’s reinforce the faint economy with the corporate sector”

BY W.N.P. SURAWIMALA

The corporate sector is a part of the economy made up by companies which include,

- **Primary sector** – producing raw materials
- **Secondary sector** – manufacturing
- **Tertiary sector** – Trading and services

It is a subset of the local economy excluding the economic activities of the government, of private households, and of nonprofit organisations servicing people. The corporate sector has been invariably steering the economy of the country towards development and better prospects in the international market. As such, considering the substantial contribution as the major drive of the economy, the sector has to be reinforced by all means, particularly, at these strenuous times due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The global economy is currently encountering its worst recession since the ‘Great Depression’ of the 1930s. Several advanced economies such as the United States, the United Kingdom, the Eurozone, and Japan will experience contractions during 2020. Other key trading partners of Sri Lanka, including China and India, are also projected to experience a notable slowdown. Across the globe, the World Trade Organization (WTO) forecasts that the global merchandise trade can decline by as much as 32 per cent in 2020.

## Covid-19; Business support – helping in troubled times

The Covid 19 outbreak is having a huge impact on our lives, families and communities and businesses. The Government’s support schemes are important measures to help businesses, secure jobs and secure the Sri Lankan economy during this turbulent period.

Across the financial sector, several measures have been undertaken to ease the burden on corporate sector businesses and people arising from the outbreak and containment measures. A wide ranging debt moratorium has been announced for the tourism, plantation, IT and apparel sectors, related logistics providers and small and medium scale enterprises.

These businesses are also to receive working capital loans and investment purpose loans at concessional rates. Other key initiatives that were undertaken include the introduction of the *Saubagya* Covid -19 Renaissance Facility, which provides working capital for adversely affected businesses to revive their activities. The Central Bank surpassed the milestone of Rs. 100 billion loans in August 2020, approving Rs.100,017 million worth of loans submitted by 36,489 applicants under the above facility.

The major State bank- Bank of Ceylon has provided approximately Rs. 43 billion for affected businesses and people island-wide as at September 30, 2020 fulfilling its national duty as the prominent State bank in the country. Out of the disbursed amount approximately Rs. 7.5 Billion has been directly pumped to restore the affected corporate segment through the Bank’s corporate and Offshore Banking Division of the Bank.

## Awakening economy before the pandemic

From January-September of 2019, the Sri Lankan economy recorded a

subdued growth of 2.6 per cent compared to the growth of 3.3 per cent in the corresponding period of 2018. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) expects the real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth of Sri Lanka to rebound to 3.5 per cent in 2020 driven by the recovery in the tourism sector.

According to the World Bank, the Sri Lankan economy grew 2.7 per cent in FY 18/19 (ended June 2019) indicating Sri Lanka as one of the poorest performing countries in the South Asian region. Bangladesh leads the South Asian region in terms of economic growth by posting 8.1 per cent GDP growth in FY18/19.

Agriculture, forestry and fishing activities registered a moderate growth of 2.1 per cent during Q3 of 2019, compared to the 4.3 per cent growth in the same period of the preceding year.

Industrial activities and service activities also showed a soft growth of 2.6 per cent and 2.8 per cent during Q3 of 2019, in comparison to growth rates of 1.8 per cent and 4.4 per cent in the same period of 2018. Growth in industrial activities was primarily driven by the recovery in construction and mining and quarrying activities during the period, while the service sector was largely supported by the expansion in financial services, wholesale and retail trade activities and other personal services.

During January-October 2019, a marginal growth of 0.8 per cent was recorded in exports attributing to the growth of industrial exports (accounting for 80 per cent of total exports) which expanded by 2.3 per cent compared to the same period in 2018. Agriculture (-4.4 per cent), Mineral (-6.3 per cent) and all other export segments (-3.6 recorded) recorded negative growth rates during the same period leading to an overall trade deficit in the same period.

## Is the corporate sector of the country at stake?

Yes, Indeed. As we commonly struggle to overcome the situation arisen with Covid-19 pandemic, even large stable economies are also at stake and our corporate sector has also been victimised of the bad repercussion of the pandemic. However, the most significant factor is the remarkable resilience we portrayed as a nation, hand in hand with the corporate sector in the economic revival effort.

The growth disruption due to the Covid -19 is expected to be driven by three factors; (1) demand shock, (2) supply shock, and (3) export shock. Demand shock results initially from the temporary drop in demand from the confinement and then from the loss of real incomes of consumers once the recession is in motion. The supply shock also initially results from the confinement. Thereafter, input scarcity could lead to a drop in supply. The key export markets are also battling the Covid - 19 crisis and those economies are set to take a blow. In the process, they may cut down on the imports, which could lead to a dip in the export demand.

The manufacturing and export related businesses are the key industries of the industrial sector. It has broadly performed well during 2018/19 amid the recovery of the agricultural production. The apparel and textile industry which is a major source of foreign exchange revenue relies on the demand coming from the EU and US markets. Most manufacturing and export oriented industries largely depend on imported raw materials for their value addition process. A great number of

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He holds a Bachelor’s (Special) Degree in Public Administration and Master of Science (M.Sc) in Management specialising in Banking and Finance, both from the University of Sri Jayawardenepura, Sri Lanka. He is also an Associate Member of the Institute of Bankers of Sri Lanka.



export-oriented and manufacturing industries in Sri Lanka had been, affected due to operational and supply chain disruptions.

The impact on the textile and apparel sector will be particularly considerable. This together with the slowdown/cancellation of export orders from the key export markets, would exacerbate the impact on export oriented businesses. Since these industries are largely dependent on the overseas export markets, the recovery of this sector will take a relatively longer time as most overseas markets have been adversely affected from the same. The ability of the Sri Lankan economy to recover to a greater degree depends on how soon the trading partners can recover.

## Boosting the corporate sector with novel navigation

### 1. Diversification of production and exploring diversified markets

Sri Lankan corporate sector has to be optimistic in exploring beyond its traditional export markets. Exports to the American and Eurozone have accounted for over half of Sri Lankan total exports, backed by favourable entrance to some extent including GSP concessions, low tariff etc. However, through the lessons of the pandemic situation, Sri Lanka should gradually shift its focus towards exporting to emerging Asia and other non traditional markets.

In addition to the diversification of merchandise exports, corporate sector needs to focus on further improving services exports. In addition to the already earmarked services sectors such as tourism and IT-BPO, measures

should also be taken to improve exports of other important services such as logistics and financial services. The sector can be enriched with more foreign exchange once the Colombo Commercial and Financial Hub is in operation. It is vital that Sri Lanka needs to form strategic economic partnerships with other nations, particularly the regional countries, to promote its exports and maximise benefits from the movement of capital and human resources.

### 2. Reformation of the business environment and relaxation of rigid policy frameworks

It is admitted that a well developed and relaxed policy framework of a country underpinned by a conducive environment to conduct business, enables the corporate sector to move ahead in terms of attracting investments, thereby boosting overall performances. As all of us are aware, the investors’ perspective is of paramount importance to for the corporate business to thrive. As such, there is nothing to discuss about establishing a promising and relaxed business environment to attract enormous investment.

As per *Doing Business 2020*, Sri Lanka holds the 99th position out of 190 economies for ease of doing business, remaining below its regional peers. India managed to raise its ranking through streamlining its reform strategies giving priority to the *Doing Business* indicators. Countries such as Vietnam have upgraded their information technology infrastructure to make it easy to pay taxes.

Recently, Sri Lanka too, made an effort to upgrade the information technology infrastructure by introducing online systems for filing taxes, processing construction permits and business registration. The relatively

poor score of Sri Lanka on the ease of doing business indicates that there is ample room for further improvement to a host country for investments in the Corporate sector.

### 3. Untapped areas but yet rewarding

Sri Lanka’s merchandise export strategy needs to be revolutionised by diversifying the differential exports and among them, IT export which is currently less tapped, as other evolving markets when Bangladesh, Vietnam in the Asian region have been benefited more from IT exports to the economic development of their countries. The garment trade that began in Bangladesh in the 1970s is now a \$30 billion industry. But the economy is diversifying. The services sector – including microfinance and computing – makes up 53 per cent of the country’s GDP.

The success of the IT industry is central to the digital transformation and ongoing economic growth of Bangladesh. It exports nearly \$1 billion of technology products every year – a figure that the Government expects to increase to \$5 billion by 2021. The country also has 600,000 IT freelancers.

It is worth noting that exports and FDI have been key drivers of growth in many successful economies in Asia. However, Sri Lanka’s progress in terms of exports and FDI has been lower compared to its regional counterparts. Sri Lanka has not been able to diversify exports and its share in global trade has declined over time, unlike its East Asian neighbours, and its exports structure has not evolved to the next level beyond apparel, tea and rubber products since the early 1990s. Anti export bias, lack of private domestic and foreign investment in the tradable, particularly the industry sector, lack of innovation and research and development (R&D) have further deepened the woes of the exports sector.

The potential development of the Corporate sector could be optimised when there is a genuinely symbiotic relationship between the actions taken by the Government and the players in corporate sector. The Corporate sector has its responsibility and accountability assure the end use of funds and the end result of the business plan in holistic approach and such approaches should also be recognised. There is a large amount of development activity that companies have undertaken as part of their core operations: The Government needs to recognise and harness the segment. As the backbone of the economy, the corporate sector needs to be reinforced by all means with the ob-

jective of optimising the real gain to the economy, as such considering these factors, robust strategies are required to be put in place with a co-ordinated, coherent and strategic move.

### 4. Commercialisation of agriculture and investment opportunities in related activities

This sector neglected at corporate level for many years should be promoted as commercialised agriculture in order to face challenges in restriction of imports of agricultural items, generate new employment opportunities and changing mindset of the upper level of the urban people to use local agricultural products.

### Way forward; commercialising agriculture

- Establish agriculture banks with soft loan schemes. Commercial banks unable to cater to agricultural needs.
- Construction of warehousing facilities.
- Provision of irrigation facilities
- Promotion of commercialised culture.
- Emulation of modern agriculture facilities.
- Coordinating of institutions like irrigation and water resources, agriculture, agriculture banks and marketing agents and government policy changes and the bureaucracy.

### Constraints in the commercialisation of agriculture

- The lack of corporate investment due to uncertain policy limits of the expansion of the sector.
- Frequent annual, natural disasters such as floods, droughts, wild animals challenges. Such natural events and disasters can be devastating to farmers and their families.
- The biggest impediment to agriculture development is not at policy level, the Government introduces with sustainable policies.
- The weak functioning of research and development programs which are confined to labs and do not adequately reach the purposes.
- The participation of farmer organisations and the private sector in agriculture development are essential for equity based development.
- Reforms are needed to transform of traditional agriculture to commercial agriculture to face global challenge.

The potential development of the corporate sector could be optimised when there is a genuinely symbiotic relationship between Government’s initiatives and the contribution of the players in the corporate sector. The corporate sector has its responsibility and accountability to assure the end use of funds and the effective approaches to attain the ultimate results of the business plan and such approaches should also be recognised. There is a large amount of development activities that companies have undertaken as part of their core operations: The Government needs to recognise the same and harness the segment. As the backbone of the economy, the corporate sector needs to be reinforced by all means with the objective of optimising the real gain to the economy, as such considering these factors, robust strategies are required to be put in place enhanced with a co-ordinated, coherent and strategic move.













# IMPACT

## Tuition fees for private education and online classes THE RATIONALE?

WE MUST ALL SIMPLY RIDE THIS WAVE, GET USED TO CUTTING DOWN ON OUR OTHERWISE "WANTS" AND GETTING-BY ON WHAT ARE ONLY "NEEDS" AND SIMPLY HOPE FOR A BETTER TOMORROW FREE FROM CORONA!

By  
**Chrismal  
Warnasuriya**



**S**ocial discourses since the advent of this “new-norm”, particularly with similarly circumstanced parents who have children attending privately funded “colleges” or schools, prompted me to address this issue publicly so that we may perhaps find a solution together for what appears to be a common concern.

Covid-19 has made us turn a complete 180 degrees in most of our everyday activity, from the use of the now commonplace face-mask to the constant rinsing of our palms, or indeed having our darling angels constantly at home; who would've otherwise been in the safe sanctity of that heavenly escape (at least for us parents, during day time) called school.

### New Normal

This being so, should only tuition fees of private educational institutions remain unchanged?

I must concede that I cannot take the singular credit for all the ideas expressed, as some have been shared with me by other like-minded parents who, perhaps knew that this would prompt me to “bell the cat”, which they themselves would not have wanted to

do (in true Sri Lankan fashion) and for the same reason, it is sincerely hoped that these thoughts of the father will not result in some adverse reaction on the education and future of my children; I should hope that we have been groomed enough to tolerate an opposing view and look at the issue objectively and not take it as a personal affront and lash out in defense.

### Why we pay more?

This is once again a common argument in many social circles, indeed as a student who attended a fully privately funded College I faced my own share of “the music” when I entered the State University system, struggling with the tertiary equivalent of the constant tussle between perceived “classes” in the system; a minority who are seen as a privileged class with parents spending (millions these days) on schooling, who speak in English and are mainly centred around Colombo (who I have heard being collectively referred to as “Colombians” rather derogatorily - no connection to the Latin American Republic, the capital of which is Bogota) as against the relative majority of students who attend what are generally referred to (once again incorrectly) as “Government schools” that are actually funded by the State, not a particular Government.

There may be several valid reasons for bearing such expenditure if you ask a cross-section of parents.

For us, however, there appears to

be a common sentiment (among at least those who have shared their ideas with me) that they pay handsomely, at times prohibitive amounts at great personal sacrifice to some private colleges, not just for learning lessons in a book, that the mere fact of being part of that student body within that institution of history and tradition, whether at work or at play, renders an overall finished product of making a young lady or gentleman of your child that is fit to assume their role in a responsible society.

Given that rationale, the question then arises when you are not receiving the benefit of that additional consideration, must you still pay the same?

### Economic pressure

I am personally aware of several friends who are struggling to make just basic ends meet, to honour their basic payment schedules or indeed maintain their routine daily expenditure, leave alone making payments amounting to thousands for their children's education; as a direct result of either loss of employment, pay-cuts as much as 50 percent of their usual income of either one or both parents. Even professionals are now gradually coming to terms with invoices for services to even top corporate clients not being settled as regularly as before, for even those corporate entities are facing serious liquidity issues; this is the new norm, so unless you are part of that very small percentage making

the “million dollar club” with unlimited currencies stored away in foreign accounts, we must all simply ride this wave, get used to cutting down on our otherwise “wants” and getting-by on what are only “needs” and simply hope for a better tomorrow free from Corona! The question then is, why should private educational institutions be treated any differently?

On the one side, you have parents with severely diminished earning capacity and on the other, tutorial and other staff of these institutions who are not expected to be at work as regularly as before, who conduct “online classes” from the comfort of their own homes with no expenditure or time consumed in travel; should that also not be considered when billing fees for children who are actually at home and not at school?

### Expenditure on infrastructure

In some of our discussions between equally circumstanced parents (mostly the very opinionated mothers), I have heard the argument being raised, to the contrary, that there is an actual cost incurred in providing for the Wi-Fi or other similar internet based learning apparatus and this must necessarily be factored in; I accept this valid point and thus venture to make the suggestion that some rational quantification be done, taking into account on the one side those

expenses that a private educational institution would ordinarily incur in maintaining their daily (or monthly) activities, classrooms, electricity and other amenities, extra-curricular and sports activities with all related cost indices, such as staff, support staff and other payments when the children are normally at school and compare it to a situation on the other side; where there is none of that, but only the additional expenditure of facilitating the internet based learning and then open such accounts in some transparent manner for the parents to peruse.

### The child psyche

I am no accountant, but I have this strange feeling you may just notice an additional “profit” being shown on that equation. If indeed such is shown, shouldn't there be at least some pay back or credit afforded to those parents who have over-paid (in such a situation), if not indeed a direct remittance of such excess collected?

For me, as I am sure for any parent, we will try to do beyond our best for our children, forsaking all other benefits for ourselves; as our parents did for many of us when we were students. Therefore, I suppose we will beg, borrow (but perhaps just stop short of stealing) to continue to cough-up the required funds for our children and their future; but should this be taken advantage of, our innocent desire to see them bloom and not to harm their future in any way be taken for granted

by not affording some relief on the payment of fees, particularly for those parents who may truly be suffering? There is also the most important part of what effect all of this “home-learning via computer screen” is having on our children.

We all know that the classes are far from ideal, however much we try our children do not get up in the early hours of the morning and get ready to go to school, they are mentally not geared to the classroom atmosphere and at times, may even be sitting in front of the screen in their pyjamas! Some parents who are fortunate enough to continue in employment may not even know if their children had been at these online classes or simply watching TV!

If indeed this “new normal” is expected to continue for a while (as some experts claim), should all educational institutions not start thinking now of alternatives; perhaps taking two shifts of learning instead of one, get classrooms divided into a fewer number of students and permit them to attend school even on some days, if not all? Finally let me reiterate that I have discussed all of this in the public interest, so that if there are ideas that are similar, or indeed arguments against, we may discuss it and engage in a dialogue aimed at attaining the best for our children; our future and that of the nation!

**“Education is the weapon with which we can change the world”**

– Nelson Mandela

## Suggestions to overcome shortcomings in secondary education

BY LAKDASA HULUGALLE  
AND ANTON PEIRIS

**P**rof. G.L.Peiris has hit the nail on the head when he spoke at the National Institute of Education last month: “Focus should be made on two areas, viz: the method of teaching and the school curriculum.

The present method of teaching does not focus on the development of a child's analytical and critical thinking skills. The school curriculum should be revised”. On another occasion, after inspecting a classroom project at Susamayawardhana Maha Vidyalaya, Prof. Peiris said that the Government wants to create more opportunities for students to learn English. He also commented on the failure of the education system to produce youth capable of meeting current and growing requirements in the job market.

This article takes on from where Prof. G.L.Peiris has left, ie. We have made some recommendations to solve the problems that Prof. Peiris has raised.

There is intense stress for students; they have hardly any time to play or be engaged in extra-curricular activities. Their life is complicated by the necessity to attend tuition classes. They have to study nine subjects for the GCE (O/L) examination as opposed to seven subjects for students in England, Europe, Canada and Australia. The majority of graduates in the teaching profession do not have professional qualification (a Diploma in Education or a Teacher Training Certificate). There is a shortage of trained teachers.

Below is a plan to provide an all-round education to all Sri Lankan students.

1 The number of subjects studied for GCE (O/L) examination should be reduced to seven (Sinhala Language, English Language, Math-



ematics Studies, General Science, History, Religion and another subject).

Instead of taking nine subjects in the GCE (O/L) examination, students will be able to take seven subjects, thereby reducing their stress considerably.

Teaching seven subjects for the GCE (O/L) examination will provide a little space for teaching Computer Studies to all students. This subject should be internally assessed; there should be no homework set on it and there is no necessity to offer it as a subject for the GCE (O/L) examination. In many countries, students do not offer Computer Studies as a subject for the GCE (O/L) examination. All students follow a course in Typing and Computer studies and obtain a Diploma in that subject (eg. ICDL-International Computer Driving Licence) while still in school.

Maths Studies for the GCE (O/L) examination: There are students who have a little or no ability in mathematics and also others who do not need the use of Maths for their future studies. We suggest that they follow a course in Maths Studies in Grades 9-11 and sit the GCE (O/L) examination called ‘Maths

Studies Exam’.

The Maths Studies course should aim to demonstrate some practical applications of mathematics and problem solving: eg. Percentages, use of compound interest formula, elementary statistics, including standard deviation, elementary probability, including permutations and combinations, use of the Z-Score formula and the Normal Curve (the bell shaped curve) and use of Spearman's Rank Correlation formula (no proofs required in any of the formulae), plus elementary Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry and simple Trigonometry of the Right Angled Triangle (some of which they have studied in the Middle School) plus emphasis on graphical work.

International Baccalaureate had a Maths Studies program from 1970 to 2018. Over a million ‘weak’ students all over the world have discovered that this course is within their capability and they have benefited by obtaining the IB Maths Studies Examination qualification.

Maths studies course will equip students with a few useful life skills. eg. Use of the compound interest formula will enable them to calculate in advance how much interest and the

Amount of money that they will get in their Savings Book Account.

Simple exercises in permutations, combinations and probability will sharpen their ability to do critical thinking. The simple method of calculation using the Coefficient of Rank Correlation formula will enable them to compare two sets of statistical data and obtain a meaningful result. The simple Z-score formula also has practical applications.

2 iii/There is a shortage of trained English teachers. This problem is acute in rural areas. Sri Lanka cannot solve this problem alone. We need assistance from England, Australia and Canada to set up training colleges and to train our teachers to teach English.

Hats off to Ampara district SLPP candidate Kirti Sri Weerasinghe who contested the last parliamentary elections on the platform ‘make English a compulsory subject for all secondary school students in Sri Lanka’.

Six years of English (in Grades 6-11) taught by teachers, who are trained to teach English, will give students proficiency in English.

3 The need to revamp the overload-

ed GCE (O/L) syllabuses : Dr. B.J.C.Perera (Specialist Consultant Paediatrician) has said that “Some of our secondary school students are forced to learn the minutiae of genetics that even a medical doctor is not expected to know”.

This is also true for some of the other subjects.

The need of the hour is for the Minister to constitute syllabus committees in the subjects comprising a few secondary school teachers who have over 20 years’ teaching experience in the subject.

4 CAS was introduced to 10 schools in Europe, UK and North America in 1970 by the International Baccalaureate Organisation. By 2010, it has spread to more than 5,000 secondary and high schools worldwide. Now it's Sri Lanka's turn to introduce it. CAS should be compulsory for all secondary school students.

This should be taught outside school hours.

C-Creativity. That is, learning to play a musical instrument or taking part in a theatre production or singing in a choir or doing painting or sculpture or pursuing a hobby, such as stamp collection or carpentry or metal work.

A-Activity includes playing football or basketball or badminton or tennis or cricket or hockey or swimming or athletics or any other sporting activity.

S-Service. For students in Grade 9-13 only. For example, giving tuition in English or Mathematics to a ‘weak’ student or to a handicapped child for 45 minutes during the weekend for free or baking a cake to sell the cake slices at a fund raising event for a worthy cause or visiting an orphanage occasionally and playing a musical instrument to entertain the orphans. That is, to undertake a project that involves community service. It is not necessary to do a service activity every week. The aim should be to do it about three times during the

school year. The service component of CAS should be an enjoyable experience. Some students take part in service projects in Temple or in Church. These also count as service activities for CAS. It is the duty of the teachers to provide the students with some guidance on the choice of simple, easy to perform Service projects.

The students playing for the school cricket team or any other sports team have fulfilled their activity component of CAS. Similarly, the students who are members of the school band or dramatic society have fulfilled their creativity component.

CAS should be monitored by the school for each student. Each school should appoint at least one CAS Coordinator, ie. a competent teacher. He or she should not be a full-time teacher as it is a post or responsibility requiring many hours of work per week inside and outside school hours.

A CAS Coordinator should be paid a salary equivalent to that of a Deputy Principal.

The CAS Coordinator must ensure that, at the end of Grade 11, every student has worked on creativity, activity and service for at least a couple of years.

5 Extra heavy school bags carried by schoolchildren and the setting of homework. (i) install lockers (with at least one shelf inside) preferably close to classrooms. Lockers can be made of wood or metal, 45x10x10 inches or 20x15x15 inches (4,500 cubic inches per student).

(ii) Teachers should set homework a maximum of twice per week (ie. 2x20 minutes per week) in mathematics and only once per week (maximum of 30 minutes) in any other subject, making sure that a student gets no more than a total of one hour of homework per day. Some subjects require homework only once a fortnight. Some subjects do not require any homework at all.

**(To be continued)**

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**LICENSED FINANCE COMPANIES AUTHORIZED TO MOBILIZE DEPOSITS FROM PUBLIC AS AT 30.09.2020**

- The Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL) regulates and supervises Licensed Finance Companies (LFCs) in terms of provisions of the Finance Business Act No. 42 of 2011 (FBA) and Directions issued thereunder to promote safety and soundness of the overall financial sector. However, regulation and supervision of the CBSL does not necessarily prevent the failure of any financial institution, including LFCs.
- CBSL has the power to take different regulatory actions on LFCs in the event of any non-compliance with prudential requirements. The management of LFCs has the ultimate responsibility to operate them in a safe and sound manner while complying with regulatory and supervisory requirements of CBSL.
- CBSL does not have a legal authority to guarantee deposits of LFCs. However, all LFCs are required to insure their deposit liabilities with the Sri Lanka Deposit Insurance and Liquidity Support Scheme (SLDILSS) established by the CBSL. Currently, the maximum compensation of Rs. 600,000 per depositor, per institution will be paid by SLDILSS in the event of a suspension/cancellation of any LFC. General public are hereby informed that no other instruments other than 'deposits' will be covered under SLDILSS.
- To assist public in making informed decisions, LFCs are required to disclose key financial information/indicators in the press every six months in terms of the regulations issued under FBA.
- Further, attention of the public is drawn to the positive relationship between the risk and return of any investment including deposits.
- Considering the above, public is advised to exercise due care when making deposits in LFCs to ensure the safety of their funds and also to refrain from depositing funds in unauthorized institutions/persons.

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\* Non-compliant with the minimum capital adequacy requirement and the company has been given time extension to rectify the non-compliance.  
\*\* Non-compliant with the minimum capital adequacy requirement and the company is yet to submit a feasible capital augmentation plan.  
# A notice of cancellation of the licence issued to carry on finance business under the Finance Business Act, No. 42 of 2011 has been issued to Sinhaputhra Finance PLC (SINF) by the Monetary Board of the CBSL. However, in terms of the provisions of the Act, Monetary Board decided to provide SINF with an opportunity to implement the proposed capital augmentation plan within the timeframe stipulated.  
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Sealed quotations will be received by me, up to **2.30 p.m. on 10.11.2020** from Institutions having not less than 03 years relevant experience for the cleaning of the buildings and the premises around, situated at the Ragama Premises, belonging to the University of Kelaniya and the disposal of garbage.

A pre-bid meeting relevant to this is scheduled to be held at **10.00 a.m. on 27.10.2020** at the Ragama Medical Faculty Office and the relevant Tender Forms can be obtained only on this day at the conclusion of the above meeting on submission of a written request, made to the Senior Assistant Registrar / Medical Faculty and the receipt received from the Shroff of the Medical Faculty, on payment of a non-refundable fee of **Rs. 2000.00**. Also, relevant Tender Forms can be obtained from **19.10.2020 up to 2.30 p.m. on 09.11.2020** from the Assistant Registrar (General Administration) on payment of an amount of **Rs. 2000.00** made to the Shroff of the University of Kelaniya.

Duly completed Tender Forms in two copies as the original and duplicate, should be placed in separate sealed covers marked "**Tender for Cleaning of the Ragama Medical Faculty of the University of Kelaniya**" at the left-side top corner and should be placed in the Tender Box kept opposite of the Office of the Chief Security Officer in the Dalugama Premises of the University of Kelaniya, to be received at or before **2.30 p.m. on 10.11.2020**. Separate quotations should be submitted for each item. Incomplete applications submitted will be rejected without any evaluation done.

Tenders received will be opened at **2.30 p.m. on 10.11.2020** at the Dean's Committee Meeting Hall at the Dalugama Premises of the University of Kelaniya. Tenderer or one of his authorized Representatives can be present at the opening.

**Chairman, Procurement Committee, University of Kelaniya.**

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Notice is hereby given to the General Public of Sri Lanka, that an Experts Committee to Draft a New Constitution appointed by the Cabinet of Ministers, has been mandated with the formulation of a draft Constitution to replace the Second Republican Constitution of Sri Lanka, for consideration by the Cabinet of Ministers and Parliament.

Please be informed that any member of the Public, who wishes to submit any proposal, ideas or views with regard to the same, could do so in the Sinhala, Tamil or English Languages, on or before 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020, addressed to the Secretary to the Committee.

Please be kind enough to ensure that :

1. All submissions are typewritten on A4 paper :
2. A new page is used for each topic mentioned below :
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  - g. Franchise and Elections including Referenda
  - h. Decentralization/ Devolution of Power / Power Sharing
  - i. The Judiciary
  - j. Public Finance
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  - l. Any other area of interest not specifically referred to above

It would be appreciated if the submissions are made as concisely as possible.

Submissions may be sent via registered post or by e-mail to the addresses given below.

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## IN THE FACE OF CLIMATE, HEALTH AND FOOD SECURITY CHANGES

# Challenges to agriculture

Part v



CONTINUED FROM OCTOBER 11

BY ABHAYA KENDARAGAMA

### Support services for climate smart agriculture

An appropriate way to build resilience to climate change by local agriculture is to develop and adopt packages of adaptation strategies and practices targeted to each specific agriculture production system.

According to available literature, building resilience can be briefly described as the creation of an ability of a system to bounce back or return to normal functioning after climatic adversity.

For example, management strategies, such as quick land preparation immediately after the onset of seasonal rains play a significant role for adaptation to climate change. For this purpose, presently in most farming communities, family labour is not adequately available and hired labour is not affordable due to high cost involved.

As a result, there is a need to consider the use of mechanised farm implements as an adaptation strategy.

However, most farmers in the country have not been equipped with required set of farm implements. Farm implements are intensively used for only a short time during land preparation and crop harvesting.

Hence, particularly small-holder farmers are reluctant to maintain their own collection of farm implements.

Hiring implements from private owners is also expensive and availability is not assured at the required time in most cases.

Therefore, establishing farm implement rental centres at the community level serves as a support service to facilitate farm mechanisation and ensure quick land preparation.

Some support services, such as management packages to promote the buildup of resilience in the affected farming systems include:

a). Providing a facility for hiring farm implements,

b). Re-promoting the Aththam method in labour use particularly in hill agriculture,

c). Practising the bethma method in seasons having water shortages,

d). Installing electrified fences to protect crops from major wild animal pests,

e). Introducing crop insurance schemes particularly for commercial scale farming,

f). Introducing value-added land races for different climatic regions,

g). Producing byproducts from adapted crops and

h). Establishing effective market chains.

a). **Facility for hiring farm implements**

Providing a facility for hiring farm implements through a cooperative system or under the execution of a Government organisation would play a significant role in pop-

ularising farm mechanisation particularly among small holder farmers and contribute to building up resilience to climate change.

In the case of light implements, such as hoe, garden knife, sickle, hand weeder and knapsack sprayer, a required collection can be maintained by individual farmers.

In contrast, the need for providing a hiring service arises for heavy implements.

Some heavy implements required for farming include two wheel tractors, four wheel tractors, minimum scale paddy seed cleaners, paddy seed processing machines, ridge and furrow makers, bund makers, highland inter-cultivators (backpack and walking types), highland seeders (injector type), grass cutters, water pumps (2 and 4 inches), power sprayers, multi choppers and combine harvesters.

Therefore, development of a support policy to provide a cooperative facility or Government agency is required by farming communities for hiring appropriate farm implements at the required time at an affordable cost.

b). **Re-promotion of the Aththam method**

The Aththam method has been a system of effective family labour use on mutual sharing basis since ancient times in this country.

In the case of rain-fed farming communities in hilly areas, the use of heavy farm implements is difficult due to the sloping of the terrain.

In these hilly areas, the re-introduction of traditional labour sharing arrangements particularly for peak times, such as land

preparation, transplanting and harvesting should be considered.

Seasonal crop based hill agriculture has been the major system of farming historically in areas, such as Wahakotte, Dambawa, Selagama, Walmoruwa, Yatawatte, Deevilla, Mailapitiya, Bolape, Marassana, Adikarigama, Malulla, Hapuwa, Hanguranketha, Rikillagaskada, Mathurata, Mandaramnuwara, Walapone, Nildandahinna, Harasbedda, Kotambe, Galauda, Udupussellawa, Doragala, Dawatagas, Samanpura, Baragas, Keppetipola, Bogahakumbura, Welimada, Mirahawatte, Bandarawela, Kivullinda, Haliela, Badulla, Wewatenna, Meegakivula, Kandeketiya, Karametiya, Medamahanuwara, Hunnasgiriya, Udadumbara, Kalugala, Padupola, Udakumbura, Madugalla and Rambukwella.

Expert consultation will be required to develop strategies for the re-introduction of the Aththam method for areas practising hill agriculture.

### Farm implements for facilitating quick land preparation

c). **Re-promotion of the bethma method**

The Bethma method is a system of land allocation particularly in tank villages in the dry and semi-dry areas for seasonal crop cultivation when the availability of water for rice farming in the entire paddy tract is not adequate.

## DEVELOPMENT OF A SUPPORT POLICY TO PROVIDE A COOPERATIVE FACILITY OR GOVERNMENT AGENCY IS REQUIRED BY FARMING COMMUNITIES FOR HIRING APPROPRIATE FARM IMPLEMENTS AT THE REQUIRED TIME AT AN AFFORDABLE COST

Depending on the availability of tank water storage, a portion of the paddy tract is selected for crop cultivation in the season. In the selected area, each land owner receives a land parcel for farming. In some cases, the land parcel received may be owned by another farmer and it is only a provision of cultivation rights for the season.

The farmers who received cultivation rights have the understanding for safe use of the land during the season and hand it over to the owner without making any damages to the property inclusive of irrigation terraces and field canals.

The occurrence of more frequent water shortages for crop cultivation in village tank areas due to climate change effects could renew the need for re-promotion of this traditional land use strategy.

d). **Establishment of electrified fences**

Most local farming systems are closely associated with wildlife reservations and as a result, damages to crops and farm lands from wild animals have been a major constraint to crop production.

A research study conducted in Galgamuwa identified the animals responsible for the damage to farming lands.

The most common animals include: elephant (*Elephas maximus*), boar (*Susscrofa*), deer (*Axis axis*), monkey (*Rhesus macaque*), porcupine (*Hystrix indica*), palm civet (*Viverricula indica*), squirrel (*Callosciurus prevostii*), Indian palm squirrel (*Funambulus palmavum*), peacock (*Pavocristatus*) and Indian star tortoise (*Geochelone elegans*).

Among them, crop damages have been most severe from elephant, boar, deer and monkey. This is also the case in most other farming tracks associated with wildlife reservations.

Pilot scale demonstrations, to establish electrified fences have proven to be a successful strategy particularly for three among major animal pests: elephant, deer and boar. In areas where cable power supply is not available, solar energy has been successfully used as a nature friendly and cost effective alternative source of electrical power.

Some farmers have adopted the practice of using solar energy based electrified fences at cultivation plot levels, but this practice needs further development and expansion with necessary policy support.

e). **Introduction of crop insurance schemes**

In case of commercial scale farming, crop damages and reduced yields have been reported for some seasonal high value crops, such as potato, cabbage, carrot, tomato, capsicum, bottle guard, bitter

gourd, ridge gourd, chilli, onion and maize due to unexpected dry spells experienced during the growing season.

These types of damages have been aggravated by climate change effects during the past few decades. Suicide cases of farmers due to such crop failures have also been reported.

The introduction of a crop insurance scheme would financially help protect farmers during periods of unexpected crop losses caused by adverse weather.

Provision of a crop insurance scheme has been a common strategy in many other countries.

Under changing climatic conditions, new policy supports are required for the introduction and promotion of a comprehensive insurance scheme particularly for commercial scale farming of high value crops in risk areas.

f). **Value addition on land races**

Land races of food plants have been capable of surviving even under adverse climatic conditions compared to newly improved crops. For example, conventional land races in the country include palmyrah palm (*Borassus flabellifer*) which has been native to the Indian subcontinent and Southeast Asia, woodapple (*Limonia acidissima*) which has been a native tree to Sri Lanka and India, margosa (*Azadirachta indica*) which has been native to the Indian subcontinent, tamarind (*Tamarindus indica*) although it originated from Tropical Africa, toddy palm (*Caryota urens*) which has been naturally occurring in the wet zone and jackfruit (*Artocarpus heterophyllus*) which originated from ancient cultivation in India.

The palmyrah palm has been grown dominantly in districts of Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mullathivu, Mannar, Vavunia, Trincommallee, Baticlao and some parts of adjacent districts.

The sap extracted from this plant has been traditionally used for producing jaggery, treacle and toddy.

The dried leaflets of the plant have been used for making bags and mats for community use and income. Similarly, plants, such as wood apple, margos although it is not a food crop and tamarind have been more commonly grown in districts of Puttalam, Kurunegala, Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, Ampara, Moneragala, Hambantota and some parts of the adjacent districts.

The pulp of the fruit of wood apple has been used as fresh fruit. It can also be used for jam, syrup and bottled drink for added value. Margosa plant has been used for medicinal purposes. Its pesticide properties can be exploited for val-

ue addition. The brown pulp around the seeds of tamarind plant has been used for seasoning curries, chutneys and medicinal purposes. For added value, this pulp can be used for making toffees and other sweet meats.

Toddy palm and jackfruit plants have been most commonly and naturally grown in the districts of Kalutara, Galle, Matara, Ratnapura, Kegalla, Kandy, Matale, Nuwara Eliya, Badulla and some parts of the adjacent districts.

Toddy palm sap tapped from the flower inflorescences has been used for making toddy, treacle and jiggery. All these products can be value added. In addition, sago has been processed from the trunk.

The unripe fruit of the jackfruit has been used as a vegetable for different tastes (embulpolos, mellumpolos, kirikos, kosmelluma, kosniyambalawa) and the ripe fruit as a desert.

In addition to the above examples, many land races which show resilience to climate change under different local agro-ecological environments show significant potential for value addition.

Value added products from these land races would help assure economic survival of rural communities, particularly during climatic adversity.

It is also important to utilise non-destructive means of harvesting plant parts from land races to ensure the sustainable use of this valuable plant genetic resource within village communities.

g). **Byproducts from adapted crops**

Rice has been the crop most adapted for seasonal farming in Sri Lanka. Being the staple of the nation, rice has a strong local demand for domestic consumption. In addition, it has a longer keeping quality under domestic environmental conditions. This is also the case for most crops yielding dry products, such as maize, finger millet, green gram, black gram, cowpea, soybean, groundnut and dry chilli.

However, for crops yielding perishable products, such as most fruits and vegetable, a problem arises with excess supplies.

For example, in some farming communities where most farmers cultivate only a limited number of perishable crops, the prices of produce typically decline during harvesting periods when produce is more abundant.

Tomato widely grown in the Matale district, brinjal in the Anuradhapura district and pumpkin in the Moneragala district, lime in the semi-wet and semi-dry areas are classic examples of price decline at the harvest time.

Diversion of the excess production for processing into byproducts with better keeping quality would help mitigate the problems associated with managing excess production.

For example, byproducts, such as sauce from tomato and fruit juice from lime are some affordable industries that could benefit resource poor local farmers.

New policy supports are required for promotion and initiation of value-added processing industries in farming areas.



Farm implements for facilitating quick land preparation

ularising farm mechanisation particularly among small holder farmers and contribute to building up resilience to climate change.

## FEATURE



# ALSTON KOCH at Central American Educativa Fiesta



**R**osalía Arteaga of Ecuador, the only woman to have held the positions of both President and Vice President of any country has invited Alston Koch to Ecuador. Alston is probably the only Asian born artiste to have appeared in most cities throughout the Continent of South America. He will appear as a special guest at the Excellencia Educativa in Ecuador discussing the effects of Climate Change.

He will also perform a song written especially for the occasion on the subject. Alston Koch has been an original advocate for Climate Change since 1991 when he approached the subject (then unknown) and raised the eyebrows of members of the British Parliament in the House of Commons.

Alston in Ecuador recently visiting the Amazon and the breathtaking Andes was interviewed on 'CORA CORA' Television by Rosalía Arteaga.

It was fitting that he be invited again having been felicitated by the Rotary Club of Ecuador for his contribution to the South and Latin American communities. 2019 has been a great year for Alston Koch having carried away the 'Best Actor' award at the SIGNIS Film Awards, Sri Lankan Of The Year and Global Entertainer Of The Year 2019 and Brand Ambassador for the Rotary Club of Sri Lanka.

Author and performer of many songs in relation to Climate Change,

he also wrote, performed and presented a song 'A Symphony For Change' on World Environment Day launched at The Library of The President of Mexico in Mexico City to raise awareness of the problems caused by plastic waste in the environment.

In his early years in Australia entertaining and travelling the World, he has recorded for R.C.A, EMI and SONY Records with Gold and Platinum Awards to his credit.

Alston Koch recently reached No 2 with his best selling album 'Don't funk with me' and was nominated for consideration for an Oscar and an Academy Award for his excellent role in the film 'According To Matthew'.

**AUTHOR AND PERFORMER OF MANY SONGS IN RELATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE, ALSTON KOCH ALSO WROTE, PERFORMED AND PRESENTED A SONG 'A SYMPHONY FOR CHANGE' ON WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY LAUNCHED AT THE LIBRARY OF THE PRESIDENT OF MEXICO IN MEXICO CITY TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE PROBLEMS CAUSED BY PLASTIC WASTE IN THE ENVIRONMENT**



## FAO AND WFP CALL FOR URGENT ACTION

# Strengthening food systems amid Covid-19

October 16, 2020, Colombo, Sri Lanka - The United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) join hands in calling for action to improve the food systems to help people better withstand shocks including the Covid-19 pandemic and prevent increasing malnutrition in the country.

Covid-19 has made many of us rekindle our appreciation for something we often take for granted: food.

The recent spike of the number of Covid-19 cases has highlighted the importance of strengthening our food systems, to ensure that safe, good quality and nutritious food makes its way from farm to table, even amid disruptions as unprecedented as the current Covid-19 crisis.

The socio-economic effects of the pandemic - particularly loss of jobs and reduced incomes - are heightening threats, such as those related to climate change which the country is particularly vulnerable to. In Sri Lanka, an increase in the rates of malnutrition is a real risk.

"Simply producing more food is not enough; making agri-food systems sustainable, resilient and inclusive, and healthy diets accessible and affordable for everyone is paramount to building back better from Covid-19," said FAO Representative for Sri Lanka and the Maldives Dr Xuebing Sun. "Our future food systems need to provide decent livelihoods for food system workers, while preserving natural resources and biodiversity and tackling challenges such as climate change," Dr. Sun said.

"A diverse food supply is an essential part of the health and nutrition response to Covid-19 when people's immune systems need to be robust," said WFP Country Director, Brenda Barton. "The right nutrition at the right time can change lives and allow the people of Sri Lanka, especially children, to reach their full potential. A well nourished population is crucial to building a healthy and prosperous nation."

The need for concerted action to improve agricultural production while enhancing global sup-



ply chains, preserving access to safe and nutritious food and ending food waste is captured in this year's World Food Day theme: "Grow, Nourish, Sustain. Together".

This World Food Day celebrated on October 16 FAO and WFP are calling for sustainable investment in food systems to achieve healthy diets for all. Without massive improvements in the food supply chain, countries like Sri Lanka, are set to become increasingly vulnerable to financial volatility and climate shocks.

This World Food Day provides an opportunity to thank Sri Lanka's food heroes - farmers and workers throughout the food supply chain who, even during the Covid-19 lockdown, continued to provide food to their communities and beyond.

In Sri Lanka, under nutrition rates have remained largely unchanged for over a decade. These stagnant rates of malnutrition - which are particularly high among children - clearly indicate the need to accelerate and scale up actions to strengthen food systems and protect people's livelihoods.

No one organisation or person can achieve these goals alone; everyone has a role to play in ensuring nutritious food is available for all - from governments, private

**THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF THE PANDEMIC - PARTICULARLY LOSS OF JOBS AND REDUCED INCOMES - ARE HEIGHTENING THREATS SUCH AS THOSE RELATED TO CLIMATE CHANGE WHICH THE COUNTRY IS PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE TO. IN SRI LANKA, AN INCREASE IN THE RATES OF MALNUTRITION IS A REAL RISK**

businesses to individuals.

By investing in policies and programs, governments can help build safe conditions and decent incomes for smallholder farmers and food chain workers, and adopt measures that avoid economic disruption. Private sector companies, many of which have been severely strained by the pandemic, can have an enormous influence on how communities, economies and food systems respond to a range of challenges including climate change. People too have a role to play - from limiting food waste, to supporting local producers, to being an activist, advocating for a transformation in our agri-food systems.

Now more than ever, there is a need for solidarity to help all people, especially the most vulnerable, to confront the crises facing our country through innovative solutions and strong partnerships.

This year's World Food Day comes as FAO turns 75. FAO was founded on October 16, 1945 - some days before the United Nations itself - to further agricultural knowledge and nutritional wellbeing. Today FAO's priorities include digital agriculture, innovation and greater partnership and collaboration in transforming food systems to provide enough nutritious food for a growing population.

World Food Day is also being celebrated a week after WFP was awarded the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize, in recognition of its work to combat hunger and improve conditions for peace. This award reflects the theme for World Food Day 2020, by recognising efforts which focus not only on providing food for today and tomorrow, but also on building resilience and equipping people with the means to thrive in days to come, even in the face of adversity.

## Global Hand Washing Day: Hygiene for all

BY MANDIRA WIJERATHNA

The Covid-19 pandemic has taught the vitality of washing hands. This year Global Hand Washing Day was celebrated on October 15 worldwide under the theme, 'Hand Hygiene for All'.

The World Health Organization, UNICEF, the United Nations, and many other organisations around the world raised awareness and distributed essential sanitisation products to improve hygiene standards among communities signifying the importance of washing hands.

At present hand washing has become a crucial topic of discussion, to be practised and cultivated in the day to day lives of people.

According to the World Health Organization, disinfection is the most effective method to avoid the spread of the virus from direct social contact.

The Covid-19 pandemic is a reminder that washing hands must be a priority now and in the future to maintain personal hygiene.

The WHO and UNICEF report on sanitation reveals that more than one in three health facilities in low and middle-income countries do not have any access to water. Also, when the reliability, safety,

and distance of the water supply are taken into account, that ratio increases to one in two.

As a solution to the issue the WHO has produced training guides, awareness-raising material, and infection prevention and control standards for health facilities.

Also, the WHO and UNICEF together have published a new tool, the Water and Sanitation for health facility improvement tool (WASH FIT), which practically guides to improve quality care through water, sanitation, and hygiene in health care facilities.

A summary of the WHO recommendations on hand hygiene commands to use alcohol-based hand rub (faster, more effective and better tolerated by the skin than washing with soap and water) if hands are not visibly dirty; and washing with soap and water when hands are visibly dirty, and after using the toilet.

This practice leads to achieving many of the Sustainable Development Goals and is an opportunity to learn, design, test, replicate, and share creative ways to encourage people to wash their hands at critical times.

Global Hand Washing Day celebration should be continued beyond October 15.



# Major shake-up as squash rings in the changes

BY ALTHAF NAWAZ

Eranga Alwis, a CFA qualified banker and a former Sri Lankan player, was elected uncontested as the secretary of Sri Lanka Squash (SLS). He will now spearhead the activities of the revamped executive committee under the stewardship of the president, retired Air Force Commodore Ajith Abeyskera.

Alwis was among a large number of new appointees to the Committee, effectively bringing in a new generation of younger office bearers. The newly appointed treasurer, Nilruk Soysa, is a qualified professional in Economics and a former national player, bringing in changes to the important posts of the Committee.

The Committee sees former women's top seed Kushani Daluwatta coming in as a vice president, and former player Natalie Goonewardena joining as assistant secretary.

The Executive Committee is further strengthened with the inclusion of Army's squash chairman Brigadier Pradeep Gunawardena as vice president and former rugby selector, national rugby cap and squash player Rohantha Peiris also rejoining as a vice president after a long lapse, providing guidance to the young members of the Committee who are to be groomed to take over the leadership in years to come.

The Committee also sees the current Tournament Committee Chairman Wing Commander Eranda Geeganage spearheading the tournament activities in the executive committee along with veteran player and Investor Basheer Cader as a vice president, along with Masters squash player Captain Kapila Gunasekara of Sri Lankan Airlines joining the executive committee.



Seated (L to R) – Natalie Goonewardena (assistant secretary), Nilruk Soysa (treasurer), Air Commodore Ajith Abeyskera (president), Eranga Alwis (secretary), Kushani Daluwatta (vice president). Standing (L to R) Wing Commander Eranda Geeganage (Ex-Co member), Dhammika Wijesundera (Ex-Co member), Kapila Gunasekera (vice president), Basheer Cader (vice president), Suren Kohombange (vice president), Rohantha Peiris (vice president), Brig. Pradeep Gunawardena. Absent: Ex-Co Member Jehan Goonaratne and Lahiru Hettiarachchi. Sri Lanka Squash held its 38th Annual General Meeting on September 26 at the Sinhalese Sports Club (SSC) with the participation of member clubs

The Committee also sees technology entrepreneur Suren Kohombange, who has been working with SLS in organizing activities, joining as a vice president. Player and investor Basheer Cader as a vice president, along with Masters squash player Captain Kapila Gunasekara of Sri Lankan Airlines joining the executive committee.

International certifications, refer-

ee courses with regional support, continues his stint in the Committee.

Commenting on the new appointments, Commodore Ajith Abeyskera said: "With the new Executive Committee, Sri Lanka Squash will continue its efforts in enhancing the squash fraternity in the country by providing a new impetus to the game and making the

sport popular and a top competitive sport among the younger generation of Sri Lanka.

"The new diverse and dynamic executive committee hopes to raise the bar of SLS and SLS is drawing a five-year plan for squash with the implementation categorized as short term, medium and long term working along with sponsors for financial backing."

## Australia Olympic basketball coach Brown quits

**SYDNEY AFP:** Former Philadelphia 76ers' coach Brett Brown on Tuesday quit his role with Australia's Olympic basketball team nine months before the rescheduled Tokyo Games.

Brown was appointed last November to coach the Australian team, known as the Boomers, with hopes high of winning a maiden gold medal at the Olympics, which have been delayed by until July 2021.

But Brown's circumstances changed when he was sacked two months ago after the Sixers were swept out of the playoffs by the Boston Celtics.

And he said a combination of having to rebuild his career and

travelling restrictions because of the coronavirus pandemic meant he could not continue to coach Australia.

"The uncertainties around the direction of my professional future unfortunately mean that I cannot commit to the time and preparation that this job deserves and requires," he said in a statement released by Basketball Australia on Tuesday.

"The difficulties around travelling internationally with my family during the pandemic have also contributed to my decision." Basketball Australia said it was disappointed by the departure of Brown, who has strong ties to the game Down Under, and did not immediately name a new coach.

## All Blacks wing Bridge out for season after training injury

**WELLINGTON AFP:** All Blacks wing George Bridge is out of the second Bledisloe Cup Test against Australia after suffering a training injury that could sideline him for six months, the New Zealanders said Thursday.

Bridge started in the 16-16 draw against the Wallabies last weekend and had been expected to feature in Auckland on Sunday before the All Blacks' injury woes deepened.

"George Bridge will be out of rugby for up to six months after suffering a chest injury in field training yesterday," the All Blacks tweeted.

"He'll be assessed over the next 48 hours to determine the next course of action."

Bridge will also miss the southern hemisphere's four-nation Rugby Championship due to be held in Australia starting at the end of the month.

# Sad ending for delayed Bradby match but memories still linger

By Hafiz Marikar



The 76th Bradby Shield rugby match between Royal College and Trinity College will not be played this year according to the Old Trinitians Rugby Scrummage.

The match was being looked forward to by rugby fans but was put on hold since May hoping for a date. The first leg was scheduled for May 30 and the second match on June 13.

Going back in history, the first match between these schools was played on July 31, 1920 and was made a yearly encounter with Trinity College winning for the first 21 years until the Royalists recorded their first victory in 1941.

In 1945, the principal of Royal College, EL Bradby, put forward the idea of playing an annual two-match se-

ries, to which the principal of Trinity College, CE Simithraarachchi readily agreed. To ensure the success of the series, Royal Principal EL Bradby offered a Shield and the series has been played annually and uninterrupted ever since.

The Shield was designed and made by Kandyan silversmiths with a wooden disk decorated with intricate traditional Kandyan silver works. The agreement was that the Shield should be presented to the winning team's captain soon after the final whistle at the second leg.

Today the junior game is played for the Simithraarachchi Cup which was donated by an old boy George Hemachandra. Thus the two principals who went all out for the Bradby have two trophies named in their memory.

So every year Old Boys of both schools use the Bradby as a convenient time to organize get-togethers and engage in much revelry. Out of the 75 contests so far, Trinity leads the



series having won the Shield 39 times and Royal 34 with two ties. The Bradby series began sensationally on July 12, 1945 when the Royal side led by CDL Fernando beat Trinity led by Robert Sourjah 3-0 in the first leg and in the second leg Trinity won 6-0. In the following year the same process was repeated when Trinity lost the first

leg in Kandy 0-3 and won the return match in Colombo 8-0. In that year, the Trinitians were led by SB Palapitiya and Royal by Mahesh Rodrigo. Then in 1962, Royal under UL Kaluarachchi won the first game 5-0 and lost the return game to the Trinitians led by NTE Brohier 9-0.

In 1972, Athula Unantenne led the Trinitians who were celebrating their centenary. Royal won the first leg in Colombo by 9 points to 8 and in the return in Kandy, Trinity won by 10 points to 3. That year Royal were led by GDS Gunasekara.

The writer wishes to go back to the 1958 game, where Royal won after seven years.

This game was played at Nittawala and was one of the best school games seen in that year. From the word go the boys went at it like men possessed. It was indeed a rousing game of rugby. The large crowd present were satisfied, though neither Trinity nor Royal won a point. In this game Royal had

## Sri Lanka's angel of netball and basketball bids farewell

Kamala Kulatilake who was a versatile sportswoman and a Double International in netball and basketball passed away on September 18 after a celebrated career that spanned over 50 years.

She was a student of Presbyterian Girls School, Dehiwela and during her academic career she captained the Junior, Intermediate and Senior netball teams and was the Intermediate and Senior athletic champion too.

With many achievements as a player, coach, umpire and official in netball and basketball Kamala started her sports career by joining the Colombo Municipal Sports and Recreational Department as a sports instructor and supervisor. She represented and captained the Municipal teams with distinction.

From 1977-79 Kamala represented the Sri Lanka netball team at British Airways (Speed Birds) and in 1980 was vice captain of the Sri Lanka team which toured India.

In 1993 she represented the Colombo district team in Perth, Australia and in 1994 with the Western Province team in Brisbane, Australia.

Among her off-court functions Kamala was tournament secretary and assistant secretary of the Netball Federation of Sri Lanka and the vice president of the Western Province Netball Association.

From 1969 to 1990 Kamala represented and captained the Municipal team in basketball which won many All Island Championships and in 1967 she represented the Sri Lanka basketball team at the Nehru Gold Cup tournament held in India.

From 1976 to 1978 Kamala represented the Sri Lanka basketball team at the All India Basketball Tournament held in Kerala, India and in 1978 captained the Sri Lanka basketball team at the seventh ABC Championship held in Malaysia. She also represented the Sri Lanka basketball team at the eighth ABC Championship held in Hong Kong in 1980.

Under Kamala's coaching guidance NDB Bank, Grindlays Bank, John Keells, Someswaran and Jayawickrema, Arthur Anderson and Company and Colombo Hilton were able to go places and win titles in domestic Leagues and tournaments. She also coached the Ladies' College netball team. In basketball Kamala also coached the University of Kelaniya



Kamala Kulatilake

which emerged champions at the inter-university basketball tournament as well as St. Bridget's Convent and the University of Sri Jayawardenapura which also ended as champs at the university tournament.

She was also an A Grade umpire in netball and a qualified coach who followed seminars in umpiring held in Malaysia in 1997 and a Sports Administrators course for women conducted by the National Olympic Committee in 2000.

Kamala was a brilliant and a capable person indeed with tremendous work experience throughout her career. These were remarkable experiences which she enforced into teaching in the latter part of her career where it helped the students to achieve their goals and knowledge in sports in a wide spectrum.

She was a mother to the family and to Ladies' College which she devoted her utmost precious time with unconditional love and care each moment to all of us which is unforgettable. There was an outpouring of emotions where grief, emptiness, sorrow and everything was expressed.

Kamala inevitably seemed headed for a long and fruitful career until that fateful day of September 18, 2020. May she attain Nirvana!

(By Kaushali Kulatilake)

## Call for AB de Villiers to return

India coach Ravi Shastri urged South African batsman AB de Villiers to come out of international retirement after he hit an explosive 73 in the Indian Premier League.

The 36-year-old, who ended his international career two years ago, smashed six sixes in a 33-ball blitz in Sharjah on Monday that set up a big win for the Royal Challengers Bangalore over the Kolkata Knight Riders.

Accolades poured in for the former Proteas captain, with Bangalore skipper Virat Kohli calling his teammate "super-human".

"What one saw last night was unreal," Shastri wrote on Twitter.

In a direct plea to de Villiers, Shastri added: "The game in these trying times or otherwise needs you back in the international arena and out of retirement. The game will be better off."

De Villiers called time on an illustrious South Africa career in May 2018 after playing 114 Tests and 228 one-day matches with a



AB de Villiers

batting average of over 50 in both formats.

Reports emerged that de Villiers wanted to come out of retirement and play for the national team in the 2019 World Cup, but a return never materialised. Earlier this year, de Villiers hinted he may return for the Twenty20 World Cup, scheduled to be held this year, that was postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

His IPL form - three half-centuries and a strike rate of over 185 in seven games - has added to talk of a comeback.

the edge over Trinity. They had a heavier pack and their back-line went in for short, crisp, passes, the spirit of passes that the forwards could join in on and they often did.

In the first half Royal had more of the game territorial and in the second half nearly two thirds of it. But during the last ten minutes Trinity attacked vigorously and all but failed to score twice.

This made the game an exciting one. G. Yangeyzel and M. Anghie the Royal fly half and fullback relieved pressure by some fine kicks to touch and helped to push back the Trinitians by this method.

Ken de Joodt and N. Maralande of Trinity gained welcome breathing spaces for their team by finding touch.

Trinity did well to win a number of scrums against a heavier pack. In the line-outs Trinity did better with EDK Roles always prominent and R. Hermon tireless at all times.

In the second half Royal laid siege on the Trinity goal and were it not for some ferocious tackling by the Trinitians, they should have scored at least three or four tries.

It was only in the 45th minute that Ken de Joodt with a terrific 40-yard punt brought play into the Royal half.

From then on Royal had their hands full preventing the Trinitians from going through.

The pace was furious. The first leg went in favour of Royal Colleg 6-0 and the second leg was a scoreless draw.

**Royal:** G. Yangeyzel, EL Pereira, OG Samararatunge, A. Rankine, L. Senaratne, M. Anghie, R. Pothuhera, C.de Soysa, K. Balendra, L. de Silva, R. Samarasekera, HS de Silva, R. Sivaratnam, DN Fernando, R. Fernando.

**Trinity:** M. Talwatte, SB de Silva, P. Buultjeins, Ken de Joodt, ARM Azain, N. Maralande, D. Kobbekaduwa, J. Dias de Singhe, MG de Alwis, RH Wijenyake, RB Abeyakoon, EDK Roles, R. Hermon, KJ Murray, D. Janahjiram

## SPORTS

# THE STORY OF WILMA RUDOLPH

## THRASHING POLIO, BREAKING WORLD RECORDS AT ROME 1960 OLYMPICS AND BLAZING A TRAIL FOR WOMEN

By  
Rear Admiral  
Dr. Shemal  
Fernando, PhD



Wilma Rudolph once said: “I believe in me more than anything in this world.” She sprang to fame at just 20, as the star of the Rome 1960 Summer Olympic Games, becoming the first American woman to win three gold medals in a single Olympiad. She clinched golds in blue riband events - 100m, 200m and 4x100m relay at Rome 1960 and emulated Jesse Owens who had been her inspiration. Her exceptional feat remains one of the most enduring achievements in the 124-year history of the Olympic Games. The start in her life was agonizing as it was filled with severe hardships and unequal treatment. Nevertheless, she ran, ran and ran to glory and became an iconic star.

Envision winning an Olympic medal in your lifetime - sounds great. Envision winning triple gold medals and having your name associated with world records - sounds incredible. Now, envision doing both as a 20-year-old at the Olympic Games - sounds like a fairy tale, surely. Then, envision doing all this despite the fact that you were once told as a child you might not be able to walk again because of polio. For Wilma Rudolph, these were not imaginary scenarios. She made them a reality during her glorious career. Her famous quote, “Never underestimate the power of dreams and the influence of the human spirit. We are all the same in this notion: The potential for greatness lives within each of us,” aptly describes her inspirational story.

### Melbourne 1956 and Rome 1960 Olympics

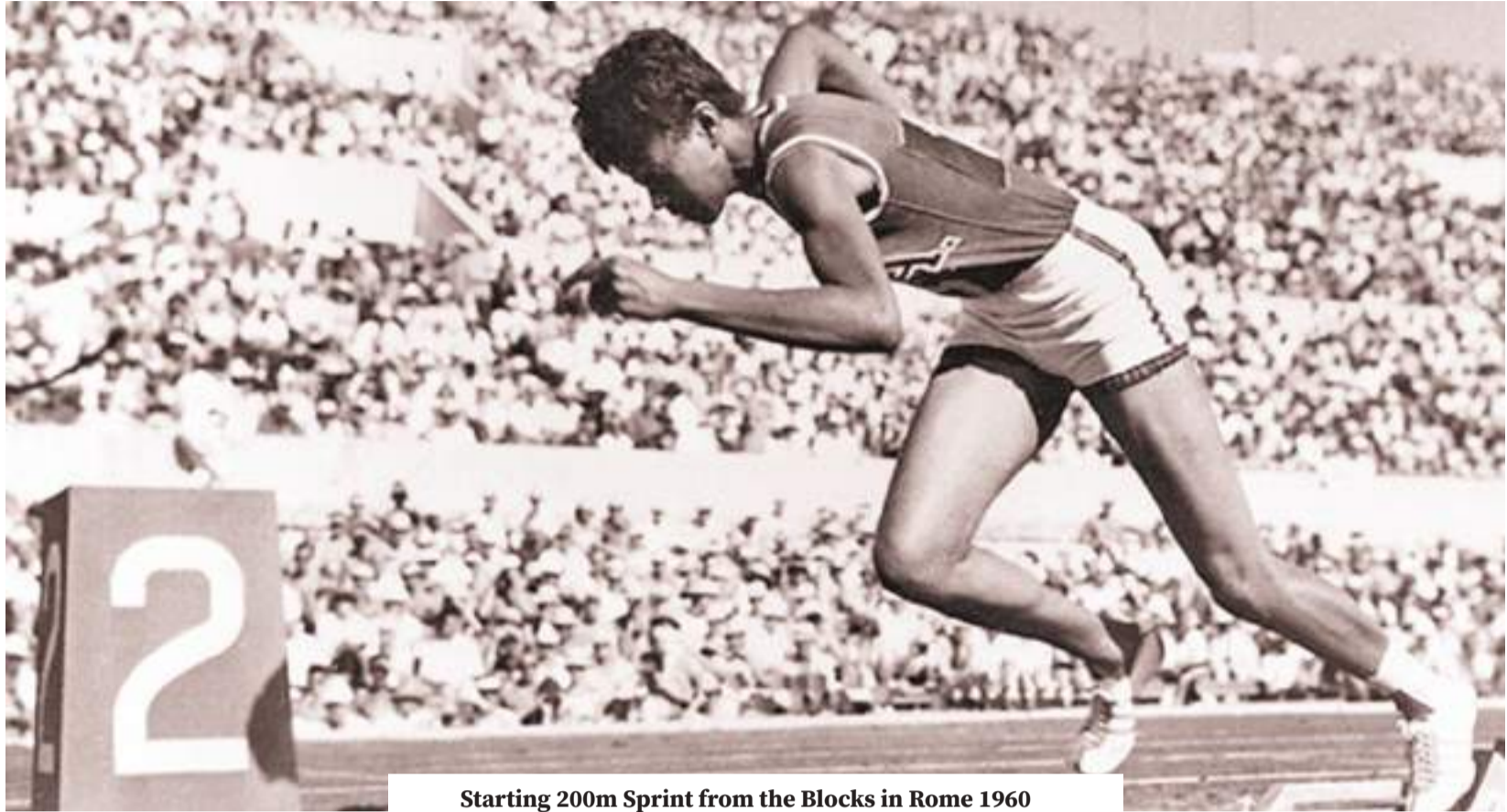
In the context of Rome 1960 Olympics, she was already a winner in life, because it is no mean feat to secure an Olympic bronze medal at just 16 as the youngest member of the United States Olympic contingent. Wilma qualified to compete in the 200m at the Melbourne 1956 Olympics but she failed to do well. However, she ran the third leg of the 4x100m and won her maiden Olympic medal, matching the world-record of 44.9 sec. It was an incredible achievement for an athlete who had started running only a few years earlier.

Rome 1960 remains a milestone event in the glorious history of the Olympic Games. The interest it generated was unprecedented. It is also worth remembering that, around that time, women's sport was not given due respect. The Olympic trials for women in the United States were not even reported. Wilma came along at a very important time in the rise of women in sports because it was the first televised Olympics. She was charismatic, had a beautiful way of running and the story of her life was so compelling that she really helped set the stage for all of the women athletes to follow.

While she was still a sophomore at Tennessee State, Wilma competed in the U.S. Olympic track and field trials at Abilene Christian University in Abilene, Texas, where she set a world record of 22.9 sec in the 200m on July 9, 1960. At the 1960 Summer Olympics in Rome, Wilma competed in three events on a cinder track: 100m and 200m as well as 4x100m relay, winning gold medals in all to become the first American woman to win three gold medals in a single Olympiad.

On September 2, 1960, Wilma won the gold in the final of 200m with a time of 24.0 sec, after setting a new Olympic record of 23.2 sec in the opening heat. Then, on September 5, 1960, Wilma ran the final of the 100m in 11.0 sec. The record-setting time was not credited as a world record, because it was a wind-aided time. However, after these achievements, she was hailed throughout the world as “the fastest woman in history.”

On September 9, 1960, Wilma with her Olympic teammates from Tennessee State - Martha Hudson, Lucinda Williams and Barbara Jones - won the 4x100m with a time of 44.5sec, after setting a world record of 44.4 sec in the semifinals. Wilma ran the anchor leg for the American team in the final and nearly dropped the baton after a pass from Williams, but she overtook Germany's anchor leg to win the relay in a close finish. Wilma had a special, personal reason to hope for victory, to pay tribute to her inspiration - Jesse Owens,



Starting 200m Sprint from the Blocks in Rome 1960

the celebrated American athlete and star of the Berlin 1936 Olympic Games.

Wilma emerged from the Olympic Games as “The Tornado, the fastest woman on earth.” The Italians nicknamed her “The Black Gazelle” and the French called her “The Black Pearl”. The 1960 Rome Olympics launched Wilma into the public spotlight and the media cast her as America’s “Leading Athletic Lady” and “Athletic Queen,” with praises of her accomplishments as well as her feminine beauty and poise.

### Wilma's Inspiring Grace on the Track

Wilma Glodean Rudolph was born in Saint Bethlehem, Tennessee on June 23, 1940. She was born prematurely at 4.5 pounds and was the 20th of 22 siblings from her father's two marriages. According to the Guardian, “even before Wilma contracted polio she had been stricken with illnesses including measles, whooping cough, scarlet fever and double pneumonia, the last two of which almost killed her.” She was fitted with metal leg braces to help her walk until she was nine.

“I spent most of my time trying to figure out how to get them off. But when you come from a large, wonderful family, there's always a way to achieve your goals,” she said. That childhood is enough to traumatize most kids but her incredible spirit and determination took her to the heights that made the world look up in jaw-dropping awe. “Even by the extraordinary standards set by those Olympians who overcame formidable adversities, Wilma's story is unique,” added the report in the Guardian, which also detailed the helping hands, quite literally, from her mother Blanche and siblings that helped her mend.

After making her initial mark in basketball, Wilma found her calling in athletics and made her Olympic debut at Melbourne 1956. She did not stop there. After giving birth to daughter Yolanda as a teenager, she was back on the American track team for Rome in 1960. Her sights were set on gold medals. Moreover, Rome 1960 was to be the highlight of Wilma's extraordinary life story. Her brilliant career ended with her

retirement in 1962. She then got into coaching and as an icon for the African-American community, worked with underprivileged children.

Wilma witnessed Florence Griffith Joyner matching her 1960 Olympics feat of three golds in the 1988 Olympics. It filled Wilma with pride to see African-American athletes be inspired by her. “It was a great thrill for me to see. I thought I would never get to see that. Florence Griffith Joyner - every time she ran, I ran,” she said. Her grace on the track was matched by her poise away from athletics as turned into an inspirational figure for women in sport.

Wilma summed it up best in her popular quote: “My doctor told me I would never walk again, my mother told me I would. I believed my mother.” Significantly taller than most athletes, Wilma once said she was the worst sprinter when it came to starting a race. “But the farther I ran, the faster I became,” she said. Indeed, that mirrors the journey of her life too. The start was not the best, it was filled with medical hardships and unequal treatment from peers. But she raced into the history books and glory.

### Birth, early life and education

Shortly after Wilma's birth, her family moved to Clarksville, Tennessee, where she grew up and attended elementary and high school. Her father, Ed, who worked as a railway porter and did

odd jobs in Clarksville, died in 1961; her mother, Blanche, worked as a house cleaner in Clarksville homes and died in 1994.

Wilma suffered from several early childhood illnesses and she contracted infantile paralysis at the age of five. She recovered from polio but lost strength in her left leg and foot. Physically disabled for much of her early life, she wore a leg brace until she was twelve years old. Because there was little medical care available to African American residents of Clarksville in the 1940s, Wilma's parents sought treatment for her at the historically black Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee, about 80 km from Clarksville.

For two years, Wilma and her mother made weekly bus trips to Nashville for treatments to regain the use of her weakened leg. She also received subsequent at-home massage treatments four times a day from members of her loving family and wore an orthopedic shoe for support of her foot for another two years. Because of the treatments, she received at Meharry and the daily massages from her family members, she was able to overcome the debilitating effects of polio and learned to walk without a leg brace or orthopedic shoe for support by the time she was twelve years old.

Wilma was initially home-schooled due to the frequent illnesses that caused her to miss kindergarten and first grade. She began attending second grade at Cobb Elementary

School in Clarksville in 1947 when she was seven. She attended Clarksville's all-black Burt High School, where she excelled in basketball and track. During her senior year of high school, Wilma became pregnant with her first child, Yolanda, who was born in 1958, a few weeks before her enrollment at Tennessee State University in Nashville. In college, Wilma continued to compete in track. In 1963, she graduated from Tennessee State with a Bachelor's Degree in Education.

Wilma was first introduced to organized sports at Burt High School, the center of Clarksville's African American community. After completing several years of medical treatments to regain the use of her left leg, Wilma chose to follow her sister Yvonne's footsteps and began playing basketball in the eighth grade. She continued to play basketball in high school, where she became a starter on the team and began competing in track. Wilma's high school coach, CC Gray, gave her the nickname of “Skeeter” (for mosquito) because she moved so fast.

While playing for her high school basketball team, Wilma's talents were spotted by Ed Temple, Tennessee State's track and field coach, a major break for the active young athlete. The day that Temple saw the tenth grader for the first time, he knew she was a natural athlete. She had already gained some track experience on Burt High School's track team two years earlier. Temple invited 14-year Wilma to join his summer training program at Tennessee State. After attending the track camp, she won all nine events she entered at an Amateur Athletic Union track meet in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

### Post-Olympic career

Wilma Rudolph's hometown of Clarksville celebrated “Welcome Wilma Day” on October 4, 1960, with a full day of festivities. Wilma adamantly insisted that her homecoming parade and banquet become the first fully integrated municipal event in the city's history. An estimated 1,100 attended the banquet in her honour and thousands lined the city streets to watch the parade.

Following her Olympic victories, the United States Information Agency made a ten-minute documentary film, “Wilma Rudolph: Olympic Champion” in 1961, to highlight her accomplishments on the track. Wilma's appearance in 1960 on “To Tell the Truth,” an American television game show and later as a guest on “The Ed Sullivan Show,” helped promote her status as an iconic sports star.

Wilma did not earn significant money as an amateur athlete and shifted to a career in teaching and coaching after her retirement from the track. She began as a teacher at Cobb Elementary School, where she attended as a child and coached track at Burt High School, where she had once been an athlete, but conflict forced her to leave the positions.

She moved several times over the years and lived in various places such as Chicago, Illinois; Indianapolis, Indiana; Saint Louis, Missouri; Detroit, Michigan; Tennessee; California; and Maine. Rudolph's autobiography, “Wilma: The Story of Wilma Rudolph” was published in 1977. It served as the basis for several other publications and films. By

now, around 20 books on Rudolph's life have been published for children from pre-school youth to high school students.

In addition to teaching, she worked for non-profit organizations and government-sponsored projects that supported athletic development among American children. In 1981, she established and led the Wilma Rudolph Foundation, a non-profit organization based in Indianapolis, Indiana, that trains youth athletes. In 1987, Wilma joined De Pauw University in Greencastle, Indiana as director of its women's track program and served as a consultant on minority affairs to the university's president.

She went on to host a local television show in Indianapolis. Wilma was also a publicist for Universal Studios as well as a television sports commentator for ABC Sports during the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles, California, and lit the cauldron to open the Pan American Games in Indianapolis in 1987. In 1992, Wilma Rudolph became a vice president at Nashville's Baptist Hospital. Wilma prematurely died from a brain tumour at the age of 54. For her memorial service, thousands of mourners thronged Tennessee State University on November 17, 1994 and the state flag flew at half-mast across Tennessee.

### Legacy, Awards and Honours

After her graduation from Tennessee State in 1963, Wilma Rudolph married Robert Eldridge, her high school sweetheart, with whom she already had a daughter, Yolanda, born in 1958. Wilma and Eldridge raised four children: two daughters (Yolanda in 1958 and Djuanna in 1964) and two sons (Robert Jr. in 1965 and Xurry in 1971). Wilma's legacy lies in her efforts to overcome obstacles that included childhood illnesses and a physical disability to become the fastest woman runner in the world in 1960. She was one of the first role models for black and female athletes.

Her autobiography, “Wilma: The Story of Wilma Rudolph”, was adapted into a television docudrama in 1977. Her life is also remembered in “Unlimited”, a short documentary film of 2015 for school audiences, as well as in numerous publications, especially books for young readers. She was named the United Press International Athlete of the Year (1960) and Associated Press Woman Athlete of the Year (1960 and 1961). She was also the recipient of the James E. Sullivan Award (1960) and the Babe Didrikson Zaharias Award (1962). In addition, Wilma had a private meeting with President John F. Kennedy in the Oval Office.

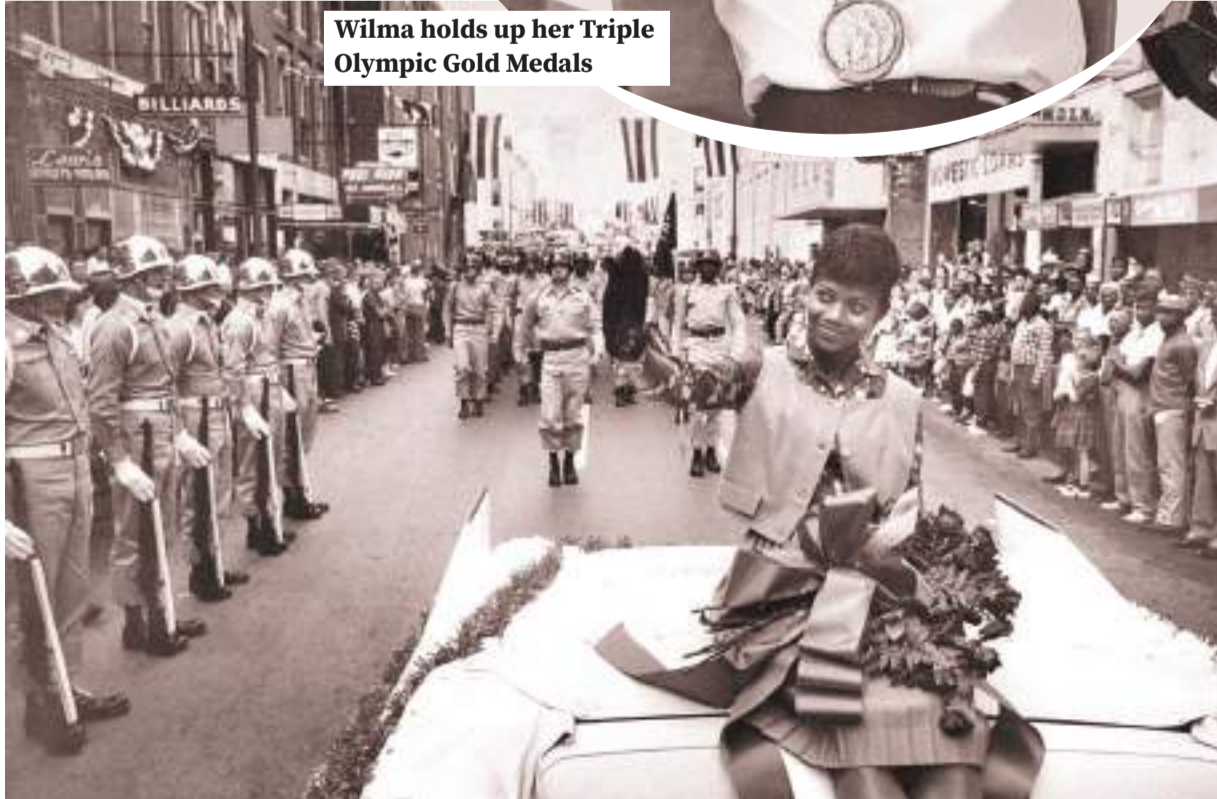
She was also honoured with the National Sports Award (1993). Wilma was inducted into several Women's and Sports Halls of Fame: Black Sports Hall of Fame (1973); U.S. National Track and Field Hall of Fame (1974); U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame (1983); National Women's Hall of Fame (1994) and National Black Sports and Entertainment Hall of Fame (2001). In 1980, Tennessee State University named its indoor track in Wilma's honor. In 1984, the Women's Sports Foundation selected her as one of the Five Greatest Women Athletes. In 1994, a section of U.S. Route 79 was named, Wilma Rudolph Boulevard.

In 1995, the Wilma Rudolph Memorial Commission placed a black marble marker at her grave site. In 1995, Tennessee State University dedicated a six-story dormitory as the Wilma G. Rudolph Residence Center. In 1996, the foundation presented its first Wilma Rudolph Courage Award. In 1997, the Governor proclaimed that June 23, be known as “Wilma Rudolph Day” in Tennessee. In 1999, Sports Illustrated ranked her first on its list of the Top Fifty Greatest Sports Figures from Tennessee.

Wilma has been memorialized with a variety of tributes. In 2004, the U.S. Postal Service issued a postage stamp, the fifth in its Distinguished Americans series, in recognition of her accomplishments. Wilma's life has been featured in documentary films and made-for-television movies. In 2012, the city of Clarksville, TN built the Wilma Rudolph Event Center at Liberty Park on Cumberland Drive and it adores her life-size bronze statue as a living monument in her honour.

(The author highlights a spectrum of sports extravaganza and spotlight iconic athletes. He is the winner of the Presidential Academic Award for Sports in 2017 and 2018 and recipient of the National Accolades for Academic pursuits. He possesses a PhD, MPhil and double MSc)

Wilma holds up her Triple Olympic Gold Medals



“Welcome Wilma Day” in her hometown of Clarksville in 1960

# KINGS WHO WON THEIR CROWNS

By **Dinesh Weerawansa**



Over the past 42 years, all top Sri Lanka cricketers have commended the exemplary role played by the Observer-Mobitel School Cricketer of the Year.

They lavishly praised the role played by Sri Lanka's flagship English newspaper the Sunday Observer in rewarding tomorrow's cricketing stars.

Here are some of the instances they have commended the Mother of All Shows, sponsored by SLT Mobitel.

**ICC Chief Match Referee and former Sri Lanka captain Ranjan Madugalle:** "The Sunday Observer should be complemented for keeping the show going for all these years. Sponsors are essential to keep the show going. May the show continue many more years."

"In the past, most of the winners of the top awards came from Colombo and its suburbs, but now the outstation schools have come in a big way and it is a positive sign for the game".

**Sri Lanka's 1996 World Cup winning captain Arjuna Ranatunga:** "It is the dream of any schoolboy cricketer to win the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year award. It's great for the Sunday Observer in continuing the Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year Contest for the 31st year from 1979 to encourage the budding schoolboy cricketers. I was particularly happy to see that the Northern Province will join up with the others in the competitions at the contest."  
"I am delighted to see the improvement of outstation cricket as the game has spread far and wide in the country. Many Sri Lankan cricketers of the past and the present are those who have either won the prestigious and coveted Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year Award or one of the many awards presented at the contest".

**Former Sri Lanka captain and ex-ICC Match Referee Roshan Mahanama:** "To be adjudged the best schoolboy cricketer and be honored for the hard work during the season was a great encouragement. I was privileged to receive this award as it was one of my dreams."  
"Winning the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year in successive years was a memorable one and a stepping stone to playing



Ranjan Madugalle



Arjuna Ranatunga



Roshan Mahanama



Asanka Gurusinha



Muttiah Muralidaran



Kumara Dharmasena



Marvan Atapattu



Thilan Samaraweera

ing in big the league. Being crowned the best Schoolboy Cricketer made me even more determined to work harder to reach greater heights when I first got the taste of international cricket.

"I had watched former Nalanda player Bandula Warnapura in action. We had full houses for all those inter-school games and it was a passion. The school authorities too encouraged the boys to watch matches".

**Former Sri Lanka cricketer and ex-Sri Lanka coach Asanka Gurusinha:** "When Roshan Mahanama won this award twice in 1983 and 1984, I truly understood how prestigious it is to win the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year award. It was a rare honour and a rich award that not every schoolboy cricketer had the fortune to win. One has to be outstanding and be consistent right throughout a season to win that and work really hard to reach the pinnacle of school cricket."  
"I was hungry to win that title after watching the proud moment when Mahanama won the award which was also an honour for his alma mater Nalanda. I knew hard work and

dedication with exceptional performance could take a schoolboy cricketer towards that goal. I successfully achieved my dream as a schoolboy the following year."

"I am glad that the Sunday Observer is hosting the awards show uninterrupted, thus encouraging the budding schoolboy cricketers".

**Former Sri Lanka spinner and world record holder for most number of Test wickets Muttiah Muralidaran:** "Schoolboy cricketers are the future Sri Lanka players. You must keep the Sri Lanka flag flying wherever you go. Play hard and dedicate yourself, then success is bound to come. As young cricketers, you must keep in mind that only 11 could play in a team."  
"When you get that rare chance of playing for your team, you must put your heart and soul and give hundred percent to the team, so that success will come your way. Don't be disappointed if you fail once or twice in the early stages of your career. Keep on trying and success is bound to come your way."  
"Keep absolutely cool even when the going is not the way you want. I learnt this from

my captain Arjuna Ranatunga (another proud recipient of the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year award in 1980 and 1982) who sported a cool head even when the going was not good. Arjuna used to take pressure off the players when the going is not to his liking. He doesn't show any anger that's why he is called captain cool".

**ICC Elite Panel Umpire and former Sri Lanka cricketer Kumara Dharmasena:** "I must congratulate ANCL and the Sunday Observer for keeping the show going for over 30 years."  
Sponsors are vital for the progress of sports in a country and Lake House has taken the lead and it helps the authorities to build up the youth.

"Development of youth is very important as the youth are the ones who will take the country forward. The contest has been in existence for three decades and the competition is a fore-runner in helping the schoolboy to perform well".

**Former Sri Lanka captain and ex-Sri Lanka coach Marvan Atapattu:** "The Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year contest gave all the encouragement for me to forge ahead in the cricket world since I won the title in 1990 and also became the Best Batsman."  
"I would like to compliment ANCL and the Sunday Observer for keeping the show going for all these years. Schoolboy cricketers should be encouraged on a larger scale."  
"This contest is sure to identify the talent and the high performances. I am confident that the up-and-coming schoolboy cricketers follow the same example set by those who won top awards at the contest".

**Ex-Sri Lanka cricketer and former Sri Lanka batting coach Thilan Samaraweera:** "I owe my climb to the top in cricket due to this popular contest which I won way back in 1994 and 1995. I endorse this long standing contest as the best for schoolboy cricketers."  
"The Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year Contest proved to be one of the best in the country."  
"I am indeed happy that this contest has continued for over 40 years and my wish is that it goes on for many more years".

## UK govt slams football reforms

**LONDON (AFP)** New proposals backed by Liverpool and Manchester United for wide-ranging reform of English football have been criticised by the UK government, Premier League and fans' groups.

The so-called "Project Big Picture" has been labelled a "power grab" by the Premier League's biggest and wealthiest clubs, taking advantage of the dire financial position of the English Football League (EFL) -- which comprises the three divisions directly beneath the top flight -- amid the coronavirus crisis.

But many in the EFL, including chairman Rick Parry, back the plan as a means of addressing the imbalance in resources between the top and bottom of the football pyramid.

## Wimbledon set to return

**LONDON AFP:** Wimbledon is set to go ahead next year even if the Grand Slam tournament has to be staged behind closed doors, organisers announced on Friday.

The grasscourt championships were cancelled this year for the first time since World War II because of the coronavirus pandemic.

The All England Club is planning for several scenarios for 2021 -- a full-capacity event, reduced-capacity tournament or holding it with no fans present. "Staging the championships in 2021 is our number-one priority and we are actively engaged in scenario-planning in order to deliver on that priority," said chief executive Sally Bolton.

The 134th championships will be staged from June 28 to July 11, 2021.

## Qatar to host Asian Champions League final

**KUALA LUMPUR AFP:** Qatar will host the Asian Champions League final in December, officials said Friday, after the Gulf state successfully staged the restart of the tournament following a month-long coronavirus hiatus.

The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) said the final will take place on December 19 in Doha, where a bio-secure "bubble" has been set up to protect players and staff from infection.

AFC general secretary Windsor John said choosing a venue for the final of Asia's top club tournament had been "complex", particularly as this year's showdown will be a single leg.

Usually it consists of two legs, which are played in the countries of the finalists. After being suspended in March, the tournament resumed last month in Qatar, which is also the host of the next World Cup in 2022.



## Dinesh Karthik quits IPL captaincy, Morgan steps in

Indian wicketkeeper-batsman Dinesh Karthik stepped down Friday as captain of Kolkata Knight Riders, handing over to England's Eoin Morgan for the rest of the Indian Premier League tournament.

Hours before Kolkata were to take on the Mumbai Indians in the Twenty20 tournament, the franchise said that Karthik, 35, wanted to "focus on his batting and contributing more to the team's cause".

"We are fortunate to have leaders such as DK, who has always put the team first. It takes

a lot of courage for someone like him to take a decision such as this," CEO Venky Mysore said in the statement posted on Twitter.

Karthik has scored 108 runs from seven outings so far, with 58 being his highest score.

Morgan, England's World Cup winning skipper, was one of the top buys at the IPL auction and has aggregated 175 runs from seven games.

The IPL was moved out to the United Arab Emirates this year owing to soaring coronavirus cases in India. (AFP)

Most Popular Schoolboy Cricketer		
1. Anuda Jayaweera	(Ananda College)	79,114
2. Lohan de Soysa	(Dharmasoka College)	73,829
3. Ahan Wickramasinghe	(Royal College)	73,257
4. Shehan Fernando	(St. Benedict's College)	72,126
5. Sukitha Manoj	(St. Sebastian's College)	68,228
6. Thevindu Seneviratne	(Royal College)	60,617
7. Dunith Wellalage	(St. Joseph's College)	51,104
8. Ranudha Somaratne	(Trinity College)	50,994
9. Kanishka Rantillekege	(Ananda College)	49,998
10. Dimuth Sandaruwan	(Richmond College)	37,501
11. Nipun Dananjaya	(St. Joseph Vaz College)	30,612
12. Navod Paranavithana	(Mahinda College)	26,301
13. Ruchira Adikari	(Anuradhapura Central)	23,018
14. Bhanuka Manohara	(Richmond College)	22,448
15. Pawantha Weerasinghe	(Ananda Sastralaya)	19,237
16. Ruwin Peiris	(Trinity College)	18,944
17. Vanuja Kumara	(St. Peter's College)	16,719
18. Ashen Daniel	(St. Joseph's College)	15,936
19. Savindu Perera	(Maris Stella College)	14,039
20. Dilmin Ratnayake	(S. Thomas' College)	12,304
21. Matheesha Pathirana	(Trinity College)	11,199
22. Nikil Sashmitha	(Tissa Central Kalutara)	10,513
23. Abishek Anandakumar	(Trinity College)	10,037

Most Popular Schoolgirl Cricketer		
1. Nimesha Wijesundera	(Marapola MV)	57,023
2. Renuka Damayanthi	(Bandaranayake MV)	53,899
3. Suranja Lakmali	(Gonapola BMV)	53,089
4. Janadi Anali	(Anula Vidyalaya)	44,889
5. Sachini Nethmini	(Wadduwa Central)	40,994
6. Umsha Himeshani	(Devapathiraja Vidyalaya)	33,106
7. Kavisha Dilhari	(Devapathiraja Vidyalaya)	24,969

**Note: Voting closes on October 31, 2020**

### 42<sup>nd</sup> OBSERVER-MOBITEL Most Popular School Cricketer 2020

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

Most Popular Schoolboy Cricketer 2020

Most Popular Schoolgirl 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.

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](http://vote.schoolcricketer.lk)

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

**Win prizes in the weekly coupon draw:**

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

The 42<sup>nd</sup> 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 **24-10-2020** NO. **33**

## SPORT

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OCTOBER 18, 2020



Australian winger Filipo Dauguna beats the New Zealand defence to score in the first Test that ended in a 16-16 thriller at Wellington last Sunday as the match was carried forward without a breakdown for nearly 10 minutes after the end hooter was blown

## SELL-OUT CROWD AS NEW ZEALAND HOST AUSSIES IN SECOND CLASH

The All Blacks' spiritual home Eden Park is expected to host a "near capacity" crowd of 47,000 for the second Bledisloe Cup match between New Zealand and Australia on Sunday, BBC Sport reported. The country, with a population of 4.8m, has been so successful in combating Covid-19 it had only one new case in the 24 hours leading up to 13 October.

The first Test in Wellington featured 31,000 fans without masks. "It's shaping as a special occasion," said NZR's Chris Lendrum.

"We are looking forward to bringing Test rugby to New Zealand's largest city (Auckland) and with more than 40,000 tickets sold."

The third Bledisloe Cup Test will be staged at Sydney's Olympic Stadium on October 31 and could be played in front of 40,000 fans.

The government of the Australian state of New South Wales, where community transmission has been reduced to a handful of cases each day, loosened restrictions on big stadiums from October 1 to allow them to be filled to 50% of capacity.

New Zealand and Australia battled to a thrilling 16-16 draw in a

gripping opening Bledisloe Cup Test in Wellington last Sunday that saw the return of international rugby following the coronavirus shutdown.

Play continued nearly 10 minutes after the final hooter sounded as neither side wanted to settle for a draw.

The entertaining encounter, with two tries and two penalties apiece, lifted rugby out of its seven-month Test hiatus in front of a near-capacity 31,000-mask-free spectators with New Zealand having largely contained the virus. For the All Blacks and Wallabies it was almost a year since they last played at the World Cup in Japan, and it was exactly 400 days since the last Test match in New Zealand.

In addition to the Covid distraction, the Test build-up was also rocked by disputes between New Zealand and Australia over Super Rugby and the Rugby Championship, and when it came to the on-field contest there were signs of rust.

But there was also a keen edge, and the draw leaves the four-match Bledisloe series wide open as Australia push to end an 18-year drought.

## Tillekaratne awarded International Master title

Harshana Tillekaratne was awarded the International Master (IM) title by the World Chess Federation at their Council meeting held early this month.

He becomes Sri Lanka's second International Master after Romesh Weerawardena won the title in 2013 at the Asian Zonal Chess Championship held in Sri Lanka.

Tillekaratne qualified for the IM title winning three norms with the required rating of 2400. He has won many titles including the Commonwealth under-16 championship and was chosen to represent Sri Lanka at the Asian Youth Chess at the Online Inter-Continental Youth Chess Cup 2020.

He also received the Presidential Sports Award for his performances in 2018.

Tillekaratne was selected to represent the Asian team at the Inter-Continental Online Youth Chess Cup organised by the European Chess Union with the support of FIDE, the World Chess Federation. The event was held on October 10.

This is the first time a Sri Lankan has received this honour through the senior age category. He scored three points out of six games he played in.

The event consisted of the 4 FIDE continents: Asia, Africa, America and Europe, pitting 16 players to battle it out over six rounds. Asia shone by beating Europe once (8½ - 7½), America twice (14-2) (14-2), Africa twice (16-0) (15½ - ½) and one draw with Europe (8-8). (DR)



Harshana Tillekaratne

## Time trial for athletes

Sri Lanka Athletics (SLA) has decided to conduct a time trial for top athletes instead of the national trials from October 23-25.

But SLA president Palitha Fernando said it was "too early to say" whether they could go ahead with the junior Nationals in November. The senior Nationals are scheduled to be held in December.

Meanwhile the Sports Ministry has planned to resume training in wushu, kabaddi, weight lifting and para athletics from next week in accordance with health guidelines.

According to the Sports Director General Amal Edirisooriya all pool athletes numbering 70 in five different sports will be part of this training program. (DR)

## Three sports bodies ready to hold AGMs

Three sports bodies that are under the direct administration of the Sports Director General, due to their internal problems, are ready to conduct elections as soon as possible.

The three sports bodies are Sri Lanka Cycling Federation, Sri Lanka Power Lifting Federation and Sri Lanka Bodybuilding and Fitness Federation.

A total of 24 sports bodies have not conducted their Annual General Meetings for this year so far. The Sports Ministry has extended the

final date for elections to November 30. There are many serious allegations against the three sports bodies especially their inability to submit the audited financial report on time and not conducting elections at the scheduled time.

Three top officials from the Cycling Federation who failed to appear at an inquiry were banned from the sport last month.

As many as 69 national sports bodies are registered with the Sports Ministry while a few more have applied for registration. (DR)

## Committee to monitor athletes' welfare

Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa has appointed a special Committee to probe the welfare of athletes and their activities.

The Committee is headed by Director General of Sports Amal Edirisooriya with the Director General of the Sports Medicine Institute Dr Lal Ekanayake, National athletic coach YK Kularatne, Sports Deputy Director IP Wijeratne and athletic coach Harijan Ratnayake as members. Meanwhile the Institute

of Sports Medicine is expected to issue guidelines where training opportunities will be limited to select athletes of each sport, similar to national sports training resuming after the first Covid 19 lockdown was lifted.

Once again each Association will have to come up with a list of selected athletes who will be given a limited session in sporting facilities where they will have to adhere to all health guidelines during training. (DR)

## Unprepared South Africa pull out

World Cup-holders South Africa pulled out of the Rugby Championship Friday over complications caused by the coronavirus, badly diminishing the tournament and raising further questions about their future in southern hemisphere rugby.

The Springboks, who haven't played since winning their third World Cup in Japan nearly a year ago, cited government travel restrictions, player welfare and safety concerns for their withdrawal.

It means the competition in Australia from October 31 will be slashed from 12 games to six, involving only Australia, New Zealand and Argentina. The pull-out by the de-

fending champions also prompted speculation about future editions of the Rugby Championship, after South Africa walked away from the southern hemisphere's provincial-level Super Rugby last month in favour of Europe's PRO14.

South African Rugby chief Jurie Roux said the withdrawal was a "hugely disappointing outcome for supporters and commercial partners. Coach Jacques Nienaber wanted close to 500 minutes.

There were suggestions they could be replaced by a Barbarians side or Australia A to ensure the four-team draw stayed intact, but organisers opted to return the tournament to its former Tri-Nations format.

## After stunning show at Dialog President's Gold Cup Volleyball Tournament

# Christmas comes early for Ratanapala girls

BY DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Ratanapala Sports Cub Mahauswewa came to the limelight at the recently concluded Dialog President's Gold Cup Volleyball Championship as their players, made up

from a rural school Ratanapala Maha Vidyalaya in Anamaduwa, Chilaw, created major upsets to enter the final in the women's segment.

They barely missed winning the final but showcased their talents in no uncertain

terms against the experienced Golden Birds SC Radawana that had many Sri Lanka players. Ratanapala finished as runners-up but their achievement were very impressive considering the fact that they entered the final for the first time.

The lasses from Ratanapala MV are involved in the national sport of volleyball despite the lack of facilities and success is attributed to their dedication to the sport.

They have recorded many victories at National Schools Volleyball tournaments and the sport's benefactor Dialog presented the players with equipment that included boots.

The Dialog team led by Senior General Manager Brand and Media Group Marketing Harsha Samaranyake made a special visit to see the underprivileged players at practices and donated the sports gear.

Their coach Anil Chandrakumara, who is also a teacher at the school, said that it marked the first time such a donation of this magnitude was made.

Though these players come from poor families it is their dedication that has helped them to perform well.

"After this performance at national level we are aiming to go up to international level.

"Today we can find many talented players from rural areas. I think this is the first time that a school team reached the final in the President's Gold Cup tournament.

"We beat strong teams in the preliminary games in outdoor courts. We have talented players and the only drawback is that we do not have the present day facilities to go forward in the sport. But we are determined to march forward," said Chandrakumara.

Skipper of the team Preethika Prododhani said they were grateful to Dialog for



Coach Anil Chandrakumara receiving sports gear from Dialog's Senior General Manager Media and Brand Marketing Harsha Samaranyake

their donation of playing gear and equipment which were beyond their reach.

She was adjudged the best defender while team-mate Madushika Harshani was presented with the best ball receiver award at this tournament.



Girls from Ratanapala SC in Chilaw admiring their new equipment



Preethika Prododhani with her rewards



# BUSINESS

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OCTOBER 18, 2020



MARKETING IN A CRISIS SITUATION

PAGE 26

MANAGEMENT REDEFINED

PAGE 27

SALES KNOWLEDGE IN BUSINESS

PAGE 29

LANKAN COFFEE TO FETCH PREMIUM PRICE

PAGE 31

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### NEWS SNIPPETS

#### Solar power

Washington (CNN Business) - Renewable energy, led by solar power, could make up 80% of the growth in electricity generation over the next decade, according to a report published last week.

The International Energy Agency said it is now consistently cheaper to generate electricity by capturing the sun's energy than by burning coal or natural gas in most countries.

Solar photovoltaic cells are now one of the cheapest sources of electricity thanks to maturing technologies and policies that have reduced the cost of investments, the Paris-based agency said.



#### Waste containers to be sent back

After a year-long court process, the Court of Appeal last week ordered that the 243 waste containers imported from the UK be sent back.

The Court also called on the authorities to take legal action against the companies involved in this illegal import. These waste containers were imported by Ceylon Metal Processing (Pvt) Ltd in 2017 and found at the Hayley's hub operation in the Katunayake FTZ and at the CICT terminal in the Colombo Harbour. The UK exporter Vanguard is owned by the brother of the Sri Lankan importer.



#### Manufacturing goods expand in Sept.

Manufacturing goods expanded at a higher rate in September compared to August 2020. This expansion in manufacturing PMI was mainly attributable to the increase in production and new orders, especially in manufacturing of food and beverages and textiles and wearing apparel sectors.

Some respondents in the manufacturing of food and beverages and textiles and wearing apparel sectors highlighted that their factories operated at full capacity receiving more new orders with the normalisation of business activities.



## BUDGET 2021, A THRUST FOR DEVELOPMENT - CABRAAL

■ Mega development projects to kick-off

■ New instruments to raise capital

The 2021 Budget will spell out the thrust for new development initiatives that will be unleashed over the next five years to achieve higher economic growth and prosperity for the country, Money, Capital Markets and State Enterprise Reforms, Minister Ajith Nivard Cabraal told *Sunday Observer Business* on Friday.

He said the focus areas of the next budget will be all mega development projects including highways, the 100,000-kilometre road stretch, ports and airports and water based projects. "The projects that will get off the ground next year will spur economic growth enabling the country to

reach its six percent and above GDP growth in the next five years," the State Minister said, adding that widespread economic activities will be launched in the country while managing the global pandemic. Coming down hard on Opposition party claims, Cabraal said the Opposition has no imagination and is bereft of new ideas to support the Government in its economic recovery plan.

"They are against the good work we have launched because they were unable to do what we are doing now to accelerate economic growth. The economy was stagnant during the past five years. We are confident there



will be a sharp uptick in the economy come 2021," the State Minister said. The Opposition has been accusing the government for living in cloud cuckoo

land urging it to come up with concrete measures to revive the economy. Refuting such claims the minister said the Government has already created an environment assuring clarity and consistency in policy to attract foreign direct investments.

He said there will be new instruments to raise capital reducing dependency on international sovereign bonds as an instrument to raise capital. The government will go for a US\$500 million loan from the China Development Bank in addition to the USD 500 million secured from the same bank this year to support the 2021 Budget. **TO PAGE 28**



Sri Lanka imports a substantial quantity of dried fish and sprats annually to cater to the domestic demand despite being an exporter of fish. The global pandemic put a spoke on the growth of the fisheries sector which makes a salient contribution to the economy. Here fishermen dry fish in Negombo.

Pic: Wimal Karunatileke

### Coffee: Lanka to benefit from growing global demand - Study

Sri Lanka is well positioned geographically and climatically to produce quality speciality coffee and take advantage of growing demand in the global market, the latest report on 'Sri Lanka's Arabica Coffee Chain Analysis' commissioned by the Market Development Facility (MDF), a flagship private sector development program in Australia stated.

According to the findings, nearly 80 percent of the speciality coffee produced in Sri Lanka originates from smallholder farmers and backyard farmers, who are mostly women. This system of smallholder production of Sri Lankan coffee posi-



tions it well to take advantage of the growing demand for quality and diversity in the global market.

The detailed analysis of the value chain of Arabica plant varieties identifies Arabica as the best investment choice for speciality coffee in Sri Lanka.

This is because Arabica plant varieties are well suited to grow in the vast mid and upper highlands and fare best when growers inter-crop the plants, especially with tea.

The specialised characteristics of domestically cultivated Arabica are a major selling point as quality and specialised niche products are becoming more attractive to consumers - local and international, the report stated. **TO PAGE 28**

### IMF upgrades 2020 economic forecast

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has forecast a somewhat less severe recession than it predicted in June. The change in the outlook applies to the global economy and the UK.

But, the IMF states in its World Economic Outlook that the global

economy is still in deep recession and the risk of a worse outcome than in its new forecast is "sizeable". For Britain, the IMF now predicts the economy will decline by 9.8% this year. The June forecast was 10.2%. However, the rebound expected next year is also more moderate.

In the case of the UK, that downgrade is similar to the upgrade for this year. The contraction the IMF predicts for 2020 in Britain would be the second deepest fall among the G7 group of the largest rich economies. Only Italy is predicted to do worse. Beyond the G20 **TO PAGE 28**

### BRAVING GLOBAL CHALLENGES

#### "Chartered Accountants must explore opportunities"

BY RAJITHA JAGODA ARACHCHI

Chartered Accountants and other professionals must look for new opportunities despite the gloomy situation created by the global pandemic, President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CA Sri Lanka) Manil Jayasinghe told the media at the launch of CA Sri Lanka's 41st national conference which is held at the BMICH from December 2-4. The theme of this year's conference is 'Abnormal'.

The conference will take on a hybrid format with a combination of traditional physical sessions and virtual sessions due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Director of Selyn Handlooms, Selyna Peiris will be the keynote speaker. He said that the road to recovery at a global and local level is likely to be long and arduous. **TO PAGE 28**

### GSP+ boosts EU-Sri Lanka trade

EU-Sri Lanka trade is thriving under the GSP+ facility. Last year Sri Lanka exported goods to the value of about EUR 2.5 billion to the EU, with a positive trade balance for Sri Lanka of over EUR 1 billion, Ambassador of the Delegation of the European Union to Sri Lanka, Denis Chaibi told *Sunday Observer Business* on Friday.

He said Sri Lanka can do even better, as its current use rate of GSP+ is about 60 percent which is

lower than the average rate for GSP+ beneficiaries.

There are opportunities for growth in sectors such as apparel, machinery, gems, organic agriculture and food processing.

"Of course all GSP+ beneficiaries must abide by their international commitments on human and labour rights, environmental protection and good governance, in addition to WTO rules on technical regulations, sanitary **TO PAGE 28**

### Workplace language, ethics, key to boost productivity - HR expert

Use of appropriate workplace language aligns with good communication. Excessive slang or other crude or double meaning words may seem acceptable among friends, but it does not support your image as a good communicator at work, said HRM professional and Executive Director, Kent Ridge (Pvt) Ltd. Janaka Kumarasinghe, responding to the need to maintain refined language and workplace ethics to boost confidence and productivity among employees. He

said the use of a certain words could be perceived as harassment by different genders.

At the same time excessive use of professional jargon also disconnects certain employees as it cannot be understood by all.

The purpose of communication is to convey a message in a way that could be understood.

The use of jokes should be done carefully as it can be perceived by people differently. **TO PAGE 28**

EXCHANGE RATES		US Dollar \$	Euro €	Japanese yen ¥	Pound sterling £	Chinese Yuan ¥
Oct 12 - Oct 16						
Monday	186.35	221.48	1.782	243.98	28.213	
Tuesday	186.35	221.088	1.7861	244.31	28.075	
Wednesday	186.46	220.23	1.7870	242.40	28.147	
Thursday	186.88	220.78	1.7945	244.42	28.268	
Friday	186.70	219.82	1.7912	241.96	28.165	



Courtesy: The Colombo Stock Exchange

Business

# Marketing response to a crisis situation



**BIZ TALK** with **Kishu Gomes**

In a crisis situation subject to rapid change, marketers need a proactive plan to adjust and adapt how they play their game, communicate with customers and manage their brands.

Customers may never know how a company's supply chain, finance or HR department responds to a major unanticipated challenge such as Covid-19, but marketing sits center stage, its moves reflected in every ad campaign, message and channel. The marketers' role in fact becomes more critical in a crisis situation than when the market is performing smoothly. Marketers need to set the tone for how customers perceive the brand in a crisis situation.

**Needs keep evolving**

Making powerful observations, assessing the issue, taking right actions and delivering the right messages can be very challenging, especially in an evolving situation such as now. All companies should operate with integrity and trust even as they come under pressure from a swiftly evolving situation so the trust can be further built for



long term growth. Among marketing's greatest challenges is foreseeing how customer wants, needs, expectations and purchasing decisions would evolve. Customers themselves won't know until Covid-19 infections, fears and restrictions occur in their workplaces and lives of every stakeholder. Marketing must not rely simply on high-level corporate scenarios, however must go further for their department and brand.

Marketers must drill down to identify the specific challenges that customers, the brand and the marketing organisation could experience in each scenario, and identify action to be taken.

The current crisis seems poised to amplify the distrust customers have of brands.

Brands can push against that wave by rising to the occasion to reestablish trust through customer-

centric actions. Challenges to product and service delivery abound during this crisis. Closed factories and disrupted supply chains create reduced supply on one side of the business, while customer questions create rising service demand on the other. Marketers must adapt their messages to reflect the on-the-ground realities while staying true to the brand's values.

**Evaluate policies**

Manage your promises. Set realistic expectations about service levels, product launch dates, product availability, and so on. Consider pulling out ad campaigns for products you can't be sure you can produce and deliver.

It is also important to evaluate current policies and consider rational changes — for example, allowing cancellations or extending

payment terms. Create capacity to address customer service volumes. Craft proactive messages to distribute via email, social media and the web to answer common questions to stay connected.

Also draft reactive scripts to help customer service reps handle sensitive one-on-one interactions for communication consistency.

Train qualified team members in functions with lower volume to help manage demand from customer service channels.

In the fast growing digital world, ramp up digital delivery. Promote apps and other mobile tools and services.

Ramp up capacity for online transactions and digital interactions across the entire distribution channel. Innovate ways to deliver your product or aspects of it online, such as telemedicine for routine doctor visits or online learning for the mil-

lions of students who will be out of school. Yet, even as you enable digital options, understand that some people will always need to hear an empathetic human voice, especially now, and be prepared to offer it. Optimise the marketing budget.

All organisational functions will be called on to prioritise spending. Try to avoid across-the-board cuts. Look instead for ways to drive efficiency - for example, by looking for overlap in agency or marketing technology contracts, and to reduce or postpone obligations that won't bring immediate value — and may even come off as tone-deaf — in the current environment.

**Adapt the marketing plan**

The next three to six months will bring many societal changes that trickle down to the marketing plan. Use the best, worst and moderate-case scenarios to anticipate possible and likely changes and take alternative actions.

Restrictions on large gatherings are cutting into the businesses that serve these events and the marketers that theme their campaigns around them. More people will be spending time at home over the coming months.

Brands can provide lighthearted and uplifting or informative and encouraging content to people looking for support. Be the first to move. Everyone is in the same boat, and everyone is looking to secure key spots to replace lost opportunities. Work with media planners and publishers to secure access before you are crowded out. Covid 19 is a huge challenge for marketers, but only the marketers can get businesses out of trouble by being smart and making timely moves.

## Huawei launches ADN solution



Huawei released its Autonomous Driving Network (ADN) solution for the enterprise market at Huawei Connect 2020 recently.

This future-proof solution brings intelligence to networks and completely integrates artificial intelligence (AI) abilities at the network element (NE), network, and cloud layers.

It drives enterprise networks towards the autonomous driving era and empowers hyper-automated digital services and operations across industries.

According to Huawei's Global Industry Vision (GIV) 2025, 97% of large enterprises will be using AI by 2025. Enterprise networks that integrate AI capabilities can overcome the limitations of manual O&M efficiency, achieving autonomous driving with high levels of automation and intelligence.

Once built, ADNs pave the way for enterprises' digital service innovation and agile operations.

President of Huawei's General Development Department, Lu Hongju said, "Huawei plans to fully introduce AI into the connectivity field and build ADNs, thereby enabling networks to evolve from simple automation to hyper automation with human-machine collaboration. We also expect to achieve level-3 conditional autonomous networks in three years, level-4 highly autonomous networks in five years, and level-5 fully autonomous networks in seven to 10 years."

By completely integrating three-layer AI capabilities, Huawei ADN ultimately aims to build a self-organising, self-healing, and self-optimising autonomous network that can self-iterate and self-evolve.

## DSI Tyres increases manufacturing capacity by 60 percent

The DSI Tyre Company, has through constant innovation and research, introduced quality products and has increased its manufacturing and production capacity by 60%, a company spokesman said.

The company constantly aims to make the customers' driving experience smooth and convenient.

The company introduced the Gen X motorcycle tyre with a pattern of cut grooves, following research.

The tyre also has a neon effect that allows for the rider to be identified easily at night.

Its carbon silicon composition ratio creates a low friction effect on the tyre and allows for better fuel

savings, he said. FZ bikes and scooters have been fitted with a variety of tyres such as 140/60-17, 140/70-17, 100/80-17, 110/80-12 and 110/80-10.

It is the DSI Tyre Company that introduced Sri Lanka's first tubeless tyre for three-wheelers named "Kadisara". Tyres can be ordered online in the Gampaha and Colombo

districts. DSI Tyres are exported to over 80 countries and manufacturing and production capacity will be expanded to increase exports. DSI Tyres provides many employment opportunities and brings foreign exchange to the country while also minimising imports. The company has also won many export awards.



The manufacture of three-wheeler tyres at the DSI factory

# SLS for Spices, Condiments, Coir fibre and Clay Products

Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI), being the National Standards body of Sri Lanka provides countless services. Our Prime function is formulating Standards. Which are formulated through Technical committees that include consultative personnel of all interested parties. SLSI provides quality certification for both products and various disciplines of management systems. The certification ensures the customers that the product or the service consistently manufactured or provided in accordance to the standard requirements.

The Product Certification Scheme, which is widely known as the "SLS Marks Scheme" is used to meet the quality level of products from both local and international manufacturers to Sri Lankan Standard. A permit is granted to use the SLS Mark on product after product quality evaluation through laboratory testing and auditing of the factory processes.

A thorough evaluation of the manufacturing process is done by a team of qualified and competent staff of the Institution, to ensure the manufacturer's capability to maintain consistent quality of the process. The maintenance of the quality of the product is assured through regular product testing and system audits.

Following are some of those Standards which can be utilized for betterment of people in everyday use:

STANDARD NUMBER & TITLE	SCOPE
<b>Spices and Condiments</b>	
SLS 166: 2019 Cardamom pods (Capsules) or seeds	Prescribes the requirements and methods of sampling and test for cardamom, <i>Elettaria cardamomum</i> (L.) Matonvar, <i>miniscula</i> Burkill and <i>Elettariaensal</i> Gaerth Abeywick in the forms of whole pods (capsules) and seeds.

SLS 1563:2017 Chillie, whole and ground	Prescribes the requirements and methods of sampling and test for chillies whole and ground forms. Two main species of capsicum, <i>Capsicum annum</i> L. and <i>Capsicum frutescens</i> L. and their sub species, <i>C. chinense</i> , <i>C. pubescens</i> and <i>C. pendulum</i> are covered by this standard
SLS 827: 1988 Method for microscopic examination of ground chillies	Prescribes the morphological and anatomical structure of chillie fruit and a method for examination of anatomical structure of ground (powdered) chillies. It also prescribes a method for the detection of common adulterants in ground (powdered) chillies by microscopic examination.
SLS 81: 2010 Ceylon Cinnamon	Prescribes the requirements and methods of sampling and testing for the processed dried bark of ceylon cinnamon, <i>Cinnamomumzeylanicum</i> Blume supplied in the form of quills. Also prescribes the requirements for quillings, featherings and chips which are different forms of the processed dried bark of Ceylon cinnamon,
SLS 241: 2019 Clove, whole or ground	Prescribes the requirements and methods of sampling and test for clove <i>Syzygiumaromaticum</i> L. (synonym: <i>Eugenia caryophyllus</i> (Sprengel)) in the forms of whole and ground
SLS 1565: 2017 Coriander, whole and ground	Prescribes the requirements and methods of sampling and tests for coriander ( <i>Coriandrumsativum</i> L.) whole and ground (powdered) forms.

SLS 1327: 2008 Code of hygienic practice for spices and other dried	Applies to spices and other dried aromatic plants-whole, broken, ground or blended. It covers the minimum requirements of hygiene for harvesting, post harvest technology processing establishment, processing technology packaging and storage of processed products.
SLS 134: 2017 Curry powder	Prescribes the requirements and methods of sampling and test for curry powder.
SLS 434: 1978 Mustard seeds	Specifies requirements for mustard seed of <i>Brassica nigra</i> L. and <i>Brassica juncea</i> L.
SLS 133: 2015 Botanical nomenclature of spices and culinary herbs	Prescribes the list of botanical names of the plants classified under spices and culinary herbs. Gives plants or parts of the plant used, family and the common English, Sinhala and Tamil (vernacular) names of spices and culinary herbs known and grown in the country.
SLS 113: 2019 Nutmeg and mace, whole, pieces or ground	Specifies the requirements and methods of sampling and test for nutmeg, whole, broken or ground and mace, whole or in pieces or ground, obtained from the nutmeg tree ( <i>Myristica fragrans</i> Houtt).
SLS 105 Part 1: 2008 (Reaffirmed 2017) Whole pepper - Black pepper	Prescribes requirements and methods of testing for whole black pepper ( <i>Piper nigrum</i> L.) is not applicable to black pepper categories called "light".
SLS 105 Part 2: 2008 (Reaffirmed 2017) Whole pepper - White pepper	Prescribes requirements and methods of testing for whole white pepper ( <i>Piper nigrum</i> L.) It is not applicable to white pepper categories called "light".

SLS 1372: 2009 Black pepper and white pepper, ground	Prescribes the requirements and methods of sampling and testing for ground, black pepper and white pepper ( <i>Piper nigrum</i> L).
SLS 310: 2007 Method for the sampling of spices and condiments	Prescribes a method for the sampling of spices and condiments.
SLS 613: 2017 Turmeric, Whole and Ground	Prescribes the requirements and method of sampling and test for turmeric, whole and ground.
SLS 133: 2015 Botanical nomenclature of spices and culinary herbs	Prescribes the list of botanical names of the plants classified under spices and culinary herbs. Gives plants or parts of the plant used, family and the common English, Sinhala and Tamil (vernacular) names of spices and culinary herbs known and grown in the country.
SLS 1327: 2008 Code of hygienic practice for spices and other dried	Applies to spices and other dried aromatic plants-whole, broken, ground or blended. It covers the minimum requirements of hygiene for harvesting, post harvest technology processing establishment, processing technology packaging and storage of processed products.
<b>Coir fibre</b>	
SLS 1219: 2001 Coir fibre pith substrate	Prescribes the requirements and methods of test for coir fibre pith used as a substrate for plant growth
SLS 115 Part 1: 2009 Coconut fibre (Coir fibre) Brown fibre and mixed fibre	Prescribes the requirements and methods of sampling and test for brown coir fibre and mixed coir fibre.

SLS 115 Part 4:1975 (Reaffirmed 2001) Coconut fibre (Coir fibre) Retted white fibre	Prescribes the requirements and methods of test for retted white fibre.
SLS 513:1981 Coir yarn	Prescribes the requirements and methods of test and sampling for coir yarn.
<b>Clay Products</b>	
SLS 1475:2013 Two pot clay cook stoves	Provides guidelines for the manufacturing of and specifies the general, dimensional, physical, mechanical and marking requirements of Two Pot Clay Cook Stoves (TPCCS) for domestic purposes. It also specifies the methods for inspection of general requirements, determination of dimensional, physical and mechanical requirements of TPCCS and criteria for conformity with the specification.

Visit our website [www.slsi.lk](http://www.slsi.lk) for more details or Contact Director (Marketing & Promotion) on 011-2694981, E-mail: [dmp@slsi.lk](mailto:dmp@slsi.lk), Address: 17, Victoria Place, Elvitigala Mawatha, Colombo 08, Sri Lanka.



# An uncommon examination of common sense: Management redefined



**STRATEGIC STRIDES**  
by  
**Prof. Ajantha Dharmasiri**

interpersonal, informational and decisional roles.

Any organisation can be viewed as a system, comprising inputs, throughputs and outputs. Hence, management can also be defined as human action, including design, to facilitate the production of useful outcomes from a system. This view opens the opportunity to 'manage' oneself, a pre-requisite to attempting to manage others.

## Jathaka stories

In the five hundred and fifty Jathaka stories, The Bodhisattva is portrayed as a leader and a coordinator in a significant number of cases. Using physical, human, financial and information resources to achieve the desired goals was the norm.

In Vannu-Patha Jathaka, it tells a story of thousands of bullock-carts passing a desert and going out of water. The leader had to summon the key team in finding solutions to the water issue. They search the area and find a rock, and simply by keeping their ears closer to the rock surface, they could hear water flowing down. They plan and organise resources to dig a well close by, and water starts to spring out, quenching their thirst. Simply put, this is management in action.

Apart from the inspiration of The Bodhisattva ideal, the Jathaka stories have such an appeal that they have entered the life of the people. In a society where there were no novels - romances or short stories, the Jathaka stories took their place. Even today the Jataka tales are very popular among the folk.

They also have an added virtue of depicting the vagaries of human behaviour, and it would thus provide a fertile base for any study relating to analysing human behaviour. This is an essential component in the field of management.

## Bible

In the Bible, particularly in the Old Testament, we can see a variety of stories highlighting managerial issues. The way Moses took the Israel people out of Egypt in search of a promised land had a variety of episodes of planning, organising, leading and controlling. Taking decisions in the face of uncertainty and managing with scarce



resources were prominent features of their journey of forty years.

The term talent is used in the bible significantly. The talent as a unit of value is mentioned in the New Testament in Jesus's parable of the talents. This parable is the origin of the sense of the word "talent" meaning "gift or skill" as used in English and other languages. The talent is also used elsewhere in the Bible, as when describing the material invested in the dwelling of the commandments.

In the parable of the Talents according to the Gospel of Matthew, the servants were accountable for all that was entrusted to their care. Their master had a plan, communicated it to them, and they were to fulfill it by investing the funds they were given.

In a time where acquiring, developing, engaging and retaining talent are critical tasks of management, such origins are of high importance.

## Ancient China

Some of the inventions attributed to the West were there much earlier in China. The Chinese value a collectivist society and economy, particularly when compared to the individualism of the West. Dig a little deeper, however, and the case can be made that the ancient Chinese were developing management ideas as far back as 2000 BC.

Here are a few leadership tips taken from ancient texts such as The Great Plan and The Officials of Zhou, courtesy of the Globalist:

"The three virtues are correct procedure, strong management and mild management. Adhere to correct procedure in situations (times) of peace and

**Any organisation can be viewed as a system, comprising inputs, throughputs and outputs. Hence, management can also be defined as human action, including design, to facilitate the production of useful outcomes from a system**

tranquility, use strong management in situations of violence and disorder, apply mild management in situations of harmony and order."

"If rulers attend carefully to their personal improvement, with concern for the long-term, they will be able to show unselfish benevolence and to draw perceptive distinctions among people."

"All intelligent people will exert themselves to serve their rulers." Success in management comes from "knowing people and keeping people satisfied."

The above look much similar to any tips coming from the Western world with regard to managing people. Moving more into specific aspects, Confucius, Taoist and other philosophical schools could give many valuable ideas to modern managers.

According to Lao Tzu, "The created universe carries the yin at its back and the yang in front; through the union of the pervading principles it reaches harmony." The Tao of Yin-yang contain the following meanings:

Firstly, Yin and Yang stand for two different features of the world. Yin originally meant "shady, secret, dark, mysterious, and cold." It thus could mean the shaded, north side of a mountain or the shaded, south bank of a river. Yang in turn meant "clear, bright, the sun, heat," the opposite of yin and so the lit, south side of a mountain or the lit, north bank of a river.

the fundamentals of project management is evident. Project management predates the building of the pyramids. Like the Red Pyramid of Dashur, The Great Pyramid of Giza is not a unique structure even though it may be on a grander scale. The Egyptians intricately built the Great Pyramid using the most modern methods of the times with great precision and detail. Looking at the building of the Great Pyramid through a project management perspective one can see many obstacles that probably caused great effort to overcome.

Apparently, the workforce was the most obvious problem, followed by the engineering plans, and then the originality of the King's chambers that was built with granite. Granite was difficult to mine, requiring an hour to cut only one inch. The King's chamber was built using granite that was mined over 400 miles away. The Great Pyramid took roughly 20 years to complete and employed 10,000 people, because these employees had to bring their families with them. The women kept the base camp running by cooking for the men and the children (Coppens, 2007).

The outside of the pyramid made with limestone and gypsum was easier to mould than granite. Using primitive copper tools, the men cut huge blocks of stone and hauled them around the inclines built to push and drag the blocks into place. Coppens (2007) raises a valid point that whatever building materials needed to make the Great Pyramid, such as the sloping inclines, had to also be dismantled when complete.

## Way forward

It is difficult to conclude the uncommon search on common sense without referring to other areas such as ancient India and most importantly the hydraulic civilisation in ancient Sri Lanka. The lesson is crystal clear. Management is not something invented in the West. Perhaps it would have got repackaged by Western veterans over time. Yet, a vast scope is available for us to identify the indigenous elements in the management of the world. This is not only to appreciate but also to apply appropriately in our contexts. It is increasingly becoming relevant in the Covid-19 pandemic.

## Egyptian pyramids

The pyramids of Egypt, some of which are among the largest man-made constructions ever conceived, constitute one of the most potent and enduring symbols of Ancient Egyptian civilization. It is generally accepted by most archaeologists that they were constructed as burial monuments associated with royal solar and stellar cults, and most were built during the Old and Middle Kingdom periods.

With regard to the construction of such monuments, the application of

Management and mismanagement are very much in the limelight, with the Covid-19 pandemic. This can be the case for the rise or fall of a corporate, community or even a country. Some say management is nothing but common sense. There are others who disagree, saying management is something which goes beyond common sense. It is assigning meanings to a structured approach to achieve results. Such an approach was not "invented" by Westerners as modern management, but was there in the East, much earlier. Let's discover some glimpses of management through an uncommon search on common sense.

## Management in a nutshell

Any management textbook will give the definition of modern management as "a set of activities, including planning and decision making, organising, leading and controlling directed at an organisation's human, financial, physical and information resources, with the aim of achieving organisational goals in an efficient and effective manner." In essence, it is all about achieving goals, which was the case in ancient times as well.

In a crude sense, management can be broken into three parts, man, age and ment. It essentially speaks about people, times, and actions.

As veteran management thinker Henry Mintzberg often advocates that successful management involves

## DFCC Bank opens Pinnacle Centre



DFCC's Pinnacle Centre in Colombo 7

DFCC Bank opened its state-of-the-art Pinnacle Centre at Horton Place, Colombo 7.

It will be a centre of excellence dedicated to meeting its customers every financial requirement. The DFCC Pinnacle Centre is an elegantly designed space, complete with a boardroom, lounge, cycling bay, changing rooms, hot-desking facilities and entertainment areas to be patronised exclusively by Pinnacle customers.

DFCC Bank CEO Lakshman Silva said, "We are proud to be offering another specialised service for our top-end customers through this centre in the heart of Colombo."

We at DFCC Bank understand the importance of taking care of your family, while maintaining a high-profile career, and therefore, we want to provide an exclusive space for you to conduct your banking transactions with ease and conven-

ience. Our Pinnacle clientele can enjoy a customised and personal banking experience at this state of the art facility, where they are entitled to the privilege of a convenient, confidential and speedy banking service."

Pinnacle customers are also entitled to a personalised service offered by the centre's dedicated relationship managers and experienced financial professionals offer-



ing convenient and hassle-free banking experience.

They are also privy to a repertoire of products and services with several features and benefits, including the initial deposit requirements being waived off for savings and current accounts. The centre has also been designed to accommodate cycling to the Centre as it is equipped with changing rooms for customers who wish to cycle to the location.

## DIMO to enter agro tourism market

Opens first agri techno park in Dambulla

DIMO Agribusinesses, the agriculture arm of DIMO, has selected its Agri Techno Park in Dambulla to embark on its journey in agro tourism.

Its agri techno parks in Dambulla, Nikaweratiya and Lindula, carry out research and development, seed production, farmer education and training activities while also acting as model farms.

The company plans to enter the agro tourism market through these parks to cater to the growing number of tourists interested in an agriculture-based holiday experience.

Tourists will have the opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge and experience about the agricultural way of life in the country while staying in luxury cabanas or holiday bungalows in the parks.

The company opened two luxury chalets at the Dambulla Agri Techno Park recently and expects to commence operations soon.

Chairman and Managing Director of DIMO, Ranjith Pandithage said, "Agro tourism is a vast area and this is our first initiative in this field. We have



A luxury chalet at the Dambulla Agri Techno Park

selected our Agri Techno Park in Dambulla for this project since it is equipped with high-tech agriculture facilities."

Group CEO of DIMO, Gahanath Pandithage said, "Agro tourism is an important factor in the future tourism industry and many countries heavily

focus on this area. Sri Lanka also needs to seriously look at Agro Tourism."

General Manager for Agriculture Special Projects of DIMO, Priyanga Dematawa said, "Urban agriculture enthusiasts could conveniently learn modern and traditional farming methods."



## Follow health guidelines - National Chamber of Exporters

The National Chamber of Exporters (NCE) has called on all apparel manufacturers to follow health guidelines and prevent a recurrence of the recent incidents.

The NCE reiterated the importance of effective enforcement of health pro-

ocols at all factories, a media release from the NCE stated.

Excerpts of the release:

"While appreciating the swift measures adopted by the authorities to minimise the impact on the present situation, we urge all to strictly adhere

to health protocols and ensure that a similar outbreak will not occur in the future. We need to be mindful each time a 'relapse occurs' the country undergoes socio-economic challenges that take very long time to remedy.

"The apparel sector contributes

44% of Sri Lanka's export revenue and provides employment opportunities to a large labour force in rural and urban areas of the country.

"The sector conforms to globally renowned ethical and good manufacturing practices (GMP). This has

earned the sobriquet "Garments without Guilt" while catering to many internationally reputed brands.

"The enterprises export products to markets such as the US, EU and the Far East. With the Covid-19 pandemic, large and SME exporters adopted their

product portfolios to match a wide range of protective apparel that were urgently needed by consumers. This earned the confidence and enhanced the reputation among buyers for continuing production during challenging times," the release stated.

## Business

# Piramal Glass posts Rs. 44m loss in 1Q - F21

Piramal Glass Ceylon PLC's financial year commenced at a time when the country was passing through a complete lock down. All production lines came to a standstill from March 20, 2020, a media release from the company stated.

The Company resumed partial operations from April 17, after approval by the Central Covid Committee. The Company commenced operations in a phased out manner and was back to 100% operations by the third week of May, resulting in a loss of sales revenue of Rs. 700 million.

Piramal Glass released its results

for the first quarter of FY 2020-21 with Rs. 1,330 million in revenue and a loss of Rs. 44 million, as against the revenue of Rs 1,585 million and profit of Rs. 21 million during the similar period of the previous year.

During April and May 2020, sales were subdued as customers who were manufacturing only essential products were functioning and that too at just 50% capacity. From June 2020, the domestic market demand stabilised and international markets opened up for business. Domestic sales stood at Rs. 938 million as against Rs. 1,162 million of the similar quarter of the previ-

ous year, reflecting a de-growth of 19%. Non-availability of vessels to India, USA and East Africa impacted export performance, but at the same time a spurt in demand for food jars from Australia and New Zealand helped to compensate. Export sales for the quarter were almost at par at Rs. 393 million as against Rs. 396 million during the corresponding quarter of last year.

Gross profit for the period under review was Rs. 110 million as against Rs. 240 million in the corresponding period of the previous year. Even though production was stopped from

March 20, the company continued to incur fixed energy and labour costs to keep the furnaces alive during the period under review. The Management firmly believes that with the new product development and inroads into new markets, PGC will be able to sustain the ongoing operations profitably. "We are witnessing a global surge in demand for glass containers in the Food and Pharmaceutical category; due to which PGC is poised to retain the volumes in domestic and international markets and continue the growth trajectory," said CEO Piramal Glass, Sanjay Jain.



Ajith Peris who was appointed General Manager and CEO of the National Savings Bank, assumed duties at the bank on Monday.

## DFCC Bank relocates Kurunegala branch

DFCC Bank, which marked its 65th anniversary recently, has relocated its Kurunegala branch, moving to its own premises at Colombo Road, Kurunegala.

The relocation is a part of DFCC's long standing commitment to provide its customers with exceptional service through increased approachability and access to top-tier banking features. With this new location, DFCC strengthens its bond with customers and businesses in the area, while also paying way to foster new relationships.

The branch is equipped to provide its customers with a wide range of services such as Savings Accounts, Current Accounts, credit and debit cards, fixed deposits, personal loans, housing loans, pawning, leasing, working capital loans, term loans, SME and MSME loans and essential financial solutions.



The relocated Kurunegala Branch was opened by DFCC Chairman Jegan Durairatnam, CEO Lakshman Silva and Deputy CEO Thimal Perera.

Customers can use the services of the Bank even after banking hours, with a 24/7 digital self banking solution - DFCC Myspace.

## KVPL and TTEL recognised at Hallbars Awards 2020

Hayleys Plantations, Kelani Valley Plantations (KVPL) and Talawakelle Tea Estates (TTEL), were recognised as country winners at the Hallbars Sustainability Report Awards 2020.

KVPL's Annual Report for 2017/2018, 'Growth Beyond Measure', was recognised as the country winner in the Business Sector by Products - Tea category, while TTEL's Integrated Annual Report for 2018/2019, 'Cultured', was recognised as the country winner for the Best Sustainability Annual Report Design.

The awards are designed to showcase and encourage a sweeping shift in international efforts towards sustainability, by evaluating the annual reports of nominees across three main pillars - social, environmental and financial.



Dr. Roshan Rajadurai

"Being part of an organisation that has championed sustainability in Sri Lanka for many years, it is inspiring to see the promotion of such practices on a prestigious platform," Hayleys Plantations Managing Director, Dr. Roshan Rajadurai said.

## GSP+ boosts... Continued from page 25

...and phytosanitary measures, as well as the rules of origin," the Ambassador said, adding that an actual example of improving quality standards is to secure geographical indication (GI) for Ceylon Cinnamon. This is part of the EU-Sri Lanka Trade-related Assistance project. Securing GI will boost the profile and competitive advantage of Ceylon Cinnamon in international markets, including in the EU.

"Trade, however, must remain a two-way street," Chaibi said.

With regard to new GSP Plus instruments the ambassador said EU is still in the consultation phase and that it is early to say what the instrument will look like.

However, concerns have been

raised that Sri Lanka would lose the trade concession in 2023 as the country graduates to an upper middle income country.

The Generalised Scheme of Preferences Plus (GSP+) which provides duty-free access to EU markets for over 7,200 products is scheduled to go up to in 2023. However, speculation is rife that it is likely to be extended upto 2025.

A recent media report citing the EU Ambassador stated the EU's GSP Plus concession to Sri Lanka would most probably be extended up to 2025 because of the current circumstances in which the country is in.

However, he said that Sri Lanka will enjoy an extension of the concession only if the post-pandemic eco-

nomical contraction results in a lower per capita income or the country's per capita income is at the current level and also the EU conventions and principles, including labour and human rights, are met by the nation.

EU-Sri Lanka trade has remained strong over the years making the region Sri Lanka's largest export market taking close to 30 percent of Sri Lanka's exports. Sri Lanka ranks as the EU's 65th trading partner and third largest in South Asia.

GSP Plus offers incentives in the form of duty reductions on exports as a reward to developing countries for their commitment to upholding the 27 core international conventions on human and labour rights, sustainable development and good governance.

## Chartered... Continued from page 25

But he was confident that Sri Lanka with the help of its dynamic business and professional community will overcome the challenge as in the past.

"Chartered Accountants must get

over the crisis. We as the national body, have already addressed difficulties faced by our members," he said.

Every year the National Conference attracts over 2,000 people.

## Budget 2021, a... Continued from page 25

The Appropriation Bill for the next budget has put the borrowing limit at Rs. 2,900 billion.

The State Minister said in Parliament that the economy will have a V shape recovery from the current crisis backed by sound policy initiatives by the government.

However, as per our report last

week Sri Lanka will have a 'W' shape economic recovery following the emergence of the second wave of the global pandemic.

The World Bank in its twice-a-year regional update predicts Sri Lanka's GDP growth to be -6.7 percent this year down from 2.3 percent last year. According to economists, the present

crisis will prevent people from working at their best irrespective of whether they live in a rich country or in an emerging economy. "The Government stabilised the economy before 2015 despite the battle against terrorism in the country. We brought a USD 24 billion economy to a USD 79 billion economy in nine years," Cabraal said.

## Workplace language... Continued from page 25

Use of appropriate workforce language and communications is vital not only to create an engaging and productive workforce to face challenges and develop one's career but also to survive in an hostile environment such as the current pandemic.

"Today we are in a dynamic and a diverse working environment. Employees work from various offices, homes, countries and other locations for the same organisation. It can be at a desk, on the bed, while traveling or attending to other matters," he said.

People from different generations, genders, religions, cultures, educational and social backgrounds work together.

They communicate with each other through different methods. It could be face to face, body language, telephone, email or social media. Sometimes communications through the phone, computer or mobile of an employee can be heard, seen or felt by

a spouse, parents and children. All of them should be comfortable with the language used by the others and we should show respect and dignity to others in the use of language. However, that doesn't mean tonality and selection of words should be the same to handle different situations.

According to HR experts, ethics are the guiding principles that determine how people conduct themselves in every aspect of their lives, including the workplace.

While ethics and workplace behavior has always been important, there's been a shift over the past few years in how the public and employees view major issues such as sexual harassment.

As a result, there is increasing pressure on business leaders and human resource departments to ensure that ethics and behaviour at the workplace are maintained.

Honest, hardworking employees

who are driven by principles of decency and fairness increase overall morale, improve your company's reputation and help ensure long-term success.

Experts believe it's important to give your employees a means through which they can alert business owners about unethical behaviour at the workplace. Business owners are often the last people to know that some members of their staff are behaving in ways that could negatively impact the long-term reputation of their companies.

This is less likely to happen if you have a strong system in place that gives employees a means to report unethical behaviour. A vital aspect of the workplace is working well with others. That includes everyone from peers to supervisors to customers. While not all employees will always like each other, they do need to set aside their personal or even work-related differences to reach a larger goal.

## Coffee: Lanka... Continued from page 25

This suggests specialty coffee could become a thriving export industry for Sri Lanka, particularly from Arabica plant varieties.

As it currently stands, Sri Lanka cannot produce enough coffee to meet international demand, with market demand five times higher than current production. This demonstrates the potential future for the industry as international consumers are interested in paying a premium for Sri Lankan coffee. Examples include, Japanese companies and European investors interested in Sri Lankan coffee.

A risk for the market is that currently it is susceptible to shocks. Respondents of the MDF study said

that the overarching challenges related to currency fluctuations, electricity interruptions, political instability, the decline in tourism after the Easter Sunday terrorist attacks in 2019, and the current COVID-19 pandemic have affected the entire value chain, the revealed.

The global specialty coffee market provides enormous opportunities for coffee producers, with the market estimated to grow from USD 35 billion in 2018 to over USD 80 billion by 2025. In line with this increasing demand, Sri Lanka's coffee exports have increased in recent years, growing 84 percent from 2017 to reach nearly USD 355,000 by 2019 as per Export

Development Board (EDB) data. The coffee industry has attracted increased investment from the private sector and increased local demand and consumption of locally grown coffee in hotels, restaurants and cafes.

The MDF report is one-of-a-kind, in-depth analysis into Sri Lanka's specialty Arabica coffee sector. The study collects information from bean to cup, charting the pathways to scale and identifying the opportunities for growth in the Arabica coffee sub-sector in Sri Lanka. The recommendations of the report can be used by all stakeholders to align their efforts to achieve sustainable growth in this niche industry.

## IMF upgrades 2020... Continued from page 25

India is also likely to experience a deeper decline this year than the UK. So is Spain. Tourism-dependent economies are in a "particularly difficult spot," the report noted.

For 2021, the British forecast is only a partial recovery of 5.9%, which would leave the economy still smaller than last year.

The predicted global economic contraction is also more moderate than the IMF envisaged four months ago, at 4.4%. That is followed by a rebound of 5.2% next year, which is less than the previous prediction. Next year's world downgrade is less than this year's upgrade.

The slightly less-bleak assessment reflects downturns in several large developed economies in the April-to-June quarter of the year that were not as severe as the IMF expected. The return to growth in

China, where the pandemic arrived first and was held back first, was stronger than expected.

The outcome would have been weaker, the IMF says, had it not been for the sizable response from governments and central banks that maintained household incomes, protected cash flow for firms and supported lending.

The big departure from the pattern of upgrades is India and some developing economies in South-East Asia.

India experienced a particularly sharp decline in economic activity in the second quarter of this year.

The IMF warns that the global recovery is not assured while the pandemic continues to spread. Research the agency published last week suggested that the downturn was only partly attributable to lockdown restrictions on activity

imposed by governments. Much of it reflected voluntary social distancing by people reluctant to do things that expose them to increased risk of infection.

The implication of that is that a complete recovery needs more decisive progress in tackling the virus, such as a vaccine.

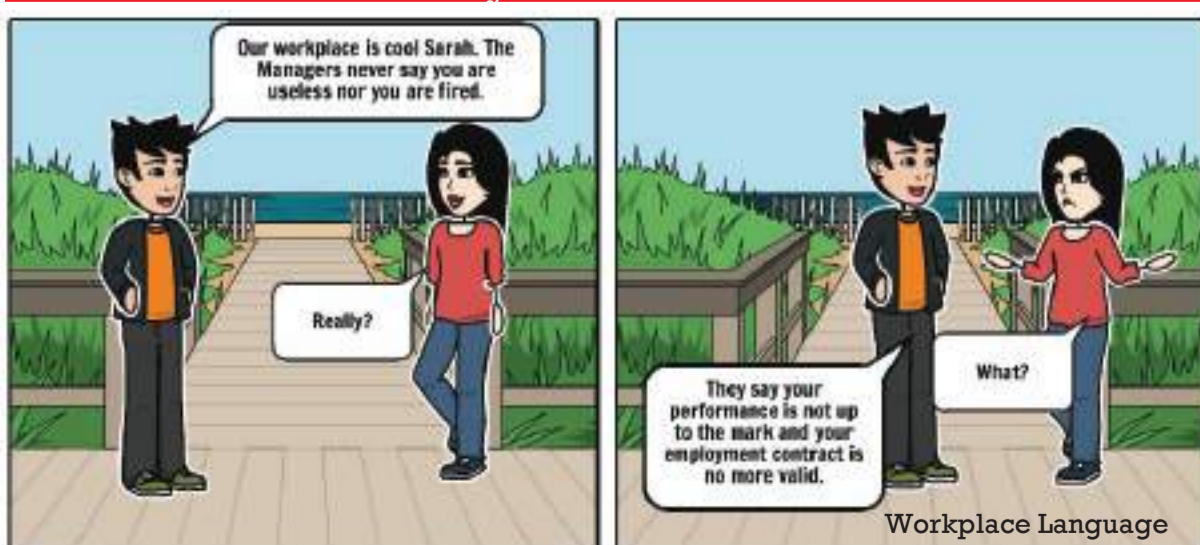
The report says that most economies will suffer lasting damage. There is likely to be what it calls, "a major setback to living standards relative to what was expected before the pandemic".

The IMF warns that extreme poverty is likely to rise for the first time in more than twenty years.

Inequality is also likely to increase, the report says.

The crisis has particularly affected women, people with precarious employment, and those with relatively lower educational attainment.

## Everyone knows HR



By Janaka Kumarasinghe

# Sales knowledge, vital in business

by  
**Hemantha Kulatunga**



In any commercial entity, the sales team plays perhaps the most important role in the success of the business operation.

The most essential and unique role of the sales team members is to bridge the gap between the customers' needs and the product or service offered by the organisation to fulfill that need. Unlike in the past where the salesman was an aggressive persuader and a product expert, the modern salesman has evolved to be a business consultant and an advisor who provides maximum value to the customer.

Let us discuss some of the key application areas, responsibilities and traits needed in the sales role.

The sales role is related to a number of different types of activities in an organisation with many varieties and options. Each role has different parameters for success such as skills, experience, and other needs depending on the function of the team member.

Therefore, when a person decides that he or she wants to be in sales, a decision has to be made at the beginning of the career, which role would be the best and the most suitable based on the person's own analysis. For that, the entrant must understand the differences of the functions to determine where the skills apply to obtain the best results.

#### Internet era

Sales lead conversion is one of the most important aspects of the sales role. In this internet era, most often, the sales team is communicating to prospects that are already aware of the product they want to purchase and also the competition that prevails. Usually, customers know the details of the company through internet data and the advertising efforts of the organisation. Hence, the job of the salesperson is to

offer further information and secure the deal.

In an organisation, salespeople interact directly with prospects and has the advantage of obtaining personal knowledge about them. This will assist the salesperson to present the sales pitch exactly suited to the prospect that has the expertise of the salesperson in the customer's opinion, creating credibility and trust.

The building of loyalty and trust between the customer and the business is another key aspect related to the sales role. Loyalty, and trust are two of the main reasons for a customer to make a purchase and recommend the company to a third party. If these two factors are in place properly, they can even be persuaded to offer personal recommendations, reviews, and referrals.

Reliable third party references and recommendations are always regarded highly by the potential customers in any business and carry more integrity than any paid advertisement. Particularly, in this digital age, perceptions of a customer can be immensely influential due to the reach of digital media. Therefore, the approach of the customer in building customer trust is a vitally important part of the sales job role.

Creating and continuing long-lasting relationships provide tremendous long term benefits to a company. Retaining an existing customer is much cheaper than attracting a new one. The impact a salesperson makes on a first-time customer is supposed to last as long as possible in any type of business. The interaction between the salesperson is probably more useful to future business than even good service delivery. The proper performance of a salesman leads to repeat sales and enhances the brand image.

#### Switching of suppliers

Therefore, customer retention is considered another one of the most essential aspects of a commercial organisation. Often customers simply switch suppliers without even complaining if they are unhappy with the



after-sales service of the company. The sales role comes into effect in these situations as most customers communicate with the salesman if the relationship is good. Customers mostly prefer the attention and the feedback of the salesperson who served them, if the salesman has built up an adequate relationship.

The traditional method of face to face selling that is done outside the office, also known as field sales, is performed by the sales staff. This role is probably the most effective in my personal opinion with my long experience as a field salesperson. Although this is more challenging as a role, a field salesman has other factors that make the job more compelling than other functions of selling. Particularly,

the independence and freedom, own day and journey planning, less boredom, less supervision, and many other positive factors are available for a field salesman.

However, a field salesperson must be more self-motivated and goal-oriented than others as they typically work in harder conditions.

Inside sales, usually mostly related to retail store selling, is another important sales role where the team member has to maintain the customer relationship aspect as the first contact point in a retail operation. A retail salesperson's main responsibility is to build a strong business relationship with the visiting customer. Also, a key duty of an inside salesperson is to make sure that the customer remains with the

organisation continuously, after the first visit.

#### Vital roles

Sales support or back-office sales operation functions are other vital roles in sales. This team of people in a sales department provides important details when and where necessary to the direct sales staff.

This is a dynamic role in a marketing organisation that helps to reduce costs. Usually the support team assists in investigating leads, creating customer profiles, and analysing other information in support of the sales effort.

Customer services are a strong sales job role where the staff is primarily responsible for continuous customer satisfaction. Long-term retention of

**Loyalty, and trust are two of the main reasons for a customer to make a purchase and recommend the company to a third party. If these two factors are in place properly, they can even be persuaded to offer personal recommendations, reviews, and referrals**

a new customer is in the hands of the customer service team. This is a multi-tasking function where the staff performs the role of helpers, advisors, problem solvers, advocates, therapists, and more. Most often, the customer care team enters the operation after a sale is completed and the job role is challenging as customers' complaints and issues are primarily managed by this team.

Business development is another key role in sales. The staff is tasked to bring in new business by using various strategies. The tasks are to identify new customers, pitching products or services, and maintain a good relationship with customers for enhanced revenue.

Their priority is to assist the organisation to acquire new customers and sell additional products. This is a crucial role for companies to expand or diversify the business.

Some organisations recruit account managers to manage accounts where continuous sales revenue is assured. Their job role is to provide individual service to make sure that the customer remains with the company as long as possible.

They usually act as overall consultants to the customer and provide all the services. There is no controversy in stating that sales is the most important role of an organisation for survival and growth. Revenue generated by the sales team provides the cash flow of the company.

Revenue generation activity is the lifeblood of the organisation as all other criteria including all important budgeting are based on the revenue, invariably produced by the sales team.

## Sri Lanka Tourism to keep alive "Sri Lankan Holiday" dream

Sri Lanka Tourism has commissioned travel bloggers, who were on assignment under the Travel Influencer Program with a strong Social Media following from key source markets worldwide to endorse facts.

This campaign expects to eliminate any travel hesitancy and foot-dragging in selecting the island as a preferred, safe travel destination, when the doors open for international tourist arrivals.

Numerous destination promotional press trips were conducted with International Travel Influencers covering diverse geographical locations of the island.

The Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau (SLTPB) Visiting Blogger Program, since its launch, has hosted over 150 Travel Influencers (also recognised as #bloggers) and Content Creators covering all the key inbound source markets.

During the lockdown, Sri Lanka Tourism engaged with these travel influencers and encouraged recreating various Social Media posts on Sri Lanka to maintain destination visibility and popularity as a safe and exciting holiday destination to be considered after the pandemic ends.

Sri Lanka Tourism kick-started an aggressive Travel Influencer Campaign in February, welcoming 27 International Travel Bloggers and Content Creators from seven key source countries including UK, Germany, Australia, Norway, Switzerland, Canada and the USA.

Sri Lanka Tourism plans to keep this flame alive through strategic online communications.

The Influencer group included the first-ever Family Travel Bloggers hosted under Sri Lanka Tourism's Visiting Blogger Program. Their arrival here proved a valid point in ensuring and endorsing the extent of safety measures Sri

Lankan authorities have put in place and follow. This select segment of influencers have been handpicked to generate authentic reasons to influence global travellers by converting their testimonials into an actual holiday experience in tropical Sri Lanka.

These combined travel influencers have created over 540 posts on various travel blogs and popular social media platforms during the Covid-19 pandemic lockdown in the global arena.

Sri Lanka Tourism's Visiting Blogger Program (VBP) continues launching various Destination Promotional Campaigns collaborating with them.

As a Post Covid-19 Recovery Campaign with #SLbloggers (with reference to Travel Content Re-Creation) Travel Influencers from many countries, such as UK, Switzerland, Italy, USA, Canada and India offered their support by endorsing and recommending Destination Sri Lanka to their audiences. Creating awareness on the new normal destination, Sri Lanka Tourism designed a Social Media focused Post Covid-19 Destination Promotional Video to showcase Sri Lanka as a "Still Fun & Safe" destination targeting global audiences, and is ready to launch when the country reopens for international tourists.

It will be shared among all Social Media platforms, International Travel Influencers, Digital Media and industry stakeholders. Plans are under way to activate a Dedicated Content Driven Influencer Campaign by Sri Lanka Tourism, targeting key source markets for Destination Sri Lanka including UK, Europe, Australia, India and the USA. Through this short-term campaign, Sri Lanka Tourism expects to gain collective support from leading travel influencers, specifically from those who have visited Sri Lanka in the past.

## Dhanusha Marine commissions Rs. 300 m boatyard at Payagala

BY PRIYAN DE SILVA

Danusha Marine's state-of-the-art boatyard built with an investment of Rs. 300 million at Payagala was opened by Secretary to the Ministry of Ports and Shipping, U. D. Jayalal recently.

Construction work of the yard was completed early this year but it was not possible to have an opening ceremony due to

the Covid-19 pandemic. But the management was compelled to launch operations to meet delivery deadlines and the first 20-metre multi-day fishing vessel 'FV Ocean Harvest' built at the yard for Ocean Harvest Ltd of Mauritius was also launched on that day.

The 2,500 square metre boatyard on three acres of land at Diyagaloda, Payagala houses the newest equipment and technol-

ogy and has capacity to build three, 24-metre boats concurrently.

Managing Director of Danusha Marine (Pvt) Ltd and Danusha Group, Sumithra Fernando recalled his beginnings on a ten-perch block of land in Moratuwa and Rs. 5,000 in his pocket two decades ago said that the new yard at Payagala which is his fourth would bring in over US \$ 1 million into the country in the first year and US \$

3m from the second year. Owner of the first vessel built at the yard, Managing Director of Ocean Harvest Ltd., Mahen Sookun, speaking via video technology, said that he selected Dhanusha Marine because of the facilities they had. Director of Dhanusha Marine, Dhanusha Fernando welcomed the invitees. Former Chairperson of the Export Development Indira Malwatte was also present.



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Nation's Management Mentor

## Business

# Lankan coffee to fetch premium price - Report

Global market estimated to grow to over USD 80 b by 2025

The global specialty coffee market provides enormous opportunities for coffee producers, with the market estimated to grow from USD 35 billion in 2018 to over USD 80 billion by 2025.

In line with this increasing demand, Sri Lanka's coffee exports have increased in recent years, growing 84 percent from 2017 to reach nearly USD 355,000 by 2019 as per Export Development Board (EDB) data.

The coffee industry has seen increased investment from the private sector and increased local demand and consumption of locally grown coffee in hotels, restaurants and cafes.

Market Development Facility (MDF), Australia's flagship private sector development program has commissioned a report, 'Arabica Coffee Value Chain Analysis' - a one-of-a-kind, in-depth analysis into Sri Lanka's specialty Arabica coffee sector.

The study collects information from bean to cup, charting the pathways to scale and identifying the opportunities for growth in the Arabica coffee sub-sector in Sri Lanka.

The recommendations of the report can be used by all stakeholders to align their efforts to achieve sustainable growth in this niche industry.

## Findings of the Report

The key finding of MDF's analysis is that Sri Lanka is well positioned geographically and climatically to produce high-quality specialty coffee and take advantage of growing demand in the global market a latest report on 'Sri Lanka's Arabica Coffee Chain Analysis' commissioned by MDF stated.

According to the findings, nearly 80 percent of specialty coffee produced in Sri Lanka originates from smallholder farmers and backyard farmers, who are mostly women. This system of smallholder production of Sri Lankan coffee positions it well to take advantage of the growing demand for quality and diversity in the global market.

This detailed analysis of the value chain of Arabica plant varieties identifies Arabica as the best investment choice for specialty coffee in Sri Lanka. This is because Arabica plant varieties are well suited to grow in the vast mid- and upper highlands and fare best when growers intercrop the plants, especially with tea.

The specialised characteristics of domestically cultivated Arabica are a major selling point as high-quality and specialised niche products are becoming more attractive to consumers - locally and internationally, the report stated. This suggests specialty coffee could become a thriving export industry for Sri Lanka, particularly from Arabica plant varieties.

As it currently stands, Sri Lanka cannot produce enough coffee to meet international demand, with market demand five times higher than current production. This demonstrates the potential future for the industry as international consumers are interested in paying a premium for Sri Lankan coffee. Examples include, Japanese companies and European investors interested in Sri Lankan coffee.

A risk for the market is that currently it is susceptible to shocks. Respondents of the MDF study said that the overarching challenges



who can benefit from cultivating and selling coffee can exponentially increase.

Another opportunity identified by MDF is investment in information, technical consultation, and extension services directed at improving farm productivity, reducing wastage and improving quality at production stage.

As per MDF's estimates, coffee production currently amounts to about 5-8 per cent of a farmer's income. MDF's study estimates that coffee income can increase to 10 per cent of a farmer's income if farmers have access to better information and growers are incentivised to focus on cherry production instead of green bean processing.

This suggests that investment in quality information from all market actors in the value chain - government, private sector, farmers, roasters and processes - will be crucial in achieving this change.

## Benefits

MDF said there is great potential for the specialty coffee sector to become a sustainable export industry for Sri Lanka, which will take the 'Ceylon' brand to international markets.

The researchers determined that the Sri Lankan coffee value chain can successfully expand into export markets once the production and quality of raw material increases and industry actors optimise their practices. Growth in the specialty Arabica coffee industry (both in terms of price for the produce and volumes) will benefit all stakeholders in the value chain, thereby elevating foreign exchange and rural livelihoods.

Apart from cash crop profits, harvesting coffee offers short-term employment for the rural poor. This is particularly beneficial for women who are most involved at the grassroots level in cultivation, harvesting and processing coffee that provides flexible, seasonal work with an additional income.

Home garden programs that target female coffee farmers can have a powerful impact on Women's Economic Empowerment.

This is in the 'Dhanasaviya' initiative by the DEA, or by MDF's work with private sector players such as Colombo Coffee Company, Ella Coffee Cooperative and Helanta Coffee, where MDF is working with the businesses to move into a cherry-purchasing business model versus the traditional green bean model.

The market intervention enables farmers - many of whom are women - to sell quality coffee cherries, earning better income and also saving on the time previously spent on drying the cherries into green beans.

As incomes increase, more young people will also be drawn to the industry, contributing to poverty reduction and a positive impact on the economy. Private companies processing and marketing Sri Lankan coffee to the local hospitality sector and select export markets also stand to benefit via increase in revenue.

The coffee industry offers major growth potential for the Sri Lankan economy in terms of foreign exchange, domestic consumption and livelihood development - benefitting the entire value chain. MDF is funded by the Australian Government and implemented by Palladium, in partnership with Swisscontact.

related to currency fluctuations, electricity interruptions, political instability, the decline in tourism after the Easter Sunday terrorist attacks in 2019, and the current Covid-19 pandemic have affected the entire value chain, the report stated.

Why has Sri Lanka failed to develop the crop after it failed during the colonial era, for almost two centuries?

The rise and fall of the Sri Lankan coffee industry occurred in the colonial period (1800s) due to monocropping and the spread of the coffee leaf rust disease. In the early 1860s, in-vitro or laboratory-based, disease-resistant solutions towards "rust" were not as well developed as they are today.

The result was a switch to, and fast adoption of, tea, a regular income-generating crop that can be harvested monthly.

Later in the century, pioneer nations of coffee like Timor-Leste and Central American countries developed rust-resistant coffee cultivars, which were then brought into Sri Lanka, making a slow entry into farmlands.

However, the economic benefits and premium quality of tea had already made a stronger entry to the market, making it challenging to reintroduce coffee to farmers.

The coffee industry started up again in the 1970s, with the establishment of the Department of Export Agriculture (DEA).

The DEA recognised coffee's cash crop potential and executed projects to bring coffee back through robust assistance programs, including providing free saplings, cash grants and technical assistance to growers. These projects laid the foundation for the coffee industry's growth in Sri Lanka.

MDF identifies that over the past 20 years, businesses and government agencies have invested heavily in the coffee industry. The increase in the number of processors and roasters in the sector is a clear indication of this

change. Efforts are under way to increase coffee supply, with both the government and private sector players investing in planting Lakparakum, a new variety of Arabica coffee, in conducive regions. However, given the lag time between planting and harvesting, it will take time for the production figures to reflect the expanded area under cultivation.

A challenge, however, is the gap in farmer knowledge around coffee demand and new technology. While there is opportunity to expand this industry further, most farmers do not realise this potential.

Farmers and processors who use traditional methods do not benefit from the new, more efficient technologies available. The crop would greatly benefit if farmers had better access to up-to-date information on the demand for coffee and were able to use modern, innovative agricultural techniques.

## Developing and promoting the crop as an export commodity

MDF's report identifies opportunities for improvement and sustainability of the Arabica value chain. MDF's vision is that developing the crop for a stable market should be a 'whole of sector' approach - a collective commitment from every link in the coffee value chain to develop and elevate the crop.

Therefore, MDF identifies several opportunities in public sector management and policy, farming and processing, and promotion and marketing to assist the sector reach its full potential.

The main opportunity is the macro-climatic and agronomic suitability of Arabica coffee to Sri Lanka, and hence the strong potential for coffee to proliferate as a cash crop across the districts of Sri Lanka's Central Highlands.

This means the number of potential smallholder coffee growers

## LSEG teams up with Hatch

The London Stock Exchange Group Sri Lanka (LSEG) will partner with Hatch's Kickass Series 4, which is geared to empower women entrepreneurs.

Having first started in March, Hatch; the hub for all things start-up, completed three cohorts of its program tailored to nurturing female founders and is now ready to launch the fourth iteration of its incubation program to support and empower a new group of women in business, with LSEG.

Manager of Diversity and Inclusion at LSEG SL, Bani Chandrasena said, "We believe that some of the main challenges female entrepreneurs face is the lack of access to funding channels and to the right know-how in order to grow their businesses. As such, LSEG finds it important to channel our efforts towards addressing these issues via targeted funding and programmes such as the Hatch Kickass Bootcamp, with the inclusion and support of other corporates."

## Lanka Hospitals completes 9,000 heart surgeries



From left: Lanka Hospitals' Chief Marketing Officer Nimal Ratnayake, Director Medical Services, Dr. Wimal Karandagoda, Group CEO Deepthi Lokuarachchi, Resident Consultant Cardiologist Dr. M. Mubarak, Chief Resident Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon Dr. G. Gandhiji and Resident Consultant Cardiac Anaesthesiologist Dr. P. Lushantha cut a cake in celebration of their achievements.

Lanka Hospitals celebrated World Heart Day recently. The event also marked the successful completion of 9,000 heart surgeries at the hospital's Heart Centre.

Lanka Hospitals' Group Chief Executive Officer Deepthi Lokuarachchi, Lanka Hospitals' Director Medical Services, Dr. Wimal Karandagoda, senior members of Lanka Hospitals' management, heart specialists and staff of the hospital's Heart Centre were also present.

The event also included an educational panel discussion by three senior resident cardiac specialists with regard to heart health and the importance of preventing heart disease. The members of the panel were Resident Consultant Cardiologist Dr. M.

Mubarak, Chief Resident Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon Dr. G. Gandhiji and Resident Consultant Cardiac Anaesthesiologist Dr. P. Lushantha.

The Heart Centre at Lanka Hospitals offers a complete range of comprehensive cardiac and cardiothoracic surgical procedures.

Lanka Hospitals has obtained accreditations for its healthcare service standards including the Joint Commission International (JCI) accreditation sixth edition and the Medical Tourism Certification from the Medical Travel Quality Alliance (MTQA). Lanka Hospitals Diagnostics (LHD) has also been accredited by the laboratory accreditation body, the College of American Pathologists (CAP).

## Pelwatte Dairy partners leading supermarket chains

Pelwatte Dairy Industries has brought more of its product categories to leading supermarket chains and has extended its value-for-money deals at the supermarkets.

The company is offering discounts up to the end of this month. Managing Director of Pelwatte Dairy Industries, Akmal Wickramanayake said, "Given the recent turn of events, we at Pelwatte Dairy Industries are doing everything in our power to support the nation."

The nationwide lockdown earlier this year witnessed free door-to-door delivery services and other CSR and consumer reach activities from our end. Should there be an escalation in the situation again, we assure our commitment to the country as well as the dairy industry - to ensure that milk production continues with utmost safety and precaution. "All our



products are enriched with the wholesome goodness of fresh milk that is nutrient-rich and preservative-free. Pelwatte ghee is one of our most preferred products and we are thrilled about getting this and many more of our product categories on supermarket shelves," he said.

The home-grown company is known for its healthy, fresh and delicious range of dairy products that include milk, yoghurt, ice-cream and butter - salted and unsalted varieties, for home and industrial use.

## vivo launches new phone in Sri Lanka

vivo launched an addition to its flagship V-series, the vivo V20 in Sri Lanka last week. The V20 is slim and lightweight and has a 7.38mm Ultra Sleek AG Glass to complement the fast-paced lifestyles of young users.

The smartphone comes with a 64MP rear camera with Super Night Mode that delivers high definition quality and clarity. It is backed by 33W FlashCharge capability allows V20 to keep up with the user throughout the day.

CEO of vivo Sri Lanka, Kevin Jiang said, "vivo strongly believes in catering to the changing customer behaviour and preferences. We understand the selfie craze, photography trends and needs of creative minds."

With V20, vivo is all set to change the paradigms of premium-range smartphones with its futuristic features and design. V20 has it all, with enhanced Autofocus camera capabilities packed in an ultra-sleek and fashionable design."

V20's cutting edge camera set



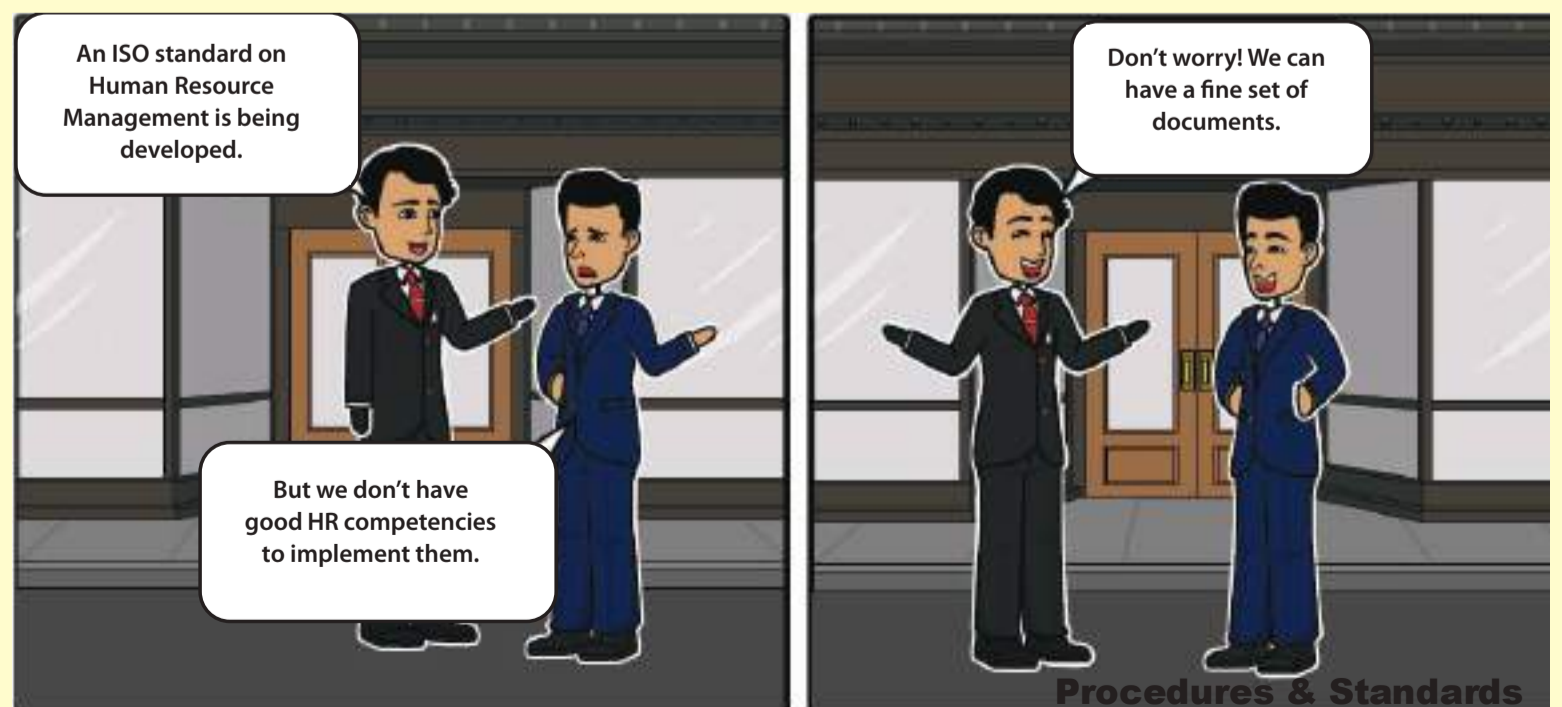
The vivo V20

up has a powerful and intelligent Autofocus ability that unlocks a whole new world of selfie capabilities.

The device supports an industry-leading 44MP Eye Autofocus feature that captures each moment with ease and stability. Eye Autofocus uses advanced subject-tracking technology to enhance picture and video quality and make the user the 'focus' always.

## Everyone knows HR

Good policies and procedures should not be confined to documents only.



By Janaka Kumarasinghe

## Business

# Polyphenol-based marketing, the turning point for Ceylon Tea

■ Non-alcoholic beverage competitors encroaching tea market

■ Analytical and critical thinking skills absent in education system

BY LALIN L. DE SILVA

It will become a lost opportunity for the plantation employees if we continue to resort to no action talk only policy. Almost all the plantation issues today pivot around a single net indicator which is the NSA or the net sale averages of individual crops.

We are eager to find out who is at fault and not what is at fault. Here is an opportunity for a strategic intervention combined with IT/ICT based system improvements without further delay with the ultimate objective of turning around the plantation industry.

Since I suggested polyphenol-based marketing a few years back, the Japanese appear to have developed the machine to determine polyphenol content of made tea, tried, and tested in many tea growing countries, including in Sri Lanka. Polyphenol based demand for tea, therefore is a strong possibility. Continuous developments are taking place with many beverage producers with the help of leading beverage universities in the world. We are yet to initiate action in this direction. A top strategic plan is essential to drive the tea industry forward.

An entrepreneurial mindset is the absolute need of the hour as over 75% of the national production of tea comes from the smallholder sector.

Growth strategies must take precedence over the regulatory process. It is our candid opinion that State officials manning the industry are more comfortable with regulation and less interested in growth. Leading an ailing industry only through regulation is somewhat comparable with strangulating to death.

We are somewhat unfortunate that we don't appear to be embracing MPH concepts such as meritocracy, pragmatism and honesty like in Singapore, Dubai etc. But such deficiencies should not be hindrances to support an entrepreneurial culture that can help the tea industry to achieve its true potential (5 b USD per annum).

## Dilly-dallying

Sadly, many developments are taking place in the industry at a global level whereas, we are dilly-dallying with closing down the tea factories owing to introducing additives and creating mayhem by calling the best part of our tea production as refuse tea.

Laws are meaningful if the judges consider the circumstances under which the offences took place. Problems lead to opportunities. Since the industry has more to do and less to celebrate all must strengthen the tea Board and its chairman.

Drawing some clues from the incidents of 9/11 in the US and the recent Covid-19 issue in China, our media has a lot to think about before acting on tea industry-related media publicity. Responsible media is an absolute necessity towards achieving national growth targets, but not to provide ammunition to our competitors to destroy us lock stock and barrel.



**Responsible media is an absolute necessity towards achieving national growth targets, but not to provide ammunition to our competitors to destroy us lock, stock and barrel**

At the bottom of all these issues are the unscientific approaches and corruption to some degree that are obvious. The causal factor that comes loud and clear again is attempting to address the symptoms while purposely avoiding solving the problem. For that, we must blame the entirety of the education system, which is absent of analytical and critical thinking skills further perished with an island mentality. In the end, the planting community and the national economy suffers, primarily due to the loss of jobs at the grassroots level.

We must remember that those who are losing jobs are the strong voices of our society who wanted the current President in power with great expectations.

Total change will take place if we could condition our minds to start thinking with the end in mind. The spike in this instance is the Per Capita Income goal. Therefore, a strategic intervention aiming at 10 b USD revenue per annum from the plantation industry is essential. Almost half of it is the true potential of the tea industry.

## Road map

We need a fully aligned road map to get to the goal fast. It is left to the President to teach his team of leaders the power of strategic management and get everyone to look at one national goal target.

Achieving 10,000 USD per capita income before the first term of office is over is a fitting challenge.

The Ceylon Planters Society is committed to uplift the industry, and this is another one such intervention with tea. We will also speak of the other crops at the very earliest.

There is sufficient research evidence to conclude that tea improves heart health.

Tea can potentially enhance the blood flow around the body by widening key arteries and reducing the risk of clots. tea also contains antioxidants called 'flavonoids', which may slow down the onset and risk of heart disease.

But the million dollar question we Sri Lankans must ask ourselves today is, are we making full use of the organic compounds in tea, to attract new

markets and better prices. The magical experience when drinking tea has very little to do with the grades of tea.

Though green tea was believed to have more polyphenols, it turns out that black tea too has similar amounts. The most potent polyphenol in tea is a substance called EGCG (epigallocatechin gallate), which belongs to a group of flavonoid phytochemicals called catechins.

Catechins are polyphenolic compounds found in tea leaves. In recent studies, catechins were found to be providing various health benefits against numerous diseases. Studies have shown that catechins have antiviral effects against diverse viruses as well.

The significant portion of our tea remains a commodity. As long as we stay on the commodity market, we will continue to be price takers and not price makers. A strategic intervention is needed, aiming at gaining a higher value for tea through the latest concepts of marketing.

The national policy should be only to serve tea at national and international functions and not other competitive beverages. Such nationalistic thinking and acting are yet to emerge.

## VFM

The worst is that the consumer is not educated on the value for money, like in the case of marketing. Value for money (VFM) is not about achieving the lowest price by disposing of large quantities in one single tea auction.

It is about achieving the optimum combination of whole life costs and quality. Traditionally VFM was thought of as getting the right quality, in the right quantity, at the right time, from the right supplier at the right price. Will 10 USD be too much to ask for a kilo of tea, immensely when tea helps you to be healthier? Compare this opportunity with the disease-free happy lifestyle enjoyed by the plantation workers for the past 150 years that stands as living proof for the drinking of tea.

Tea is very much a part of the global beverage industry. The industry is a mature sector and includes companies that market non-alcoholic and alcoholic beverages that are targeted at

several market segments such as infants, adults, and elderly populations.

We take the easy path of resistance, thus requiring State intervention, which is more important than getting engaged in plantation workers wage negotiations.

The industry will turn around the day government ministers understand their unique role of having to develop and implement policy aiming at improving the socio-economic well-being of Sri Lankans. President Mahinda Rajapaksa achieved a 4,000 USD per capita income goal before his office came to an end by 2015. What we need now is to take it to 10,000 USD per capita levels before 2025, before the current parliament ends its term.

## Weak

See how the other non-alcoholic beverage competitors are encroaching our beverage market considering our vulnerable position of strategic execution. Planters have assisted ministry officials by providing vital financial performance indicators such as NPV, IRR re all crops cultivated so the ministry could understand how to plan and execute a strategic intervention with definitive timelines.

It is a pathetic site to observe that competitor beverages, without much comparative or competitive advantage, are successfully competing with tea because we have failed to educate our consumers on the relative health benefits of tea.

It is about time we understood national priorities rather than strengthening the economies of multinationals and engage in mundane issues such as refuse tea, wages, strikes, climate change that we are comfortable with.

The media, while making their margins by playing to the gallery, must make it a point to address possibilities of nation-building topics even occasionally.

The issues such as: How to increase medicinal properties in tea, will tea remain beyond 2050, competitive advantages of Sri Lankan tea, do the plantations have measurable soil standards to grow tea sustainably, Why food scientists are absent in tea processing value chain in Sri Lanka. Is Sri Lankan tea strategically managed, why HR concepts are taboo in Plantations Management, Is the practice of purchasing green leaf to factories purely by weight sustainable, the need of increasing profit per hectare of plantation land annually, Are their smart plantations in Sri Lanka are pertinent questions to ask.

In short, the media can launch a broader dialogue aiming at most problematic industries such as the plantations. It is essential to align the nation to one single economic goal, and only the media could do it as average leadership is absolutely weak.

The pioneers of the tea industry built a great initiative that can be marketed as a beverage without guilt. Tea is a generic product without guilt.

**The writer is a former senior planter and agricultural advisor**

## BOOK REVIEW

# A thought provoking road map for sustainable tourism

**Title:** Life - A compendium of biodiversity stories in hospitality  
**Reviewed by:** Vipula Wanigasekera



The author couldn't have found a better title for the Compendium of biodiversity stories in hospitality which was launched recently.

Life - is a masterpiece that brings to light a heartening and shared role of a group of hospitality industry personnel in conserving biodiversity through responsible tourism and hospitality.

A brilliant piece of work by Nireesh Eliyatamby, a versatile personality from corporate communication to management consulting in close association with the hospitality industry personnel in conserving biodiversity through responsible tourism and hospitality.

A valuable contribution to the compendium on 'the development of wildlife tourism'. This compendium comes with picturesque photography that perfectly fits into the stories. The credit for such an illustrious design layout goes to Kasun Beranagama.

Life - is dedicated to Director and CEO of Biodiversity - Sri Lanka, Prema Cooray, in appreciation of his pioneering role in sustainable tourism in Sri Lanka over the past several decades.

Tourism was once called a 'white industry' with no attempts to measure its effects on environment and socio-culture. However, by the early 90s, the researchers were grappling to find ways and means to reach the triple bottom line at all levels of development with the identification of the pillars of sustainable tourism.

While the liability for pursuing such planning is generally expected to fall on the state sector through laws and regulations, this compendium has attempted to change this perception with the private sector taking an unsung lead since the 90s moving well beyond profit motives culminating in the exposure through - Life.

Tourism and hospitality development are broadly accepted as factors in biodiversity loss and at the same time biodiversity is vital for tourism with coasts, mountains, rivers and forests being major attractions for tourists.

In this regard, Sri Lanka has been in the forefront with core nature-based tourism products

including nature treks, observation of flora and fauna, experiencing cultural and local heritage, photography and camping. Sri Lanka could exclusively present itineraries for elephants gatherings, sighting leopards and whale watching.

The compendium relates the true meaning of the conservation of biodiversity in real life beyond books and literature where the business missions of a team of Corporates have directly addressed the concerns emanating from the words of scholar Prof David Macdonald, "Without biodiversity, there is no future for humanity."

This is a forerunner to setting up an inclusive direction in the promotion of best practices through active learning and understanding mechanisms through a dialogue between State, Civil society partners and the private sector particularly in this Covid -19 period when Sri Lanka is desirous of reaching out to high end tourists, majority of whom are ecofriendly, responsible travelers who would recognize and acknowledge the measures taken to protect Sri Lanka's fragile environment.

The 'Life', in my view, is the first of its kind that gives a direction from the Corporate sector to the authorities, should the State wish to pursue a meaningful tourism sustainable policy in future development work.

It should also be made available in Sri Lankan missions aboard to establish Sri Lanka's identity in the area of conserving biodiversity for the information of researchers, conservationists, investors, incentive houses and airlines.

Life, thus communicates a strong message to the world that the private sector initiatives have invalidated the term oxymoron that is taught in academic studies in balancing sustainability with development.

## MarCom Collective meets State Minister Cabraal



**Seated at the table - State Minister Ajith Nivard Cabraal, Convenor, MarCom Collective, Thayalan Bartlett, Senior Partner and Head of Consulting, Ernst & Young, Sri Lanka and the Maldives, Arjuna Herath, Partner, Tax Services, Ernst & Young, Sri Lanka, Sulaiman Nishtar, Manager, Business Advisory Services, Ernst & Young Sri Lanka, Rodney Fernando, Secretary to the State Minister, R. M. A. Ratnayake, Convenor, MarCom Collective, Rohan Rajaratnam, and President, Video and Film Production Association, Santhush Weeraman.**

A team of senior representatives of the MarCom Collective and Ernst & Young Sri Lanka met the State Minister for Money and Capital Market and State Enterprise Reforms, Ajith Nivard Cabraal, recently.

The meeting was the latest in the Collective's ongoing engagements with stakeholders in the Government and the industry to apprise them of the marketing communications sector's contribution to the economy, which has largely gone unnoticed.

The MarCom Collective is a group of nine associations and businesses and professionals from across the marketing communica-

tions industry which comprises 12 sectors viz. Advertising, Market Research, Event Management, Photography, Video & Audio Productions, Media Planning, Digital, Public Relations, Outdoor Advertising, Tele / Broadcast Media (TV, Print, Radio and on-line media), Activations and Printing & Packaging.

They came together following the devastating impact of Covid-19, which heightened the need to identify immediate measures to revive and fortify the industry with policies that will mitigate the effects of the downturn in the business and ensure long-term sustainability post revival.

## HNB partners with Ansen Agriculture

HNB PLC has partnered with Ansen Agriculture to offer affordable leasing packages inclusive of attractive benefits for Powertrac tractors and Mubota Combine Harvesters to its growing customer base.

HNB, Head of Personal Financial Services, Kanchana Karunagama and Ansen Agriculture, Managing Director, Angelo Wijesinghe were present at the ceremony to mark the partnership at the HNB Head office "Each year, we have worked towards empowering our customer base through partnerships of this nature which allow SMEs to expand their businesses.

This year too, we have provided our customers in the agricultural sector with several leasing opportunities, and we are happy to be working with ANSEN Agriculture to offer our mutual customer base with exclusive deals and leasing solutions," HNB, Head of



**From Left: HNB Leasing Business Development Executive, Mahesh Ratnayake, HNB Assistant Manager, Leasing, Roshan De Silva, HNB Senior Manager- Leasing, Niluka Amarasinghe, HNB Head of Personal Financial Services, Kanchana Karunagama, HNB Deputy General Manager - Retail and SME Banking, Sanjay Wijemanne, ANSEN Agriculture Managing Director, Angelo Wijesinghe, ANSEN Agriculture General Manager, Suranjith Nanayakkara, ANSEN Agriculture Financial Controller, Pradeep Alegandran, ANSEN Agriculture Head of Sales, Neville De Silva and ANSEN Agriculture Manager Operations, Gayan Abeytunge.**

Personal Financial Services, Kanchana Karunagama said. ANSEN Agriculture Managing Director, Angelo Wijesinghe said, "We are continuously working towards enhancing the capabilities of our customers in the agri-

cultural sector. As such, we believe that partnerships of this nature will offer us the opportunity to provide our mutual customer base with attractive benefits and convenient leasing solutions to grow their businesses."

ANSEN will offer customers the option of choosing between a warranty for 2,500 hours or an extended two-year warranty from the date of purchase for Powertrac tractors under the partnership.

## Wayamba University gets new VC

Prof. Udith K. Jayasinghe has been appointed Vice-Chancellor of the Wayamba University.

Prof. Jayasinghe holds degrees from University of Peradeniya (Bachelors in Agriculture and Masters in Agricultural Economics) and University of Guelph, Canada (PhD in Food and Agric. Econ. and Business). He serves as a Visiting Professor in the University of Massachusetts, USA and Monash University, Australia.



## New Director General at SLAASMB

Anusha Mohotti was appointed as the Director General of the Sri Lanka Accounting and Auditing Standards Monitoring Board (SLAASMB) on October 1.

She is a Fellow member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka and the Chartered Institute

of Management Accountants of UK. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Colombo and a Masters' degree in Business Administration from the University of Leicester.

Mohotti being the fourth Direc-

tor General of the Board, has been with the it for over 20 years and is well acquainted with its regulatory activities.

Before the appointment, she was the Deputy Director General and had been performing the role of Acting Director General.



**Anusha Mohotti**

## Advertorial

# Oppo launches F17 Pro in Sri Lanka

Oppo launched the latest Oppo smartphone phone F17 Pro in Sri Lanka recently.

The On-line Launch itself was a success and a milestone in the annals of digital landscape in Sri Lanka as it probably was one of the first 'Private Event Live Streaming' in Sri Lanka for a Mobile brand to have the highest number of 'Concurrent Viewers' Watching LIVE. Produced exclusively for Digital it was the First Launch Event with the first ever Simulcast for a private event across 15 channels and two platforms - Facebook and YouTube with Full HD Streaming.

Oppo F17 Pro introduces fashionable technology along with functions which make life more efficient that can keep up with the pace of fast lifestyle, all packed into an Ultra-Sleek smartphone body of a truly premium design.

Along with F17 Oppo Sri Lanka also launched the Oppo Watch - water resistant and powered with Wear OS by Google as well as Oppo Enco W51, the first active noise cancellation (ANC) true wireless headphones under Oppo Acoustics.

"The F Series has been designed so



that the trendsetting generation can attain a quality smartphone that suits both their life and personal sense of style, and with a sleek design that you won't be afraid to flaunt outdoors," said CEO Kinda Lanka (Oppo Sri Lanka), Bob Li.

"Designed based on consumer research, F17 Pro ticks off all the right boxes for a phone that boasts AI cameras to deliver breathtaking

portrait photos, and the latest generation of VOOC Flash Charging technology to ensure that your phone won't hold your lifestyle back," he said.

Designed with a 7.48mm ultra-sleek body that easily slides into a pocket and jacket without the bulge, or tucks neatly into a small bag or clutch.

F17 Pro's 6.43" dual punch-hole display comes with a brilliant FHD+ Super AMOLED Display with a large

90.7% screen-to-body ratio. The display uses Mini Dual-Punch Holes that boast the industry's smallest camera diameter of only 3.7mm, and ensures that the phone screen's real estate is maximised.

F17 Pro's look isn't complete without a trendy back cover design. F17 Pro introduces Shiny Matte, which sees the return of the shimmers and brilliant streaks of light. The front of the phone has a Dual Cam.

AI Portrait Colour in F17 Pro enables one to capture fashionable urban street style photos or travel photos from a new perspective by making portraits pop with color.

The third generation of Ultra Steady Video enables one to effortlessly film a vlog while walking down the street but ensure that the capturing is stabilized which results in clearer and sharper videos.

UltraSteady Video uses a hardware-software solution that combines the Electronic Image Stabilisation algorithm with an embedded gyroscope within the front-facing camera which enables to capture the moment, on-the-go or even on-the-run, without the jittery footage.

## Convenient online shopping with buyabans.com



BuyAbans.com offers the best products from renowned and top global and local brands available for purchase online anytime anywhere.

Shopping online is convenient in every way, as you can buy whatever you want from the protection of your home, without taking the risk of going outside. This is also the perfect solution to getting your favourite products and items hassle-free, with minimum effort in the least time-consuming way.

As the pioneer in the e-commerce segment of the market in Sri Lanka, BuyAbans offers deals and discounts, along with easy access to a range of quality products. BuyAbans was established by home-grown retail and corporate giant Abans Group, with the

objective of fulfilling the requirements of people overseas, who wished to send gifts to their loved ones in Sri Lanka.

Over the years, BuyAbans has made rapid strides and vast expansion to serve all customers who desire a convenient online platform to view and purchase various items under one roof. Abans Group holds a wealth of 50 years of experience in the industry of retail electronics, home and kitchen appliances - which bears testament to their superior scale of services and their level of dedication and commitment to give the ultimate best to customers at all times. All products purchased from BuyAbans can be delivered free anywhere on the island in less than three days.

## AIA Insurance Wealth Planners recognised by IQA

AIA Insurance congratulated 12 Wealth Planners for the distinguished achievement of qualifying for the International Quality Awards (IQA) 2019.

Presented by LIMRA talent solutions international, the IQA motivates and rewards agents who contribute to a company's success through their sales volumes and quality of business.

AIA congratulates and commends P. H. Rasika Sandakelum (Colombo Region 4), H. Rangika Laganthi (Colombo Main), K. D. Suranga Perera (Negombo Region 1), M. Sarath Jayalal (Maharagama), T. Malathi Herath (Colombo Main), U. A. M. Sanjeevani Somaratna (Kandy), D. N. Himali Perera (Ragama City), D. Ruklanthi Gunasekara (Homagama), S. Ramanayake (Nugegoda), H. M. B. G. Shashika Herath (Kegalle Region 2), K. C. N. Ferdinando (Nugegoda) and A.H. O. D. Jayaweera (Colombo Region 1) for achieving the IQA Award.

Qualifiers are judged on their performance in both production levels and persistency rates. The qualification rules for the



International Quality Award are based on production of at least 30 policies written in two consecutive years and a 13-month persistency rate of at least 90 percent on

individual life and personal pension (annuity) business issued and paid for during a calendar year. The IQA is recognised as one of the highest awards in the life insurance industry and is a measure of professionalism, competence and leadership. Qualifiers earn both international and domestic recognition and can use this award to demonstrate their professional credentials to prospective and existing customers.

AIA's CEO Nikhil Advani said, "I am absolutely delighted that 12 of our Wealth Planners have achieved the global IQA recognition. LIMRA IQA demonstrates the outstanding performance of our Wealth Planners who have consistently provided customers with relevant solutions, above par customer service and have maintained a very high-quality business. It is Wealth Planners like these award winners that makes AIA the Best Life Insurance Company in Sri Lanka."

Deputy CEO and Chief Agency Officer Upul Wijesinghe said, "We were the first and only insurer in Sri Lanka to receive the Growth in the World - International Quality Award in 2018 and have since worked hard

to remain worthy of that prestigious recognition. My congratulations to the qualifiers of this latest recognition which reflects the high quality of our Wealth Planners and their commitment to customer focus and superior service."

Senior Vice President and Managing Director for LIMRA, Ian J. Watts said, "AIA Insurance has repeatedly shown that it values its agents who understand the importance of new customer acquisition and high persistency rates - which is without doubt, imperative for the success of the business."

For the continued prosperity of the Sri Lankan insurance industry, and the industry in the rest of the world, we encourage other companies to follow AIA's leading example."

The IQA was introduced in 1960 to recognize the outstanding performance of agents who promote quality business on a consistent basis, while providing superior customer service.

It is recognised worldwide as a mark of professional excellence in the insurance industry.

## John Deere tractor showroom opened in Polonnaruwa



For the convenience of all John Deere tractor users in and around polonnaruwa, Singer Srilanka, the sole agent for John Deere opened its very first super showroom in Jayanthipura recently. It was declared opened by Singer Sri Lanka's Director Marketing Shanil Perera with the patronage of Singer officials and John Deere dealers.

This is the first of the planned showroom network to cover all the main agricultural zones where farming is practiced in Sri Lanka.

The showroom it stocks all the spare parts needed, does all

running repairs and servicing as well. With the main objective of uplifting Sri Lanka's farming community, Singer Sri Lanka has introduced a number of John Deere tractor models compatible with the agricultural needs of the country's farmers.

Excellent after sales service, ample availability of spare parts, provision of required technical know-how and service camps held throughout the country have made John Deere tractors extremely popular and well-loved by Sri Lanka's farming community.

## Daraz grows Sri Lanka's e-commerce with local sellers

In a short period of four years since they took over Kaymu.lk, Daraz partners over 35,000 sellers at present. This means as many direct businesses and incomes, and many more indirect opportunities have been created through Daraz.

As the company continues to enhance the online shopping experience, they pay equal attention to enrich their sellers, providing the latest technology and support together with numerous training programs, to ensure that the quality of products and services is maintained across the categories.

Daraz continuously looks at opportunities that can give equal recognition to all their partners. The sellers who are on Daraz play a key

role in the growth of the largest online platform in Sri Lanka. As an online marketplace, Daraz provides the infrastructure and technology, but it is the sellers who create the sale opportunities.

Partnering with Daraz five years ago, Skyle Gadget Shop has grown from supplying five orders per day to around 200 items being shipped daily at present. Skyle Gadget Shop offers a range of products ranging from fashion accessories, electronics, mobile and many more. According to the proprietor, Gihan, the operations and marketing component driven by Daraz has made it one of the most viable and sustainable business models for local sellers.

Gihan has expanded his business to include six more people in his team, thereby being able to create more career opportunities thanks to the growth of his business on Daraz. Taking advantage of not having to maintain a physical store, the team works around the clock but in a much flexible environment, improving efficiency.

A fashion retail enterprise, Indi Fashions has been selling on Daraz for about a year. Offering dresses, jumpsuits, trousers and a range of fashionable ladies' wear for physical retail stores, the step towards development was to enter the digital platform.

Owner Dilani has been a supplier of clothing for many years. However, she sees a significant improvement in her business in terms of number of items, repayment efficiency resulting in good cash flow and a full ownership of the stock. Indi Fashions currently provides around 300 items per month on Daraz.

Gihan and Dilani are just two of the many sellers who have grown with Daraz.



## LB Finance marks Children's Day with art competition

LB Finance celebrated Children's Day this year with "Little Heroes," an art competition with a difference. Launched on a digital platform, the competition stipulated that the children must first unravel a crossword puzzle of a superhero character on the LB Finance FB page.

The four superhero names on the puzzle were Sonic the Hedgehog, Spiderman, Batman, and Iron Man. The children then had to draw their preferred

superhero and inbox both picture and the puzzle to LB Finance.

The competition was held for two age categories: ages 4 to 10 and 10 to 16. It drew a large number of applications from children and the first category of ages 4 to 10 has been adjudged. The winners received their gifts from the staff of LB Finance, who went to each home to give the children their gifts. The staff wished to do this because they believe that Children's Day should be special

and that it should be shared to make the children happier. The second category of ages 10 to 16 is currently ongoing.

This initiative was carried out under the Future 1st CSR project by LB Finance. Future 1st aims to develop the intellect of the child as well as give them a life-long love of learning.

Future 1st was created because LB Finance believes that children must be encouraged to do more than just studies and that they

should be encouraged to develop their talents, whatever the field may be.

Over the years, the project has carried out many unique initiatives to build on this vision of a well-rounded child.

Whether it is singing, dancing, drawing, or technological advancement, children need to know they can go far and that their futures are bright when they give time to their dreams and passions as well as their studies.

## Seylan Cards go zero on instalments for health, education expenses

Seylan Bank gives customers the opportunity to avail a 0% instalment easy payment plan (EPP) on Credit Card transactions for Health and Education expenses over Rs. 15,000 with absolutely no interest charges. The EPP makes it easy for customers to manage their vital financials against the typically higher value transactions in these sectors.

Seylan Credit Cards, recognised as the essential card for day to day needs, has introduced the 0% interest EPP for any hospital and education bills along with a host of other discounts from partner hospitals and education institutes.

Head of Cards of Seylan Bank, Jayanath Dias said, "Healthcare emergencies can take a toll on people's finances and put their day to day financial management in disarray, causing them much stress. Our 0% EPP puts their mind at ease, with the ability to pay up to Rs. 500,000 using the 0% instalment option. Education is another high value transaction



Jayanath Dias

that is essential for our customers, and we are delighted to be able to offer the convenience of an easy payment plan paving the way for their academic and professional aspirations."

Seylan Cards also offer savings in many essential categories at partner Supermarkets and on purchasing fuel.

## SLT partners with Land Maark Engineering

Sri Lanka Telecom (SLT) recently signed a partnership with Land Maark Engineering, a condominium developer.

SLT will provide telecommunication infra-structure and services to the Land Maark Towers in Colombo 6, Dehiwala and Mount Lavinia.

SLT will facilitate the infrastructure and all its telecommunication services to Land Maark Towers and the occupants of the buildings. This will also include enabling in-building solutions through its mobile telecommunication arm, Mobitel.

The agreement was signed by Kiththi Perera - Chief Executive Officer and Imantha Wijekoon - Chief Sales and Regional Officer on behalf of SLT and T. Nanthanan - Managing Director of Land Maark Engineering (Pvt) Ltd.

Land Maark condominium are built on the principle of sustainability allowing plenty of daylight and natural ventilation to conserve energy. Built on a legacy of

trust and integrity, Land Maark condominiums are known for using superior technology and building material, with a trusted name in the island.

No luxury apartment is completed without a state-of-the-art ICT infrastructure in place, which is where SLT steps in; to power the residents with telecommunications services, ultra-fast broadband connectivity provided through fibre technology as well as the next revolution in entertainment television, PEO TV.

SLT will provide the backbone for a Smart Building.

"As an industry that has been contributing largely to the local economy, condominium projects are one of the key sectors that need the best state-of-the-art ICT facilities.

SLT is pleased to contribute with our skills and experience, with the cutting edge technology and services, to the development of such projects," said Chief Executive Officer of SLT, Kiththi Perera.





# The incredible Charles Dickens

BY GWEN HERAT

Chopped into three books, viz. Recalled to Life, The Golden Thread and The Track of Storms, *A Tale of Two Cities* breezes through the unseen forces, sometimes collapsing into a paradoxical identity. The end is reached after careful seizing, grappling and absorbing the essence of an upshot rationale in turning a tale into a classic. Dickens does this with no imagination left. The classic's measurement of England is bared without limitation and compares revolutionary France as an example to Victorian England and also England as a potential France. Back again, France shows England what it could fall into.

Dickens set the space and moves on; examines the French Revolution more closely and it becomes impossible to discern. He revolves the story around people whose private lives come into being as the centre point for exploration and traces the authenticity of the subjects that took him a long period and enabled him to rise unscathed in their endeavour.

### Perfect plot

The scenes of political violence in the book, and the various repetitions threaded into it, can be understood as Dickens' attempt to impart a feel of what he describes. If France apparently descended into chaos the story needed to evoke the sense of eternal recurrences which was a tricky situation for him. But Dickens' plot proves perfect for this purpose.

The same deliberate debasement can be described as his exemplary description of the escalating national frenzy and Dickens' attitude on whoever makes France their Republic is liable to swing and continued to reveal the same resilience.

Very few will disagree that Charles Dickens was the greatest writer gifted with the acute art of

storytelling with a combination of historical facts and was an unsurpassed genius in his own chosen writing. He had the gift of peeping into the utmost crust of their feeling and the gift of evolving history based on his own observation and investigations on the private lives of a sect of people caught up in the cataclysm of the horrors of the French Revolution and which was later to become one of the greatest classics in our time. He made numerous visits to Paris in search of each and every minute detail that could shed light on the lead up and the aftermath of the French Revolution.

Collecting his own findings over the years, he wrote his final verdict on *A Tale of Two Cities*. Touching each and every heart that came by as he dug up for lost clues, the final poignant tale we read today, is of human suffering, self-sacrifice and redemption that lie as a stranglehold in our minds. It is not everyone who can absorb the philosophy of Dickens that made him write such tales.

In 1859 and after much procrastination, he seized his pen to go on a long voyage of discovery and self-discovery into history and human suffering of the era he had in

mind. It was the best and bad times all rolled into the surviving passion that the nation was going through, people left with scars of war and numbed with expectations. Dickens did not confine himself to the realities of war but way beyond to the future as the dust settled.

### First book

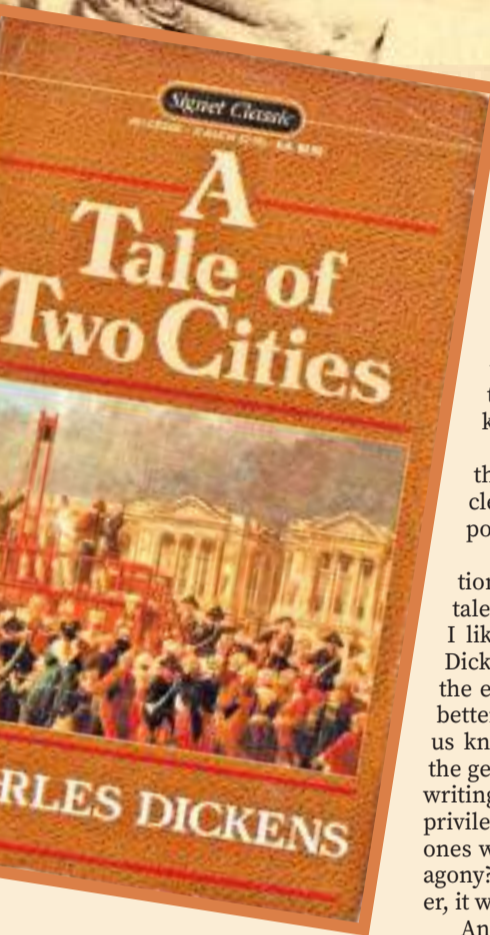
With the wealth of human worth which he portrayed with riches of character, he was the only English writer who could have risen to those heights. He wrote his last tale in 1864 and died in 1870. Dickens wrote his first sketch in 1833 and published his first book in 1836. The book was made of London scenes and life therein and contained the germs of all his writings until he died, literally with a pen in his hand in 1870. The book was titled *Everyday Life and Everyday People* that was more of a summary on the materials he used from the beginning.

Dickens commenced his writing when he was twenty years, but behind him were a dozen years of experience that coloured all his stories. It gave an insight to the knowledge of life of the poor which comes

from being poor himself. Naturally, he loathed the memory of those years of drudgery though he was born to high ambition. But, yet they were the years that gave him the picturing of a loving heart that everyday life was for every people.

Never interested in glamour, lordly romance or thrilling adventure, he was brimming with energies and boundless sympathies. With his writing, he expanded the sympathies, loyalties along with humour and quaintness; the pathos and wrongs and the prevailing goodness of simple, common people.

As he continued writing, gaining more experience with travelling and meeting new people, the book that won him great popularity was *Pickwick Papers*. Like his first book, it contained a series of sketches with no plot. Dickens himself did not know how the story would end. It dragged



the law's delay in clearing up the mess. Yet, what he wrote was to arouse his generation, increasing sadness. Some of his targets achieved some success as painfully the wrongs became rights. No other writer played through his writing the part of social reformer that Dickens played for mankind.

The organised humanity in these crusading attacks were clearly appealing not only to the poor but for some rich too.

Moving on to *Great Expectations* which is the best of his later tales and happens to be the one I like myself among his writing, Dickens put himself beyond even the efforts he was striving for still better reforms. Yet, how many of us know the real Charles Dickens, the genius who used his marvellous writing as a crusade for the underprivileged, the downtrodden, the ones who had no voice to cry out in agony? If ever there was such a writer, it was him.

And from such shadows emerged his greatest tale *David Copperfield* and *A Tale of Two Cities* was to follow. It was as if he was relating about himself as *Copperfield* and the very fact that he used his first two letters in the play as reverse, CD to DC (*David Copperfield* to *Charles Dickens*) is ample proof with passion and fury he raced through this book, his own autobiography.

Charles Dickens did not hesitate to use his writing as a powerful weapon to redeem children from slavery, widows from abuse and the poor from hunger.

With loneliness overtaking him, he had no option but to portray himself as the intense human being he was. He belonged to his age and had weaknesses, one being the overdone tendency to excessive sentiment that are scattered in his work. He made the readers weep together but the later generation sadly wanting in restraint. That was his signature.

on to months as his fancy led him on but the characters in it captured the imagination of the readers.

### Understanding of heart

Dickens was the writer who taught his generation the lesson of human understanding but cannot be compared to the modern writer who is incomparably more expert than him. With his pen he touched mankind with the age old lesson of the understanding of the heart. Having done thus, he moved to *Oliver Twist* that dealt with poor systems towards children which he attacked. In his third book, *Nicholas Nickleby*, he charged the authorities for their meanness and the incompetence found in boarding schools. Later, it resulted in *Bleak House* that it was

DICKENS SET THE SPACE AND MOVES ON; EXAMINES THE FRENCH REVOLUTION MORE CLOSELY AND IT BECOMES IMPOSSIBLE TO DISCERN. HE REVOLVES THE STORY AROUND PEOPLE WHOSE PRIVATE LIVES COME INTO BEING AS THE CENTRE POINT FOR EXPLORATION AND TRACES THE AUTHENTICITY OF THE SUBJECTS THAT TOOK HIM A LONG PERIOD AND ENABLED HIM TO RISE UNSCATHEDED IN THEIR ENDEAVOUR

## Lost art of letter writing

BY R.S. KARUNARATNE

All letters, methinks, should be free and easy as one's discourse, not studied as an oration, nor made up of hard words like a charm.

- Dorothy Osborne (1627-1695) English letter writer

When I was leaving home to take up an appointment in a government office in Hingurakgoda, way back in the 1960s, my father said, "I am unable to come with you, but write to me." He said so as if life depended upon letters. If I had not written letters, I would have lost my sense of direction and half of the people I cared about. Similarly, if I did not receive letters, I would feel bereft and miserable. As we had no telephone at the time, I regularly wrote letters to my parents, friends, pen-pals and well-wishers. It was in letters that I kept record of my own years as others might keep theirs in journals. The postage was low and I was lucky to have been born in an age of letter writing. But the art of letter writing is quite dead today.

Real letters cannot be written when you feel pressed, perching on the chair's edge. After office hours, I had nothing else to do than writing letters which took my time and energy. By letters I mean the opening up and the confiding that feed a friendship, the intimacy of tone and phrases that came when people talk with affection and without restraint. I suspect that most people have stopped writing let-

ters partly because they do not take the time and they also do not feel comfortable. They lack exuberance and confidence needed to write to someone living far away. It is a joy to know that someone is waiting to read your letters and you can imagine how he smiles and raises his eyebrows. To receive a letter out of the blue is a wonderful experience.

A well-crafted personal letter is really a sweet gift which comes in an envelope which is sealed and put into a bag along with other letters. The bags containing letters are carried from one place to another by vans, buses and trains. In a day or two, your letter will be delivered to the addressee by a postman. When the postman rings the bell, you are simply excited to accept the letter and read it several times.

### Vague impression

Although we have mobile phones and computers, we need to write letters. Otherwise nobody will know who we are. They will have only a vague impression of us as a nice person, because we do not have the confidence to write a letter and tell them, "Hi, I'm Bumble Bee, let me tell you something about myself." When you are not in touch with friends through letters, they will only smile and look over their shoulder to find someone else to talk to. If you are a shy person, start writing letters to your friends. When you write a letter, you will be known to another person who is living at a distance. What are you going to write? You may write about your new friends, the book



you are reading, what your neighbours are doing, and the new job you have got. The subjects are numerous if you are a little imaginative.

The first step in writing letters is to get over the guilt of writing. You do not owe anybody a letter. Your letter is a gift in itself. Do not apologise by writing, "I feel bad about writing as I have been very busy these days." When you receive a letter, thank the sender for the wonderful gift. Some of the best letters are tossed off in a burst of inspiration. Therefore, keep your writing stuff in one place where you can sit down and think. There are a few essentials for a letter writer. They

are a writing pad, envelopes, postage stamps and an address book. Write fast when your pen is hot! Sit for a few minutes with the blank sheet of paper in front of you, and let your friend come to mind. Write the salutation - "Dear Susan ..." and take a deep breath and lunge in.

### Grammar and style

When you write letters to your friends, do not worry about grammar and style. Write a simple declarative sentence followed by another and another. Write as if you are talking to your friend. Say how you spent the weekend, the people you met, what you think about them in a few short sentences. If you do not know how to begin, start with the present: "I'm sitting in my room on a rainy Sunday morning ... There's no one at home ... The house is very quiet ..." When you write to friends, do not try to impress. A letter is only a report to someone who already knows you.

Personal letters have no form, sequence or style. When you come to the end of one episode, just start a new paragraph. The more you write, the easier it gets, and when you write to a friend, it is like driving a car, you just press on the gas. There is no need to tear up a page and start writing on a new page. If you make a mistake, just cross it out and continue to write.

Outrage, confusion, love - whatever is in your mind, let it find a way to the page. Writing is a discovery. When you write more and more letters, you will discover many ways of expressing

your ideas. Most people do not throw away the letters they get from their friends. They preserve them in an attic and read them many years later. Your children and grandchildren will be delighted to read about the places you had visited, who you met and what they said. Today, the power and beauty of handwritten communication is being rediscovered. Paul Brown, a teacher in a New Zealand boarding school asked his students to write letters to their parents.

The boys resisted at first and dismissed the request as a stupid idea. However, with a bit of encouragement, they started writing letters to their families. In return, they received long replies along with \$10 notes, sport and car magazines. All of a sudden, the appeal of writing letters took on a whole new meaning. Brown, now the head of a boarding school at St Peter's College in Adelaide, Australia, says letter writing has become a bit of a lot art.

### Handwriting

Donald Jackson, the world famous calligrapher, has similar concerns about the future of handwriting. He says, "It is about touch. When you have a computer or phone in between you, you are distancing that heartbeat from the page, from the method of communication. But if you think of that sensory involvement in the words you are putting down on paper, then you have the maximum connection between you and the person who is reading those words."

Personal correspondence runs

parallel to your life, from birth announcements and thank you notes, through love letters. For all this, you need to cultivate a personal voice in your correspondence. It should be light, friendly, sincere, sympathetic, affectionate and loving, according to the occasion and the recipient.

Personal letters inevitably convey your thoughts and emotions, but you need to handle them with care. There will be moments in your life when you will be tempted to open the floodgates of your heart to a correspondent. Such an outpouring will be on permanent record.

### Letters to children

Adults often consider whether they should write letters to children. They do not know how to relate to a child's age and interests. On the other hand, today's children do not receive letters from their friends. If they get a letter, they will wonder what it is! So it's worth the effort to introduce a child to the pleasures of intimate correspondence. When you write to children, be inquisitive.

Tell them what you have been doing, where you have been, who you have met and what you think of them. Ask questions about school and friends. Enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope to encourage a reply.

When it comes to love letters, handwritten love letters are preferred. When you type abillet-doux, it has no personal touch. If you get a typed love letter, throw it into the nearest WPB!

karunaratners@gmail.com

# DERANA 'MOST RESPECTED' MEDIA NETWORK



LMD carries out an exclusive annual survey in association with Nielsen's, which judges a corporate entity's standing on multiple parameters that include financial performance, quality consciousness, management profile, honesty, innovation, dynamism, corporate culture, governance, CSR, vision, and nation mindedness.

In the 2020 survey, Derana Media Network takes pride in being at the forefront of the Media sector.

This is a notable recognition as Derana celebrates 15 years in the industry, staking claim to groundbreaking initiatives while innovating the sector in keeping with global standards. Today, Derana is the uncontested leader in terms of reach, revenue and uniqueness. Catering to viewers, listeners and subscribers not only in Sri Lanka but also those scattered around the world, Derana has today won the heart share of Sri Lankan people for its exclusive, best-in-class offering. Being a brand with a purpose, it is noteworthy that Derana has transformed to become both loved and trusted. Manusath Derana which has initiated numerous social welfare programmes over the

years, has become a catalyst in delivering much needed support services to the most deserving people and causes across the nation.

The LMD ranking and sector/category leadership endorses Derana's commitment to deliver the best infotainment to the masses as well as exclusive niche audiences via select programming. As the only brand that is available across all connectivity platforms, Derana stands stronger than ever to remain the media brand of choice in the new age.





The massive Yudaganawa chaitya at Buttala and the small shrine room in the foreground

—Text & Pix by—  
Mahil Wijesinghe

## From battlefield to breathtaking beauty

YUDAGANAWA IN BUTTALA IS THE LARGEST CHAITYA IN THE UVA PROVINCE.  
HOW DID THIS GIGANTIC CHAITYA GET ITS NAME?

Uva-Wellassa is a unique historical region, where patriotic rulers, together with civilians, waged war and spilt blood for the sake of the sovereignty of the motherland. Buttala, a prosperous agriculture-based region in the Moneragala district lies in the Uva Province, 226 kilometres from Colombo.

Across the lush green paddy fields, a soft cool breeze blows through the leaves of the massive Kumbuk trees. The shade and the soothing swishing sounds of leaves is mesmerising and engulfs us with its serenity. We are at the Yudaganawa chaitya. Situated in Buttala around two kilometres from the Moneragala-Wellawaya road, Yudaganawa is the largest chaitya in the Uva Province. Rising nearly 27 metres, it is believed that the chaitya had been built during two different eras the Anuradhapura and the Polonnaruwa kingdoms.

### Folklore

Fascinating folklore surrounds the interpretation on how Buttala derived its name. In the bygone era, Buttala was located along the road that connected Ruhuna to Rajarata and was called Gutthala. As legend has it, Buttala served as an important resting

place during the era of King Dutugemunu where a small village hall stood providing meals for the countless soldiers that marched across the area.

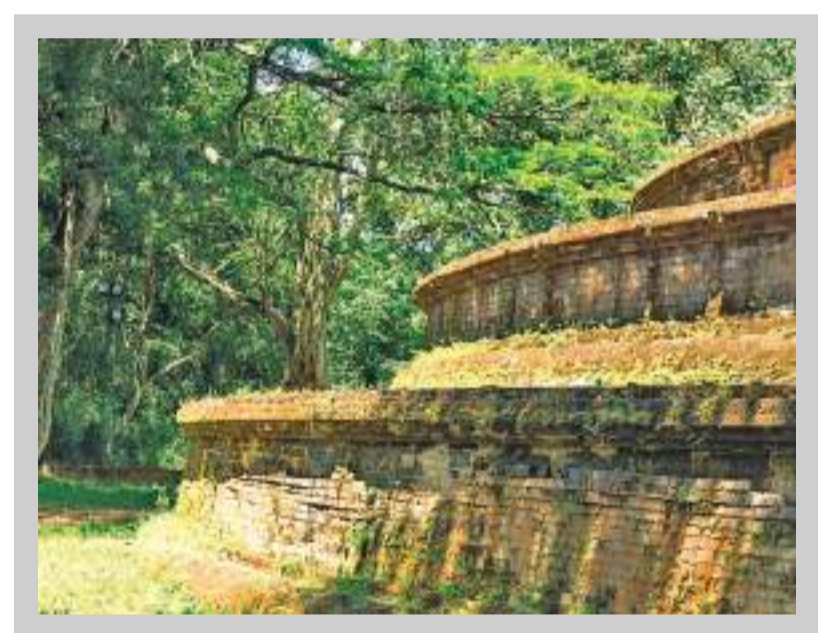
The village hall was called the *Bath Hala* (rice hall), which is thought to have become *Buth Hala* and then Buttala. However, another version says that due to the many conflicts that took place in Buttala, the name could have originated from Gushtihala, which later become Gutthala and finally Buttala.

A few kilometres from Buttala, is

another brick-built chaitya of Dematimal Vihara of historical significance, set amid lush green paddy fields. It is supposed to be the place where Prince Suddatissa took refuge, when he fled after losing a battle for the throne with his brother Dutugemunu. The Queen Mother, Vihara Maha Devi, saddened by the animosity between her two sons pleaded with them to make peace.

Consequently, the two brothers made peace with each other and to mark this occasion a colossal stupa was

built on the battlefield where they had fought. The battlefield is known in Sinhala as *Yudaganawa*. Some historians believe that an already existing chaitya was reconstructed and named *Yudaganawa chaitya*. The *chaitya* is so large that it is difficult to frame it in the normal camera lens and needed a wide-angle lens. Some believe that it is bigger than the circumference of the base of *Abhayagiriya chaitya*. *Abhayagiriya* is considered the largest ancient stupa in Sri Lanka.



However, in some earlier writings, the eminent archaeologist, Dr. Senerath Paranavitana says that the *Yudaganawa chaitya* was first built by King Parakramabahu the Great in memory of his mother Queen Ratnavali who was cremated here.

Dr. Paranavitana expounds the theory that the *Yudaganawa chaitya*, which looks unfinished, is in fact, complete. He says in the era that this chaitya was built, a few other stupas were also built in the same style. The other was the Damila thupa in Polonnaruwa and the *Sutighara chaitya* in Dedigama.

Walking around the perimeter of this mammoth structure, I noticed that the *chaitya*, built with red bricks was not the typical ones found elsewhere in the island as it seemed to be composed of only the base rings and a small round-like structure atop.

Although some experts give credence to the fact that *Yudaganawa* is a *Kota Vehera* where the main feature is that the construction of the chaitya is stopped with the base rings (*pesa walalu*) and a small *chaitya* built on top, some say that the chaitya was incomplete due to Prince Suddatissa being summoned to Anuradhapura as a result of the failing health of King Dutugemunu. The shrine room in front of the *chaitya* is a small structure with white-washed walls made of clay. Thought to have been built towards the end of the 18th century, according to a charter issued by King Sri Wickrama Rajasingha, the paintings on the inner

and outer walls are said to be from the Kandyan era.

### Paintings

I was awed by the dim surrounding that barely lit the intricate paintings that adorn the walls and the upper wooden ceiling. Most of the paintings on the outer walls and these on the wooden ceiling have faded with time. Here I had to use my camera flash which I reluctantly use for my photography. In the vicinity of the *Yudaganawa chaitya* is the *Yudaganawa Wewa*. It is believed that the clay needed to make bricks for the *chaitya* was dug from here. According to historical chronicles, the wewa had been built by King Mahanaga in 300 BC. In 1950 it had been renovated by the Irrigation Department. It covers an area of 150 acres and irrigates 252 acres of paddy cultivation.

The wewa is quite picturesque, in the middle of which is a huge rock surrounded by the skeletons of dead trees and home to numerous birds. The villagers come here for a bath. The ancient concept of development in our native culture is once again evident here, the village, the temple, the wewa.

Observing this gigantic structure, we tried to imagine a time when this place was abuzz with many a battle and yet it was hard for us to grasp that this secluded and breathtaking place could have been a site that had witnessed such episodes!



The faded paintings of the inner walls of the shrine room



The age-old main Buddha statue flanked by two statues belonging to the Kandyan era

## “Poya Festival” for Chinese and a Woman’s Mooncake

Perceiving  
Sri Lanka through  
Chinese eyes  
by Amy Yang



By chance, Xing came to “a tear in the Indian Ocean”, the tropical island of Sri Lanka, and fell in love with it. Later, she quit her domestic 16 years bank job and came to Sri Lanka to start a business. She opened a dessert shop in Colombo. The name of the shop is easy to remember. It is called “Family”. Regarding the origin of the name, she said: “We want every customer feels like we are a family.”

Time flies like soft India ocean wind. In a blink of an eye, the desert shop owner Xing has been in Sri Lanka for over two years. In the past two years, during the Mid-Autumn Festival, her mooncakes always sold out soon.

A mooncake is a special pastry eaten during the Mid-Autumn Festival

in China and parts of Asia. This festival is meant to celebrate friendship, fertility and togetherness. Xing said, “The Mid-Autumn Festival is one of our most important festivals. When we are overseas, everyone pays more attention to the meaning of Mid-Autumn Festival. All Chinese want to express their memories of their hometown through food.”

Xing’s mooncakes are freshly baked, featuring low sugar, which is more in line with modern people’s health concepts. Some people who failed to buy her mooncakes last year came here early this year. This made her encouraged.

The Chinese community in Sri Lanka is not large, but the Mid-Autumn Festival, a traditional festival that carries Chinese people’s homesickness, must be celebrated. No matter where, as long as there are Chinese, there is Mid-Autumn Festival, which is August Poya.

### Mid-Autumn Festival

Xing felt some Sri Lankans also



Cai and her friend

know Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival. “They would say this is China’s Poya Festival”. Many people who know this festival have gone to China to study, and partly because their work and business are related to China. During the Mid-Autumn Festival, they may receive mooncakes from Chinese

people.” The full moon in October is Adhi-Vap Full Moon Poya for Sri Lankans. This day has special cultural significance for the people of both countries, something that the two ancient Asian countries have in common.

In the past two years, Sri Lanka has suffered due to terrorist attacks and Covid-19. There is an old Chinese poem: People may have sorrow or joy, be near or far apart. Just like the moon may be dim or bright, wax or wane. People in Sri Lanka have a better understanding of the sentence.

In Xing’s view, everything has a good side and a bad side.

“In the wake of the Easter Sunday attacks, we delivered food to our customers regardless of danger, so more people got to know about us. During Covid-19, I hope to send a touch of sweetness to people in our traditional holiday.”

This year, Xing also gave some mooncakes to her Sri Lankan neighbours and friends. They like these cakes very much. Xing said, “There is a feeling of making friends through tasty Chinese food.”



The past two years have been special and everyone has his or her own difficulties. In the future, Xing hopes to focus on traditional Chinese snacks

and Chinese cakes. “People say that there will be rainbows after the storm, and I am still very optimistic about the prospects of Sri Lanka.”

## Features

# My cinema life started with much hardship

- Dharmasiri Bandaranayake

BY RAVINDRA WIJEWARDHANE

**D**harmasiri Cinemawalokanaya (Insights into Dharmasiri's cinematic vision) written by Jeewantha Dayananda, a writer on cinema, was launched recently by Nabo Publishing. It gives new insights into Dharmasiri Bandaranayake's cinema, and it's the second book written on his cinematography. The *Sunday Observer* met Dharmasiri Bandaranayake, a veteran film maker and dramatist to talk about his life, his cinema, and his views on art and social milieus.

Excerpts:

**Q: Could you say how this book came to be written?**

**A:** The first book which was written on my cinema is *Kutumbaya, Lingikawaya saha Cinemawa* (Family, Sex and Cinema) published last year. It was written by Thusitha Jayasundara, a journalist and writer. A few months after launching that book, Jeewantha Dayananda came to me and discussed my cinema. This is the result of that discussion.

Jeewantha tried to analyse my cinema quoting other critics in this book. And Lahiru Randika who was the publisher of this book also helped by printing it as a high quality, hard cover book.

**Q: When you talk about your cinema life you say it started with much hardship?**

**A:** Yes. My first film *Hansa Vilak* was released in 1979. If someone was going to make a film at the time, he or she had to present its script to the National Film Corporation's Committee to assess screen plays to receive the government loans.

But the Film Corporation whose General Manager was D.B. Nihalasinghe, gave a C grade certificate to my film which meant no loans. I made another request saying that I know the art of film but without the loan facility I couldn't make a film. But they denied my request. Meanwhile, I met Albert Jayasinghe, Chairman of the Bake House bakery at As Wattuwa (Town

Hall) quite accidentally. I told him about my plight.

He asked for a budgetary proposal for the film, and later approved the budget which was Rs. 244,500. *Hansa Vilak*, my first film was made like this.

**Q: There is always a certain audience who appreciate your cinema, though you haven't been able to make a film for the past 23 years?**

**A:** Yes, I owe a great debt of gratitude to veteran film makers such as Lester James Peries, Sumithra Peries, Wasantha Obeysekera, Dharmasena Pathiraja and Tissa Abeyskera who created a vast highbrow film audience before me.

Without them, I wouldn't have been able to gather such discerning film fans around my cinema. From 1979 to 1997, I have created five films which were *Hansa Vilak*, *Thunweni Yamaya*, *Suddilage Kathawa*, *Bhawa Duka* and *Bhawa Karma*, and with each film I was able to add new fans.

I should say they were not commercial cinema fans, but highbrow cinema fans.

**Q: You had separate themes for all your films?**

**A:** Yes, I tried to research each film. For instance, *Hansa Vilak* consisted of unusual camera angles, a new order of audio and visual techniques and new musical experiments. We could give a new artistic experience in the film for the audience.

**Q: The film *Bhawa Duka* was based on a novel written by your own uncle?**

**A:** Yes, it was written by K.S. Perera, my father's younger brother who

EVERY MAN IS A POLITICAL ANIMAL AND AN ARTISTE SHOULD BE AMONG THE PEOPLE. AN ARTISTE HAS AN INTERNAL FIGHT WITHIN HIM TO FACE THE BIZARRE SITUATION IN SOCIETY, THE FATE OF HUMANITY. THIS IS WHY I ALWAYS CRITICISE THE SOCIO POLITICAL SCENARIO. WITHOUT COMMENTING ON THAT YOU CANNOT TALK ABOUT ART, BECAUSE ART IS BASED ON LIFE

worked as a sub editor at *Dinamina*, Lake House more than fifty years ago. I chose that novel for my film because it was the story of my father's family. My father was included in that book as a character along with my grandparents.

Actually, during my young days I was more attracted to my paternal grandfather because he was a chaplain at a Buddhist Devalaya. He was from Thalawatuhenpita, Kiribathgoda.

**Q: You attended Horana Vidyaratana College though your ancestral home was in Kiribathgoda?**

**A:** Yes, but it was after we moved to Wadduwa. I received my preliminary education from schools at Kelaniya and Eeriyawetiya. With the decrease of my father's businesses we, my parents and my two brothers, had to move to Wadduwa where my mother had a land gifted by her mother. Thereafter, I attended Horana Vidyaratana College while my two brothers attended schools such as Wadduwa Central College and Wadduwa boys' school.

**Q: You produced a drama when you were studying at Horana Vidyaratana. Why couldn't you enter the university?**

**A:** It was because of the JVP insurrection in 1971. We had to leave our educational institutes with the proliferating of this insurrection, thereby, disrupting our education. The worst thing that happened was the destruction of our future goals with regard to education. When we saw the universities which were transformed

into rehabilitation centres, our dreams about university education were disappeared. Then my first priority was to find a job, and I received a clerk's post in the Department of Rubber Control in 1971.

Parallel to the job, my dramatic career also started in 1970s with the production of *Ekadhipepathi*. But after serving twelve long years in the Department of Rubber Control, I had to leave the job because the authorities in the Department refused to permit me holiday leave to take part at the Manheim film festival in Germany at which my film *Hansa Vilak* was a contender - Fr. Ernest Poruthota was the person who entered my film to that film festival.

**Q: But you joined the government service again in the '80s?**

**A:** The late minister Gamini Dissanayake gave me a clerk's job in the Low Land Development Board in his Ministry. But with my next film, *Thunweni Yamaya*, I quit that job too. I realised

that I couldn't engage in film directing with a full time government service job.

**Q: Many of your themes are based on politics. Why is it so?**

**A:** Now, I cannot sit for a long time at a table, so there is only a rare chance that I write a new play or film script.

**Q: Do you intend to write a new drama?**

**A:** Not an artist can do it alone, but all the highbrow people and intellectuals along with artistes can make that great endeavour.

**Q: Do you think an artiste can save humanity from this abyss?**

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Dharmasiri Bandaranayake  
Pic: Thilak Perera

## A nostalgic recollection about Chile



Isabel Allende

**M**y Invented Country is the second memoir by Isabel Allende, a Chilean writer who lives in America (Her first memoir is Paula -1993). Isabel Allende who is considered "the world's most widely read Spanish-language author", lived in her own country, Chile, until 1973 when President Salvador Allende, a cousin of Isabel Allende was overthrown (and murdered) by a military coup led by General Augusto Pinochet, a dictator with the help of the CIA. Thereafter, she with her two children, fled to Venezuela in fear of their lives.

Isabel stayed in Venezuela for 13 years, during which she wrote her debut novel *The House of the Spirits* (1982). In 1988, when she was on a book tour to California, she met her future husband, William C. Gordon, a Californian attorney and a novelist. With their marriage, Isabel and her two children received citizenship in America.

Hence, *My Invented Country* is a nostalgic recollection about Chile and its people by Isabel Allende who had been living outside of her country for over 40 years when the book was released. But the title of the book, *My Invented Country* also hints at an imaginary country.

However, when you read the book, you realise that it is not about an invented country but about the real country that her invented country was based on.

By means of all the facts about her country and people, she created her own country in herself, which is

why she chose this title, *My Invented Country*.

### Nostalgia

"This book has helped me understand that I am not obligated to make a decision: I can have one foot in Chile and another here, that's why we have plains, and I am not among those who are afraid to fly because of terrorism. I have a fatalistic attitude: no one dies one minute before or one minute after the prescribe time.

"For the moment California is my home and Chile is the land of my nostalgia. My heart isn't divided, it has merely grown larger. I can live and write anywhere. Every book contributes to the completion of that "country inside my head," as my grandchildren call it. In the slow practice of writing, I have fought with demons and obsessions, I have explored the corners of my mem-

ory, I have dredged up stories and people from oblivion. I have stolen other's lives, and from all this raw material I have constructed a land that I call my country. That is where I come from." (Page 197)

The first chapter of the book, *Country of Longitudinal Essences* presents fascinating facts about Chile. Its first paragraph starts with, "Let's begin at the beginning, with Chile, that remote land that few people can locate on the map because it's as far as you can go without falling off the planet." Isabel Allende presents a visual evocative description of her country in these starting pages. Then she tries to give new insights to the thoughts about the country:

"My advice to the visitor is not to question the marvels he hears about my country, its wine, and its woman, because the foreigner is not allowed to criticize - for that we have more than fifteen million natives who do

that all the time. If Marco Polo had descended on our coasts after thirty years of adventuring through Asia, the first thing he would have been told is that our empanadas are much more delicious than anything in the cuisine of the Celestial Empire." (Page 9) Sometimes, while she is reminiscing about her experiences in the past, she gives facts for a new discussion. The following paragraph is a classic example for that. There, she discusses about climbing the social ladder: "In the society I was born, in the forties, there were unbreachable barriers between the social classes. Today those lines are more subtle, but they're there, as eternal as the Great Wall of China.

"Climbing the social ladder was ome impossible; descending was more common - sometimes the only nudge needed was to move or to marry badly, which did not mean to a cad or heartless person but someone beneath you. Money had little to do with it..." (Page 45)

"Along with these insightful thoughts she also brings fourth her inner traumas and dark experiences. She says, "My family is from Santiago, but that doesn't explain my traumas, there are worse places under the sun. I grew up there, but now I scarcely recognize it, and get lost in its streets." (Page 10)

### Theme of the stories

With some facts in this book, we can identify the Isabel Allende's fiction too. For instance, the following paragraph describes why Allende's fiction mostly consists of children without fathers and why the women in them are so strong and steadfast.

"One day when I was four, my father went out to buy cigarettes and

never come back.

"The truth is that he didn't start out to buy cigarettes, as everyone always said, but instead went off on a wild spree disguised as a Peruvian Indian woman and wearing bright petticoats and a wig with long braids.

"He left my mother in Lima with a pile of unpaid bills and three children, the youngest a newborn baby. I suppose that that early abandonment made some dent in my psyche, because there are so many abandoned children in my books that I could found an orphanage.

The fathers of my characters are dead, have disappeared, or are so distant and authoritarian they might

as well live on another planet." (Page 28) If a novel is a writer's inner life, it is natural for it to have been shaped according to his or her life.

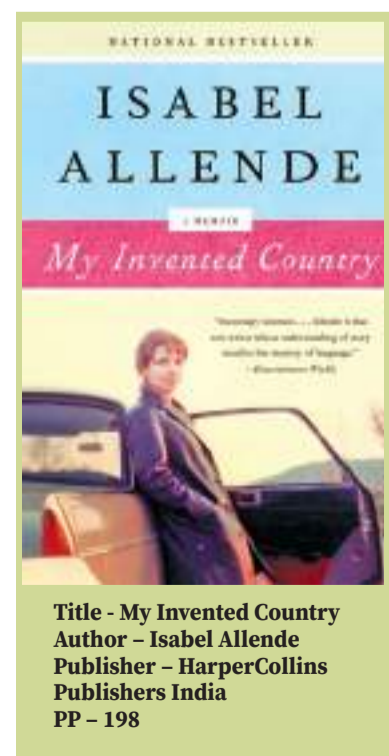
And some information we gather from this book reveals some factors behind her art of fiction. For instance, she says she grew up with the family anecdotes told to her by her grandparents, her uncles, and her mother. "But while she tried to verify some details of those anecdotes, others in her family never bothered about them. With these experiences Isabel Allende also tries to present her fiction without logical arguments, thereby, it gains its magical elements.

**The book ends with this insightful note:**

"I hope that this long commentary answers that stranger's question about nostalgia. Don't believe everything I say: I tend to exaggerate and, as I warned at the beginning, I can't be objective where Chile is concerned. Let's just say, to be completely honest, that I can't be objective, period.

"In any case, what's most important doesn't appear in my biography or my books, it happens in a nearly imperceptible way in the secret chambers of the heart.

"I am a writer because I was born with a good ear for stories, and I was lucky enough to have an eccentric family and the destiny of a wanderer. The profession of literature has defined me. Word by word I have created the person I am and the invented country in which I live." (Page 198) Finally, *My Invented Country* reveals the background of Isabel Allende's fiction.



Compiled by Ravindra Wijewardhane

# MONTAGE

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OCTOBER 18, 2020

## Celebrating World Children's Day with books



Photos: Vipula Amerasinghe

**T**his year, World Children's day (October 1) followed hard on the heels of September, the literary month, and books were the very apt theme under which the Gratiaen Trust chose to celebrate World Children's day in collaboration with Sarasavi Publishers. They held an interactive story program at the Sarasavi bookshop, One Galle Face Mall, Colombo 2. During this program stories were related in English with the interactive participation of children. The selected stories were by winners of the Gratiaen Award for children's books. The *Sunday Observer* was an observer at the event.

The Gratiaen Trust and their young support team presented the stories very attractively. All the young participants responded very well. It was very heartening to see the children getting into the story and sharing their experiences with the others. Apart from interactive story telling, the children had other activities such as drawing, dancing, reciting, and drama. It was an absolute child centered educational program. During the interval some of the children went through the bookshelves at the shop. It was certainly a result of the story time in which they had just par-

ticipated.

The *Sunday Observer* spoke to H.D. Premasiri, the Managing Director of the Sarasavi bookshop. He said,

"The children's reading habit is very important in improving the readership in society, because children are the ones who continue reading in the future. We, as a leading bookshop always support this type of literary events and we admire the Gratiaen Trust's effort in this matter. It's very nice to see children coming to our bookshop, participate in the story time and read books in their own way. If we want to foresee a better future in our country, we have to create a good readership in society. Encouraging children to read is the first step towards that goal."

At this event, we were able to meet a veteran writer and journalist A.D. Ranjith Kumara. He praised the Sarasavi bookshop and the Gratiaen Trust for launching this program.

"These types of literary activities should go for more children, more people. And they should not be limited to English, they should be available for other language users too, because we know how much enthu-



siasm Sinhala readers have for these types of literary works", he said.

During the program we spoke to Dr. Harshana Rambukwella, a trustee of the Gratiaen Trust. He said,

"Over the past 25 years the Gratiaen Trust has been interested in doing more to uplift literary standards, and to cultivate the reading habit among young children and youth. But for a long time we didn't have the financial means to do so. However,

today we could start a literary program for children with the partnership of the Sarasavi Bookshop to mark World Children's Day. This is actually our first program for children. Through these events we want to develop a literary culture in society."

When asked about the limiting of these events to an English speaking audience, he said,

"It's unfortunate to limit these events to the English-speaking people. The reason for it is that our Trust was established for English writing in Sri Lanka. But having said that, we hope to work bilingually or trilingually, where possible. For instance, today a work of Sybil Wettasinghe was read out in Sinhala. And some of our writers and resource persons are also bilingual and trilingual. So, where possible we will use other two languages too. But our primary focus will be on English."

Prof. Neloufer de Mel is the Chairperson of the Gratiaen Trust Foundation. We had the opportunity to speak with her at the children's day program and also on current issues in readership and future literary endeavours of the Trust.

"The Gratiaen Trust felt that we must start with children and get children interested in reading litera-

ture. If they get that habit, they start enjoying literature and they will keep on reading.

This is the first time we have organised an event for children. And as you can see it's going very well. So, we have decided to have it at the bookshop and we, the Gratiaen Trust have worked before with the Sarasavi Bookshop.

We want children to come to the bookshop, to see books all around them, and it really encouraged and got them interested in reading, and will hopefully be a catalyst for them to start writing creative literature as well. So, the first part of our program was readings from award winning children's literature by writers who won the Gratiaen prize for children's literature. And the second part of the program is where we are facilitating children to make up their own stories and to be creative."

"Today we started with very young readers. It's a good way, because if they get that habit of reading when they are very young, they will continue that habit throughout their life." On October 1 it was a real literary experience marking World Children's day with the Gratiaen Trust and the Sarasavi Bookshop.

It was greatly appreciated by all participants.



H.D. Premasiri



Prof. Neloufer de Mel



Dr. Harshana Rambukwella



## Retro Reviews: Cinema of Yesteryear

### 'Tripoli'

—By—  
Dilshan Boange

Directed by Will Price and written by Winston Miller, 'Tripoli' is a Hollywood action adventure movie from 1950 with screen legends Maureen O'Hara and John Payne in the role leads. Tripoli is a fictionalised narrative of the Battle of Derna, a coastal town in modern eastern Libya in 1805, and delivers a facet of the golden age of Hollywood.

The story is set in a time when the US navy has its presence in the Mediterranean waters to end the tide of pirates who were attacking merchant ships off the coast of Tripoli. On the directive of the US president, a small force of US Marines of the USS Essex, one of the US naval ships keeping guard on the waters, is deployed on a mission to Alexandria that involves setting the groundwork for an attack on the fortified town of Derna and to overthrow the current ruler, the Pasha and instal his dethroned brother who lives in exile.

The elite team led by Lt. Presley O'Bannon, played formidably by Payne, encounters a diverse melange of characters along their path that add humour, intrigue,

enticement and vigour to the narrative. Payne plays the typical steadfast 'soldier to the core' set on fulfilling his designated mission without giving into obstacles that range from insufficient water, to sandstorms to threats of mutiny by the local 'soldiers' who are enlisted to fight as mercenaries. In this curious set of circumstances one finds the enchanting Countess Sheila D'Areneau, played by Maureen O'Hara, who lives in the opulent camp of the exiled Pasha, and is presumed by everyone to be his mistress, while she is actually angling to get him to marry while not giving into his amorous advances.

O'Bannon finds himself allured by Countess D'Areneau and she in turn finds herself secretly attracted to O'Bannon but both refuse to admit it to themselves, as they are set on achieving goals that are not aligned with each other's. The

Countess sees the mission as one that will jeopardise her goal since if the expedition to capture Derna fails and result in the death of Hamet, the exiled Pasha, her plan to become his wife will end. She instead wants to persuade him to

marry her and go to Europe and live off the wealth he possesses in the form of jewels and gems, rather than risking his life to reclaim his throne.

The Countess convinces Hamet that the Americans plan to turn him over to his brother, and tries to get him to stay out of battle. But O'Bannon insists on the terms of the treaty signed by Hamet must be honoured and that he must accompany the assembled force to capture Derna, which is a military and political operation that will receive the support of the US navy, which will launch an attack of cannon fire upon the fortified city from the coastal wa-

ters. O'Bannon's firmness gets Hamet to concede and the result is that the countess too accompanies the expedition going across the North African deserts. The journey and the mission unfolds hidden bursts of passion, treachery, political subterfuge, military manoeuvres, steadfastness of resolve, and an unexpected heroism for love and integrity on the part of the countess who rides out to warn O'Bannon at the eleventh hour as they prepare to launch the attack on Derna that Hamet plans to double-cross the US forces as he has accepted a secret overture from his brother to share the kingdom as equal rulers in return for betraying the Americans.

A daring bid for the overthrow of Derna unfolds, creating aggressive military engagements. O'Bannon shows his 'courage under fire', and finally leads the way to a victory for the Americans. The end brings the Countess and O'Bannon together as a couple who finally declare their love for each other. 'Tripoli' isn't merely as a 'war movie' but a story that weaves the drama of politics into an action adventure set in the context of a military objective being pursued. For those who enjoy the golden age of Hollywood's action adventure genre, Tripoli will not disappoint.



# Features

## Uva Wellassa University



# A productive investment and a resourceful outcome

DR. K.M.R.K. KULATUNGA

A newly conceptualised university with a futuristic vision to be the Centre of Excellence for Value Addition to the national resource base was established in 2005 in Badulla in the salubrious surroundings of a panoramic location in the hills.

From that milestone, Uva Wellassa University (UWU) has begun its journey towards success in its every step with the support of academic, non-academic and administrative staff in achieving the excellence.

The 14th national university of Sri Lanka, the UWU has now changed the conventional culture of universities in the country, as it envisioned in the beginning of academic journey, quality oriented attitudinal pathways of the ancient countrymen have now been unveiled.

It is the quality that matters in education, as it is driven by Buddhist spiritual contemporaries in Sri Lanka in historical periods. Economic, social and spiritual well-being was established all around the country with a connected sharing basis network of human resources. This had been engrained in the monumental structures, such as Jethavanaya, Abhayagiriya and Ruwanveli Mahaseya incomparable to world's largest physical structures as pyramids.

Even the engineering discipline and the technology of the ancients were profound in nature. In order to enhance the potentials of the people, countrymen had envisioned the livelihood with a broader perspective which encouraged the self-exploration of human existence. Having experienced the richness of the nation at its physical and psychological dimensions, Uva Wellassa University has focused on corresponding mind map of such development, sketched to tap the attitudinal advancement which is the key to the meaning in life.

### Higher Education

Higher education is the education provided by universities, colleges and other institutions that award academic degrees. Higher education includes both the undergraduate and the postgraduate levels. Professional education and vocationally or professionally oriented Higher education theoretically will also enable individuals to expand their knowledge, skills and attitudes which express their thoughts, behaviour, speech and writing, grasp abstract concepts and theories and increase their understand-

ing of the world and their community at a better level. Four years of hard work and more than six thousand plus hours of well-trained mindsets of graduates are an enormous wealth to the nation.

### Convocation

The term "Convocation" typically states something about a group of people in a College or University that gather for some sort of a ceremony. Convocation is a Latin phrase, meaning "calling together."

The Convocation focuses on welcoming activity to the workforce of the country. A convocation ceremony is a special day in the academic life of students as after years of hard work and dedication, they get their hard-earned education degrees.

Wearing the traditional academic regalia and walking up the stage is the dream of every student in front of his colleagues, friends and family members who have supported them in their difficult endeavour. It is a defining moment in every student's life giving his self-esteem a boost. Convocation is the academic excellence and reputation of any institution depends on the quality of education and training imparted. The much-awaited convocation ceremony is a living proof of the quality of education that has been imparted to the students. It is a culmination of the hard work they have put in to achieve their degrees.

### History of graduation

Ceremonies for graduating students date from the universities in Europe in the twelfth century. At that time, Latin was the language of scholarship. A "universitas" was a guild of masters (MAs) with licence to teach. "Degree" and "graduate" come from gradus, meaning "step".

The first step was admission to a bachelor's degree. The second step was the Masters step, giving the graduate admission to the universi-



ty and license to teach. Typical dress for graduation is gown and hood, or hats adapted from the daily dress of university staff in the middle Ages, which was in turn based on the attire worn by medieval clergy.

Graduation at the college and university level occurs when the presiding officer confers degrees upon candidates, either individually or in masses, even if graduates receive their diploma earlier or later at a college or departmental ceremony, when ceremonies are associated, they usually include a procession of the academic staff and candidates and a valediction.

### Establishment of UWU

The faculty will usually wear academic dress at the formal ceremonies, as will the trustees and degree candidates. After the completion of a degree, graduates can be referred to by their graduating year.

Uva Wellassa University is an investment of hard-working people of Sri Lanka and now, the investment has matured with fruitful results. Cabinet approval was granted to establish the university on October 26, 2004, later with clear supervision, actual construction commenced on August 2005 with the foundation laying ceremony. The completion of the main lecture hall and the computer laboratory by May 2006 was a

remarkable achievement. Administrative building, Senate building, three canteens, four hostels, Medical centre, Labs, were completed in last couple of years with an efficient work force. A Gymnasium, Faculty of Technology Studies building, Staff learning centre and Library buildings are a few of the projects to be completed soon.

### Faculty development

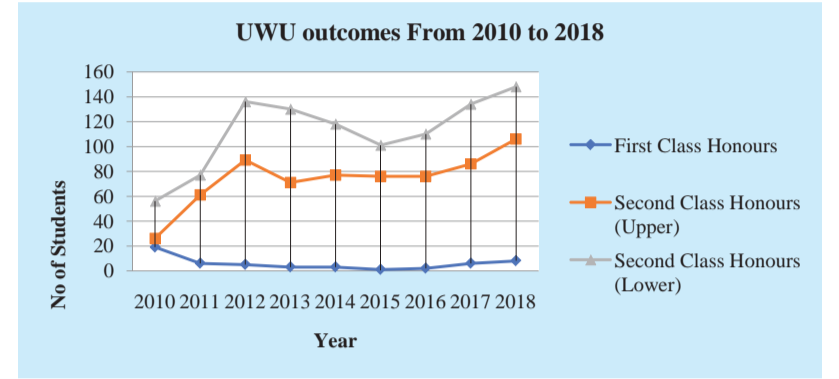
In the Year of academic program establishment in 2006, the UWU had only three faculties and under that five degree programs, 167 students were taken in to academic programs.

Four faculties have set their benchmark on outcome-based education, achieving their intended learning outcomes measuring the standards of quality education at different levels. They are Animal Science and Export Agriculture, Management, Applied Science and Technological Studies. Under those, there are thirteen-degree programs and 788 students.

### Human Resource Development

No academic institution is free from national responsibilities and commitment to growth. It's all about people and their quality of work which entrust the organisational commitment and growth. Academic establishments are the key to success of any country and its development. Well educated human capital would enhance the quality of life as a nation. In this context, human resource management and Human Resource Development (HRD) are the frameworks for helping employees develop their personal and organisational skills, knowledge, and abilities within the frame of organisation.

HRD is one of the most significant opportunities that employees seek when they consider their employer. The ability and encouragement to continue to develop their skills help retain and motivate em-



ployees. The focus of all aspects of HRD is on developing the most superior workforce so that the organisation and individual employees can accomplish their work goals in service to the nation.

The UWU has deployed the procedures to absorb the best of the best from the available in providing the platform for them to experience the zenith of the academic path.

### Research, Innovations and Publications

Development is merely a product of research. Research is a creative and systematic work undertaken to increase the stock of knowledge, including knowledge of humans, culture and society and the use of this stock of knowledge to devise new applications. A clear understanding of what an innovation represents is crucial to assess the innovativeness of organisations. Innovativeness can be defined as the capacity of an organisation to produce novelties continuously and is considered to entail important organisational outcomes. Innovation has a long tradition of research and has been studied in many different fields.

Publications are the act of making such innovative and informative information or stories, pictures and posters available to people in printed or electronic form.

The UWU research intensions are far ahead of conventional approaches and always forward. Below charts is an expression of start-up academic organisational gradual fluctuation of value addition to resources in resourceful ways.

### Financial Support from Treasury Grants

It doesn't matter what we have all that matter is what we do with it. The major component of the funding of Sri Lankan public higher education

institutions comes from the treasury grants and consists of three separate strands; for teaching (salaries and other current expenditures), for research and for investment.

Withholding that righteous image, the UWU has begun its journey towards success in its every step with the support of young and enthusiastic team of Academic staff, Administrative staff and Academic support staff who are committed in making the students enriched with better knowledge, skills and competencies. They also widen their contribution in supporting the students in each and every way to make every young citizen of the University to be unique in his or her endeavours. We welcome all perspectives, but above all, the UWU salute humanity, service and quality.

### Resourceful outcomes of the UWU

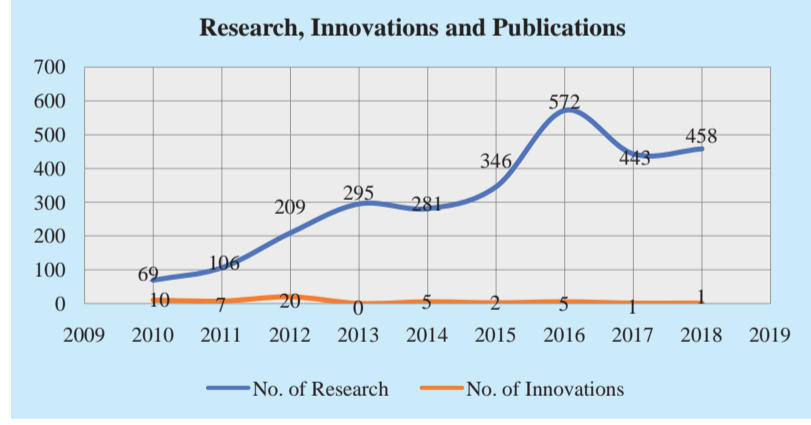
Probably the strongest outcomes to measure because, for the most part, they are quantifiable and people care about them. Below chart shows in how many students graduated in the University

Above chart is a measure of quantifiable outlook of infinite quality-oriented personas, what UWU has achieved in past few years in the spectrum of academic harvest.

### Graduate employability

Within the past nine graduation years, UWU has generated an active work force. UWU graduates have been recruited by public and private sector organisations. Majority of them hold positions directly relevant to their areas of speciality. A significant portion serves in various capacities where the Bachelor's degree is the minimum required qualification. Depending on the discipline, the graduate employment range is above 65 percentages.

The present Chancellor is Most Venerable Bengamuwe Sri Dhammadinna Nayake Thera.



# Happy mind for a happy life!

An online forum dedicated to educating the public on mental health and breaking the taboo culture and stigma surrounding it- Learning to love yourself through "Happy Mind", an online forum dedicated to the betterment of your mental health, with the objective of creating a safe space to seek help and support.

"Happy Mind" is an online forum consisting of Facebook and Instagram pages that was created during the Covid-19 pandemic lockdown in April with the objective of driving the change in raising awareness surrounding mental health complications.

"Happy Mind" aims to develop a culture of compassion towards people who suffer from mental health illnesses in the country.

Since its launch they have managed to reach over half a million people and have educated thousands of people in various mental health complications.

They have identified clinical cases via many messages received from page visitors and have connected them directly to trained and qualified health professionals. Why is Mental Health a growing concern?

The World Mental Health Day was last week (Oct 10) and the World Health Organisation (WHO) reports, every one in four people suffer from

invisible yet torturous mental health illnesses around the world. Globally, four hundred and fifty million people are victims of ill-health and disability due to this, which could push individuals to even commit suicide.

Raising awareness and creating discussion is vital as there has been a significant rise in younger people with poor mental health, all of which have worsened over the pandemic.

Research conducted by the Harvard Medical School outlines the following factors as indications of poor mental well-being: episodes of depression, psychosis, anxiety and stress along with loss of social support are a few of them. Sri Lanka's Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine highlights; in 2017, 30.

Forty-four per cent patients were diagnosed with depressive disorders, 13.39 per cent with mental disorders related to anxiety. Simultaneously, the WHO recognises Sri Lanka as hav-

ing one of the highest suicide rates in the world. This proves that awareness, conversation and creating an environment to mitigate these illnesses is vital. Speaking on the launch of the online forum Kushan Randeni, Founder of the "Happy Mind" initiative, said "We want to educate the public on the importance of mental health and its complications. By doing this we hope to have a direct impact on reducing the stigma related to mental health in the country."

In 2020, the scare of the pandemic looming over us, I observed a rise in mental health illnesses, with people getting anxious and fearful of contracting the virus, economic uncertainty, strain on marital relationships and stress upon children due to disruption in play and limited social interactions."

"We want to advocate the importance of "Happy Mind, Happy Life". In order to combat the rising mental strain during this time, we first shared the WHO material on "Coping with Stress during Covid-19 outbreak" and "Helping Children cope with stress during Covid-19".

This gained significant traction and positive feedback from the community, endorsing the impact Happy Mind was having for mental well-being," added Kushan.

### The Future?

"Mental health illnesses are not a personal failure; however, failure does arise if the response to it is poor. We want to build a system which eradicating stigmatisation, discrimination or any form of non-acceptance of mental health illnesses. We want to build a system which encourages positivity, a culture of compassion for a community and a future of physically and mentally healthy people," added Kushan, describing the plan for the future.

Focus groups for different groups of mental health complications, workshops, and various therapeutic art events to awaken the creative senses are a few steps they wish to take further. The sole purpose of these events will be to enhance awareness surrounding the seriousness of mental health in our country, support people to keep their mind calm and learn more about themselves; to fill in for the lack of urgency and misinformation making this topic 'taboo'.

"Happy Mind" wishes to be the forefront of spreading positivity among the general public and help those facing mental health illnesses to reach out and get help, so they can live a healthy life.



The most common mental illness in Sri Lanka is Depression (37%) followed by psychosis (17%)

Those 18 to 33, 34 to 47 have highest stress levels causing depression

## HEALTHY LIFESTYLES MINIMISE MENTAL HEALTH RISKS

By  
**Carol Aloysius**



Following reports of rising statistics of mentally ill persons worldwide including Sri Lanka on World Mental Health Day observed last week, and the Health Ministry's emphasis on mental well-being, the *Sunday Observer* asked eminent psychiatrist and founder member of the National Mental Institute of Health Dr Jayan Mendis his views on this emerging problem.

### Excerpts

**Q. The pledge to prioritise mental health has brought mental well-being to the forefront. How do you define mental well-being?**

A. For some, it may mean happiness or contentment and for others it may be the absence of disease. The World Health Organization describes mental well-being as a state of well-being where the individual realises his or her own abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to his or her community.

**Q. It has been said that 1 in 3 Lankans suffer from some form of mental illness. Do you agree?**

A. Yes, the statistics may be higher as there can be more people who do not come for treatment due to various reasons like reduced awareness regarding mental health problems, social stigma, poor family support and not having easy access to mental health services in the peripheral areas of the country.

**Q. Mental experts here and abroad have observed that the mental well-being of many persons is severely undermined due to the mental stress caused by the novel Covid-19 pandemic. Your comments?**

A. Fear, stress and worry are normal responses to a serious pandemic like the Covid-19. Adding to the fear of contracting the virus, there were several other issues and significant changes to people's lives due to restrictions to movements following the lockdown that caused a great deal of stress.

**Q. Do you see mental stress in Lankans as an emerging problem in the country? Who are most vulnerable to develop mental stress- age wise, gender wise and occupation wise? Why?**

A. Ages 18 to 33 and 34 to 47 report the highest average stress levels. Gender wise, women are more likely to report increased stress levels compared with men.

Increasing responsibilities to manage households as well as jobs and taking care of families fall on women most of the time with less support from their spouse. Social expectations and specific stressful life events such as child birth, miscarriages and adverse events in marriage like gender based violence and abuse can add more stress to a woman's life.

Occupations related to Security Forces, fire-fighters, airline pilots are some of the most stressful occupations worldwide. In addition, healthcare workers also undergo a significant amount of stress, especially during a pandemic like the Covid-19.

**Q. General symptoms of those suffering from mental stress?**

A. • Dizziness or a general feeling of 'being out of it'

- General aches and pains.
- Grinding teeth, clenched jaw.
- Headaches.
- Indigestion or acid reflux symptoms.
- Increase in or loss of appetite.
- Muscle tension in neck, face or shoulders.
- Problems sleeping.
- Racing heart.
- Cold and sweaty palms.
- Tiredness, exhaustion.
- Trembling/shaking.
- Weight gain or loss.
- Upset stomach, diarrhoea
- Sexual difficulty.



**Q. What are the other most common mental illnesses in Sri Lanka?**

A. The most common mental illness is depression (37%), followed by psychosis (17%). A greater number of females has depressive disorders, anxiety disorders, and psychosis. Sri Lanka is also a country with a high suicidal rate, about 15 per 100,000.

**Q. Signs to look for in a person with mental illness?**

There are specific signs for each mental illness, but some of the common signs can be,

- Excessive worrying or fear
- Feeling excessively sad or low
- Confused thinking or problems concentrating and learning
- Extreme mood changes, including uncontrollable 'highs' or feelings of euphoria
- Prolonged or strong feelings of irritability or anger
- Avoiding friends and social activities
- Difficulty in understanding or relating to other people
- Changes in sleeping habits or feeling tired and low energy
- Changes in eating habits such as increased hunger or lack of appetite
- Changes in sex drive
- Difficulty perceiving reality (delusions or hallucinations, in which a person experiences and senses things that don't exist in objective reality)
- Inability to perceive changes in one's own feelings, behaviour or personality (lack of insight or anosognosia)
- Overuse of substances like alcohol or drugs
- Multiple physical ailments without obvious causes (such as headache, stomach ache, vague and ongoing aches and pains)
- Thinking about suicide
- Inability to carry out daily activities or handle daily problems and stress
- An intense fear of weight gain or concern with appearance

**Q. How early can they be detected?**

A. Changes in personality can be detected within several weeks by the patient's family and friends. There are some mental illnesses that show early signs in childhood and adolescence as well.

**Q. What causes symptoms at such an early age?**

A. Causes for mental illness can be variable and complex. Genetic factors play a role in depression and certain personality types with high levels of anxiety can predispose to depression. Parental deprivation, poor relationship with parents, recent stressful life events like relationship break-ups, exam failures can also lead to depression. Change of levels of chemicals in the brain called neurotransmitters which include reduction of serotonin and noradrenaline is also a major cause for depression. Both family history and environmental factors like early adverse events e.g. abuse can predispose to bipolar mood disorders. Schizophrenia which is a major psychotic disorder is linked with strong family history, early cannabis use, increased activity

of Dopamine neurotransmitter in the brain, life difficulties and childhood trauma. Anxiety disorders are associated with stressful life events.

**Q. Other causative factors for mental illness- is depression one of them?**

A. When long-lasting and with moderate or severe intensity, depression can become a serious health condition. It can cause the affected person to suffer greatly and function poorly at work, at school and in the family. At its worst, depression can lead to suicide

**Q. Diet?**

A. Many recent studies have shown that diet and lifestyle have an effect on mental health. Studies comparing 'traditional' diets, like the Mediterranean diet and the traditional Japanese diet, to a typical Western diet have shown that the risk of depression is 25% to 35% lower in those who eat a traditional diet. The main difference between these diets is that traditional diets tend to be high in vegetables, fruits, unprocessed grains, and fish and seafood, and contain only modest amounts of lean meats and dairy. They are also void of processed and refined foods and sugars, which are staples of the Western dietary pattern. Healthy lifestyle patterns that include more frequent physical activity, non-smoking and regular social rhythm have a positive impact on mental health.

**Q. Obesity, lack of exercise, do they play a role?**

A. Obesity is closely linked to depression, anxiety disorders, neurodegenerative diseases and sleep disorders. Obese people feel rejected, unattractive, or suffer social discrimination and the emotional strain may cause further weight gain as they tend to console themselves with 'comfort food', which is usually high in fat, sugar, and calories. There is also a characteristic type of depression with symptoms that include lethargy and overeating. There is evidence to show that not getting enough physical activity can lead to mental illnesses like depression and dementia.



**Dr Jayan Mendis**

**Q. Can young children develop mental illness due to school bullying, being overweight, pressure to perform well academically? What are the symptoms?**

A. Children can also develop depression, anxiety and stress disorders due to these reasons. Symptoms can be:

- sadness, or a low mood that does not go away
- irritable or grumpy all the time
- not interested in things they used to enjoy
- feeling tired and exhausted most of the time
- have trouble sleeping or sleep more than usual
- unable to concentrate
- interact less with friends and family
- less confidence
- eat less than usual or overeat
- big changes in weight
- seem unable to relax or be more lethargic than usual
- talk about feeling guilty or worthless
- feel empty or unable to feel emotions (numb)
- have thoughts about suicide or self-harming
- self-harm, for example, cutting their skin or taking an overdose

**Q. Treatment- how are mental illnesses treated?**

A. The patient's history of illness, symptoms, mental state examination and investigation findings all lead us to a diagnosis or differential diagnosis which is helpful in deciding the treatment options.

But treatment is custom tailored for each individual according to their needs and circumstances. For example, not every patient with psychiatric disease needs hospital admission. The decision to admit the patient may vary according to the severity of the episode, risk to self and others and social support system of the patient.

**Q. You were a founding member of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). Compared to its inception what new services does this Institute offer to mentally ill patients today?**

A. In the 1920s it was known as the Angoda Asylum, and at that time it was overcrowded and the atmosphere was similar to a prison with high walls and wooden bars, which enclosed the corridors leading to the wards.

Today the hospital has been transformed into a respectable place and provides both outpatient and inpatient facilities including special units such as Gender-Based Violence Unit, Geriatric Psychiatric Unit, Perinatal Psychiatric Unit, Learning Disability Unit, Forensic Psychiatry Unit, Occupational Therapy Unit and Alcohol Rehabilitation Program, to highlight some of the specialised services provided by the NIMH.

**Q. What steps have been taken by the Health Ministry to prevent mental illness?**

A. A national mental health policy was approved by the Cabinet in 2005. The vision of the Mental Health Policy of the Ministry of Healthcare and Nutrition, is the establishment of an affordable, accessible, comprehensive, community-based service that will promote the mental well-being of the community. There's a separate Directorate of Mental Health in the Health Ministry that undertakes the responsibilities of organising mental health services.

**Q. With a rising aging population it is likely that mental diseases will also see an upward spike in the future. Your comments?**

A. Older people may experience reduced mobility, chronic pain, frailty or other health problems as well as bereavement, a drop in socioeconomic status and isolation.

These risk factors may lead to mental illnesses such as depression, anxiety disorders and dementia in an ageing population.

**Q. Have you any golden rules regarding mental well-being for our readers?**

A. Make it a priority to take care of your mind. Talk about your feelings, listen and be there for friends and family. Seek help when you need it. Have a balanced and healthy lifestyle.

## MEDI SNIPS

COMPILED BY CAROL ALOYSIUS

One-third of breast cancer patients detected too late

- NCCP



**A**round seven hundred breast cancer patients die annually in Sri Lanka due to breast cancer while on an average nine to ten new breast cancer patients are identified daily with two patients dying daily in the country, Consultant Community Physician National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) Dr Nayana De Alwis told the *Sunday Observer*. "This clearly shows that the trend of breast cancer is gradually increasing over the years in Sri Lanka," she said. While the positive aspect of it is that more and more breast cancer patients are detected at early stages compared to the past due to better knowledge and awareness raising, around one third of breast cancer patients are still detected at late stages when the disease cannot be cured, she said.

Globally, breast cancer is the most common cancer in women often occurring in the prime of their lives. Around 2.1 million new breast cancer patients were identified globally in 2018 while 627,000 patients died due to breast cancer during the same year. Hence, breast cancer awareness month is observed across the world every October to create awareness, promote early detection, timely treatment and support for palliative care. A variety of events worldwide are organised in October using the theme colour of breast cancer which is pink. This includes pink illumination of landmark buildings during the month, she said.

Explaining what breast cancer is, Dr De Alwis said breast cancer is the collective term for all cancers that originate in the breast tissue. Cells normally multiply in a regular and orderly fashion but sometimes if cells are having abnormalities they begin to grow and divide in an irregular and uncontrollable manner. These abnormal cells can form a lump. As the cancer grows, cancer cells can spread to other parts of the body. Asked how it was caused she said, "Breast cancer is thought to be caused by a combination of factors including gene abnormalities, lifestyle choices and surrounding environments. There are many things that can increase or decrease the risk of developing breast cancer.

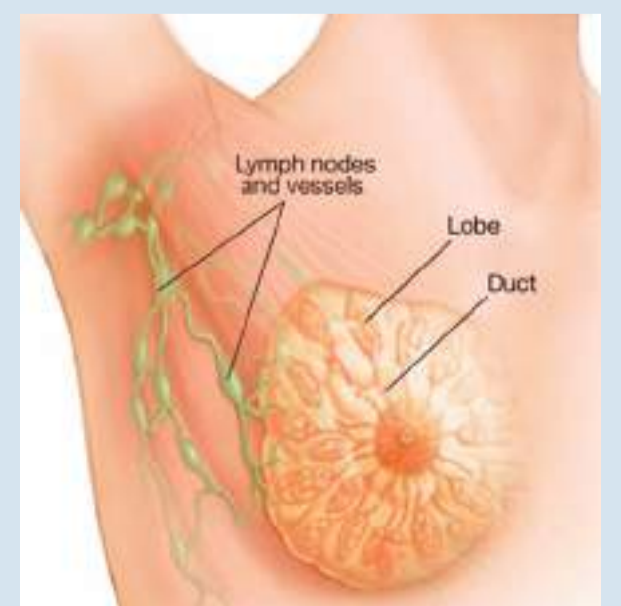
She said the risks of getting breast cancer go up as women get older. Around 70% of women with breast cancer in Sri Lanka are more than 50 years of age at the time of diagnosis. In a small number of cases, breast cancer runs in the family. Most women with breast cancer do not have a family history of the disease. Breast cancer is a treatable cancer with potential cure with effective treatments, she said.

### Early detection the key

While the exact cause of breast cancer remains unclear, early detection is the cornerstone of breast cancer control, she said.

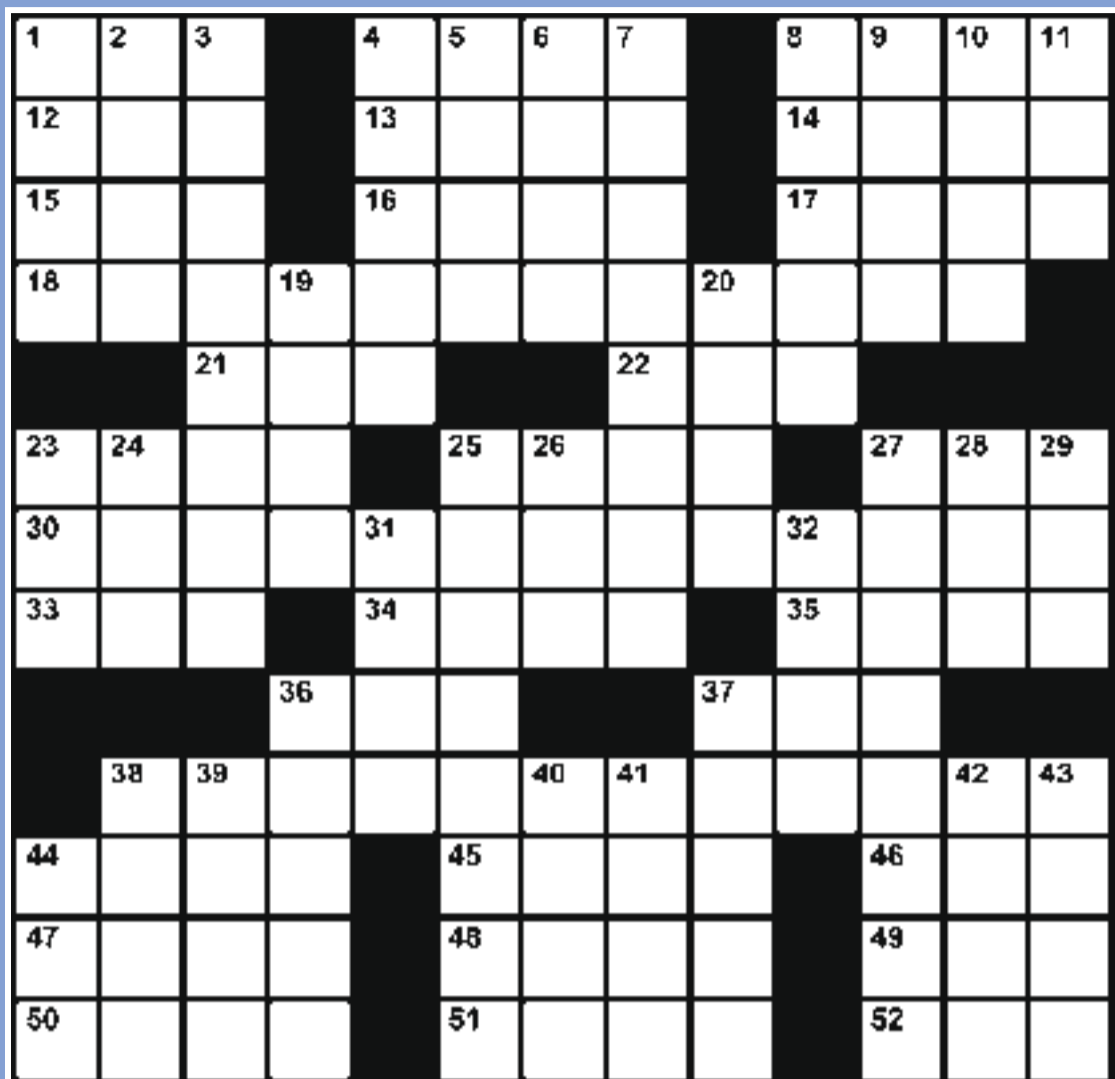
Highlighting some golden rules to follow in reducing breast cancer risks she gave us the following guidelines:

- Think twice: Every time you eat, drink or use products make healthy choices
- Get a healthy weight: Keeping to a healthy weight will reduce your risk of getting breast cancer
- Get regular exercise: Regular exercise reduces the risk of breast cancers and a few other cancers
- Avoid taking extra hormones: It is best to avoid long term exposure to extra hormones in the form of birth control pills or hormone replacement therapy
- Limit alcohol use: The risk of breast cancer increases parallel to the amount of alcohol consumed
- Stop smoking: Smoking can cause several cancers including breast cancer
- Avoid unnecessary radiation
- Eat fruits and vegetables: Consume fruits, vegetables, whole grains, beans, nuts, seeds and spices more frequently in your meals
- Know your family history: If there is a family history of breast cancer among first degree relatives, you need close watching.



# Cartoons / Puzzles

## FAMILY TIME Crossword

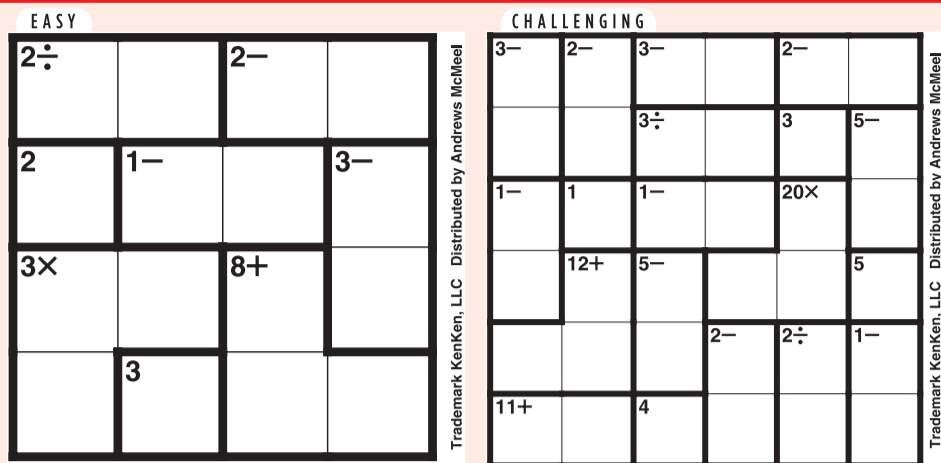


- ACROSS**
- Gypsy moth's tree target
  - (K) Show an entertainer some love
  - (K) Like turtles
  - (K) Pigeon cry
  - Prefix with "dynamic"
  - (K) Hole in the skin
  - Hole
  - (K) Slugging equipment
  - Act as an accessory to, illegally
  - Indiana State and Clemson
  - Variety of Christmas tree
  - (K) Can makeup or roofing material
  - Eclectic mix
  - A state of agitated irritation
  - (K) Professional's charge
  - Quality of a great quarterback (3 words)
  - (K) Successfully provided munchies for
  - (K) An Ivy League school
  - (K) Provide to temporarily
  - (K) Common sun blocker
  - Setting for a stakeout
  - Native of Jeddah
  - (K) Places sometimes filled with actors
  - (K) Big test
  - (K) Specific historical time
  - (K) Sit down heavily and lazily
  - (K) Cause of a fall
  - (K) Place to find a mermaid
  - (K) Swiss peaks
  - (K) Some spendable bills
  - (K) Acquire bronzed skin

- DOWN**
- Color like 52-Across
  - A certain type of meat cut
  - (K) Changed
  - Beam thrown by a Scotsman
  - Jet giant
  - Fine things to study?
  - (K) Excellent type of attitude to have
  - (K) Barcelona's home
  - (K) Ear-piercing site
  - Metals-in-the-rough
  - (K) Absolutely soaking
  - Certain type of bowed, stringed instrument
  - Small monkey with a long tail
  - (K) Light switch position
  - (K) Tell a horrible fib
  - (K) Having the most lather
  - (K) Lamar Jackson plays in it
  - Most passionate
  - Incredibly long geological span
  - (K) Last word of many books
  - Twosome
  - (K) Marble chunk
  - Zodiac borders
  - Places to pitch many tents
  - (K) Work successfully at a lemonade stand
  - (K) Hovering over
  - (K) Shaft in a garage?
  - (K) Some precipitation
  - 1/2b x h, for a triangle
  - Bread served in India
  - Facility with a Jacuzzi

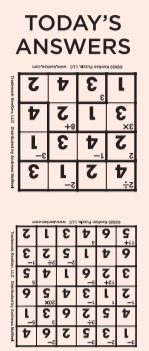
## KENKEN

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**RULES**

- Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.
- The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.
- Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.



## SUDOKU 227

Have fun with this highly addictive logic-based number-placement puzzle, the objective of which is to fill the 9x9 grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3x3 sub-grids that compose the grid contains all of the digits from 1 to 9.



Can you find the answer to this riddle within the solved puzzle?

**Riddle:**

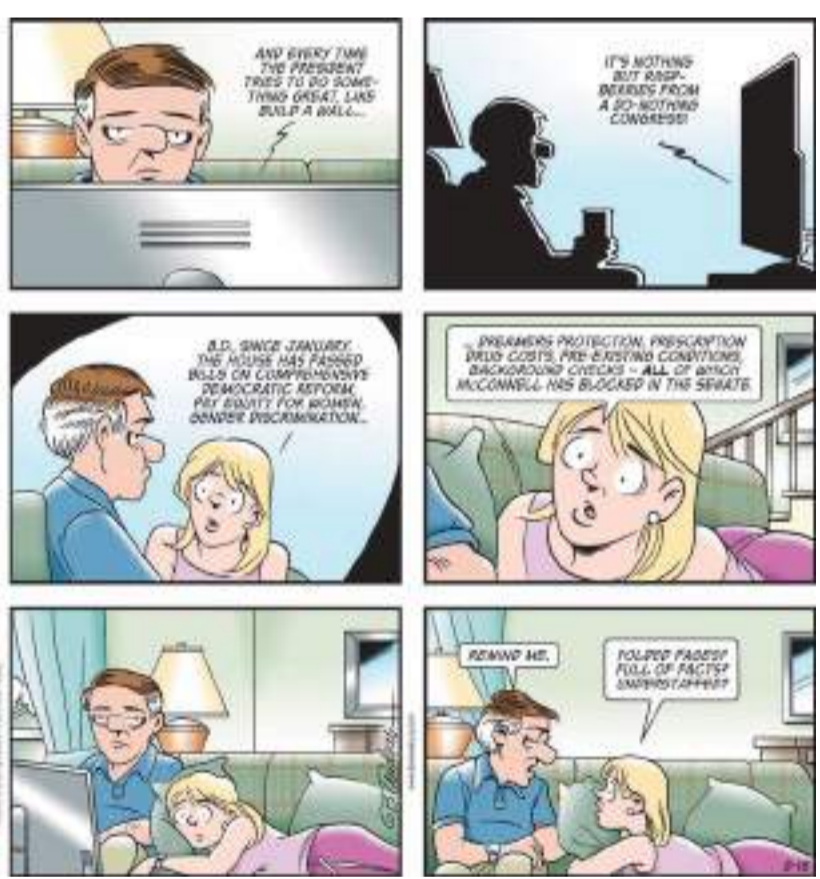
**Diamond clubs?**

**Last week answer:**  
16-A) Bats



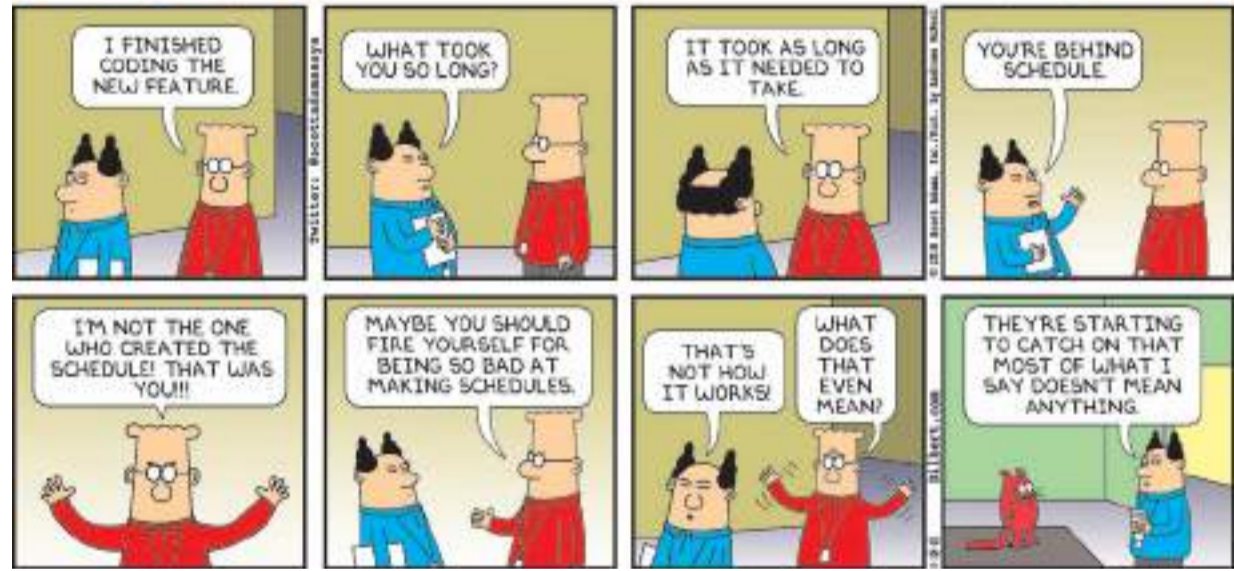
## DOONESBURY

by G.B. Trudeau



## DILBERT

by SCOTT ADAMS



## GARFIELD



## calvin and hobbes

by WESLEY





# OBSERVER EDUCATION

OCTOBER 18, 2020



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PAGE 42



NURSING; WIDEN YOUR CAREER...

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HOW SRI LANKA CAN BE A MARITIME...

PAGE 47

## NEW CAMPUS IN SRI LANKA

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ucation Young University Rankings and placed in the top 2.5% of universities worldwide by 2021 Times Higher World University Rankings.

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# Advertorial



## Post A/L Dual Diploma intake at ESOF

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**E**SOFT Metro Campus, being a premier private sector higher education institute with the largest network in Sri Lanka, has taken a variety of novel initiatives to handle the upcoming post A/L Dual Diploma intake. ESOF has been the most sought-after institution for IT and English Dual Diplomas among the school leavers.

Expressing his ideas and views on the initiative, CEO of ESOF Metro Campus Nishan Sembacuttiratchy said, "We have taken comprehensive measures by fully adhering to all health guidelines given by the Government departments, ministries, the PHI and other authorities. We have also incorporated innovative technology based solutions to ensure that there is no disruption in the education process for the students of ESOF. Our Dual Diploma in IT and English is the most popular program chosen by thousands of students each year via our islandwide centres to enhance and uplift their skills. Being the pioneer in the higher education sector, these products which were introduced by ESOF are unmatched in quality although others have attempted to copy us. ESOF also takes pride as the only

Pearson Assured dual certification provider for IT and English programs in Sri Lanka."

Expressing his opinion, Sembacuttiratchy said that, "Our annual post A/L intake in the previous year was over 15,000 and this time, we expect the numbers to grow even further as students will not have the option of traveling within cities for their higher education and will be bound to adapt to online learning. Therefore, based on these conditions, we believe that ESOF will be the first choice, with more than 40 locations covering the entire country.

The dual diploma program comprises a comprehensive curriculum which is regularly updated to meet the industry demands and expectations, a set of printed full colour textbooks and supportive materials on CD's.

The latest addition to the resources that are provided includes access to the comprehensive ESOF Learning Management System (ELMS), which is an advanced learning portal with state of the art technology which has been custom developed especially for ESOF Metro Campus. This is a well secured system which is optimised to give better performance for a large number of students who will be using the system concurrently.



The Dual Diploma consists of trilingual video recordings (English, Sinhala and Tamil) which will allow students to follow content at their own pace and in the language of

their choice, even if they are unable to attend physical lectures.

These learning resources include attractive and interactive exercises in the form of fun activities that will uplift the learning experience of the learners while helping them to pay more attention to their stream of education. These exercises have been developed and integrated making use of the new concept of gamification, thereby attracting the attention and concentration of the young learners.

ESOF is confident that with such a feature rich and capable learning environment, the campus is ready to deliver 100% online teaching in any challenging situation, even if the Government decides to impose a strict lockdown. However, we strongly believe that with a better control of Covid-19, we will be able to have face-to-face lessons supported with online learning intermittently. Students will receive a blended learning arrangement so that the programs

will be delivered without any delay or interruption. The significant advantage of this dual diploma is that by the time the students get their A/L results, they will be simultaneously qualified in IT and English Language and would have earned lifeskills.

ESOF Metro Campus in collaboration with Dialog, the premium telecommunication provider in the country, has whitelisted its learning portal and virtual lecture delivery platforms and offered free data packages to its students during the initial lockdown period. ESOF is one of the very first educational institutions to go to the extent of bearing the cost of data on behalf of the students to promote online learning without adding an extra burden of the data cost to the students and their parents.

The CEO also reiterates that the parents should be mindful about institutions that offer substandard content under the guise of a dual diploma, and trying to imitate what ESOF has achieved over a number of years. The Management of ESOF strongly recommends parents to visit our centres in their respective area and witness the services and the resources provided including the textbooks and study guides as well as the learning environment and infrastructure of ESOF.

Considering the current economical downfall due to Covid-19 pandemic, the Management of ESOF has been generous to offer a special scheme where a student can learn English completely free of charge when they register for the IT Diploma. As this offer is valid for a limited number of students islandwide, parents are advised to secure a place for their child at ESOF by purchasing a discount voucher either by visiting the nearest branch or online via the below URL.

**Link: <https://activations.esoft.lk/evoucher>**  
Further details on the IT-English Dual Diploma could be obtained by contacting us on 011 7 572 572.

Sri Lanka  
Institute of  
Architects



### BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION

#### REGISTRATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE QUALIFYING EXAMINATION FOR ARCHITECTURAL LICENTIATES – 2020/2021

Those who wish to be eligible for registration with the Architects Registration Board (ARB), under the Category "Architectural Licentiates", as stipulated in the Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (Amendment) Act No. 14 of 1996 are hereby invited to register with the Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA) as prospective candidates to sit for the Qualifying Examination for Architectural Licentiates (QEAL) – 2020/2021

A pass in the Qualifying Examination and the confirmation letter issued by the Board of Architectural Education (BAE) of the Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA) to that effect is a pre-requisite to apply for Registration as "Architectural Licentiates" with the Architects Registration Board. The examination will be conducted in English.

Following categories of persons are eligible to apply for registration with the BAE/SLIA for the qualifying examination.

No.	Qualification	Prescribed work experience
1.	Graduate Membership of SLIA	4 years under a Chartered Architect or an Architect after Graduate Membership.
2.	SLIA Part I	5 years under a Chartered Architect or an Architect after SLIA Part I
3.	B.Sc. Built Environment	5 years under a Chartered Architect or an Architect after B.Sc. Built Environment.
4.	Possessing other overseas qualifications in Architecture (equivalent to 1, 2 or 3 of above) as acceptable to the SLIA.	5 years out of which 1 year in Sri Lanka under a Chartered Architect or an Architect, after overseas Qualifications.
5.	Involved in the field of designing of buildings for a prescribed period.	(a) 15 years of which 5 years in a position of responsibility and 10 years being involved in the field of designing of buildings as the main source of income/livelihood (Submit with application, the documentary evidence of Business registration or other formal registration) <b>OR</b> (b) 10 years under a Chartered Architect or an Architect of which 5 years in a position of responsibility (Submit with application, the documentary evidence of your employment i.e. Contract of Employment, EPF/ETF receipts etc.).

It should be noted the word "Architect" and its derivatives are protected by the said Legislation and a person unless registered with the Architects Registration Board (ARB) should not use such terms.

For Clarifications if any, the Manager – Board of Architectural Education (BAE) can be contacted over Telephone No. 011-2678255. Relevant Application Form can be downloaded from the website [www.slia.lk](http://www.slia.lk) (path: Board of Architectural Education - Download Application Forms).

Completed/signed hard-copy of the Application together with the payment receipt from the SLIA for the Application Fee of Rs. 3,500/= shall be submitted to the Secretary, BAE on or before 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020 during SLIA office hours. Registration for the Qualifying Examination will be subject to an interview to be conducted thereafter.

Chairman,  
Board of Architectural Education (BAE),  
Sri Lanka Institute of Architects,  
No. 120/7, Vidya Mawatha, Colombo 07.  
Tel: 011-2678255  
E-Mail : [managerbae@architects.lk](mailto:managerbae@architects.lk)  
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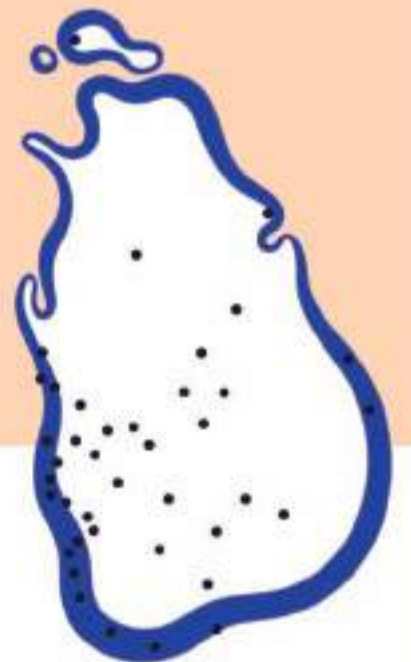
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Kurunegala 037-7572572	Trincomalee 026-7572572	Kiribathgoda 011-7572577	Narammala 037-7572573	Matale 066-7572572	Dambulla 066-2052323
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# Nursing: Widen your career pathway at Open University

In the constantly changing healthcare environment, today, patient care is becoming more complex requiring professional nurses for meeting the needs of a diverse patient population. The concept of nursing has evolved around centuries with changes in care delivery, technological advances and increased patient expectations. This trend requires nurses to have the knowledge and skills relevant for productive health care reforms. Thus, rendering a Bachelor of Honours Degree in Nursing is an expected need for this thriving profession.

The Open University of Sri Lanka initiated a degree program in 1994 for nurses who have completed the Diploma in Nursing, both in public and private sectors, having 3 passes at the G.C.E. Advanced Level in the Science stream. The Open University is the pioneer for providing higher education for nurses in Sri Lanka.



With the recent curriculum revision conforming to the Sri Lanka Qualification Framework (SLQF), the current Bachelor of Science Honours in Nursing Degree Program has widened its capacity. Instead of going through an entire

four year degree program from the beginning, the students are exempted from the first two levels since these undergraduate nurses have completed a three year Diploma in Nursing at a network of nursing colleges around the country.

However, a serious commitment from the undergraduates will be mandatory since a balance between work life and studies may be a challenge due to the nature of their duties. The program offers a flexible schedule to meet the learning needs of the undergraduate nurses. The OUSL fosters Open and Distance learning (ODL) to suit employed learners.

Therefore, the Bachelor of Science Honours in Nursing Degree Program at the Open University, is a valuable opportunity for nurses in our country to strengthen their career pathway to face future professional challenges in the fast growing health care sector of Sri Lanka as well as to expose themselves globally. This is a great opportunity for you to brighten up your academic and professional life. Applicants can apply until November 11. Visit our website [www.ou.ac.lk](http://www.ou.ac.lk) for further information.

## Mevan Peiris, a Director of CINEC Campus



Ports and Shipping Minister Rohitha Abeygunwardena presents the appointment letter to Mevan Peiris

Ports and Shipping Minister Rohitha Abeygunwardena appointed Mevan Peiris a Director of CINEC Campus, the leading Maritime Education Institute in Sri Lanka. An alumnus of Monash University, Peiris has over 12 years of experience in the shipping and logistics industry.

He also brings international shipping experience to the table, with his five year stint at the Australian national carrier, ANL Container Line (CMA CGM Group). Mevan Peiris is also

the Group Director of Ceyline Group, The Minister advised the Chairman of CSC Wineendra Weeraman and the new Board members to re-evaluate the operating model at CSC and come up with new strategies and innovative ideas to revive the once mighty Shipping Corporation. The Minister stressed the importance of making CSC a profitable entity soon.

The first meeting of the new CSC board will be scheduled for the end of October.

## C.W.W. Kannangara commemorated

The 136th birth anniversary of the father of free education in Sri Lanka, C.W.W. Kannangara, was marked at his statue recently under the patronage of Education Minister Prof G.L. Peiris.

State Ministers Dr. Susil Premjayanth, Vijith Berugoda Piyal Nishantha de Silva and Dr. Sita Arambepola also participated.



Education Minister Prof G.L. Peiris, State Ministers Dr. Susil Premjayanth, Vijith Berugoda Piyal Nishantha de Silva, Dr. Sita Arambepola and others at the C.W.W. Kannangara commemoration event.

## SLANSHEI AGM and panel discussion



Participants at the SLANSHEI Annual General Meeting and the panellists at the discussion

Higher Education Institutes (SLANSHEI) is an umbrella organisation formed with the initiation of seven leading institutes coming together to address the needs of the non-state higher education sector in the country in 2016. The association was established with the overall mission of working for the betterment of higher education in Sri Lanka and providing a wide range of relevant and quality education opportunities to a broader cross section of the Sri Lankan society.

The seven founder members of the Association are Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (SLIIT), CINEC Campus, Horizon Campus, Asia Pacific Institute of Information Technology (APIIT), The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CASri Lanka), South Asian Institute of Technology and Management (SAITM) and Aquinas College of Higher Studies. Apart from these founder members, Saegis Campus, KAATSU International for Undergraduate-studies (KIU), Gateway Graduate School, International Institute of Health Sciences (IIHS), Sri Lanka International Buddhist Academy (SIBA Campus), Business Management School (BMS), ESOFIT, Sanasa Campus and North-shore International Campus are other members of SLANSHEI.

SLANSHEI held its Annual General Meeting and elected following new

members for 2020/2021

President - Upul Daranagama, Horizon Campus, Secretary - Prof. Colin N. Peiris, SLIIT, Vice-President - Prof. Veranja Karunaratne, CINEC, Treasurer - Dr. Kithsiri Edirisirighe, IIHS, Immediate Past President - Prof. Lalith Gamage, SLIIT, Elected Members - Bandara Dissanayake, Saegis Campus, Pradeep Alexander, CA Sri Lanka, Gamindu Hemachandra, APIIT and Dr. Indrapala Chandrasekaram, KIU.

President Upul Daranagama in his welcome speech emphasised the importance of increasing the quality of the degree programs offered by the Non-State higher education division, thereby produce skill-full employable graduates suitable for the local and international job market. The members gave their inputs to plan strategically to get enrolled foreign students to the degree programs conducted in these institutes.

The AGM was followed by the panel discussion organised by SLANSHEI with the participation of over 50 attendees from the education sector, industrial partners and other supportive parties. The three panellists and the moderator were eminent persons in the education sector of Sri Lanka; Prof. Kapila Perera, Secretary, Ministry of Education, Dr. Upali Sedere, State Secretary for Education Re-

forms, Open University and Distance Learning and Prof. Sampath Amarathunge, Chairman, University Grants Commission. The session was moderated by Prof. Lalith Gamage, Immediate Past-President of SLANSHEI.

The panel discussed the relevance of subjects in the primary and secondary education towards the discipline of higher education. Prof. Kapila Perera highlighted the importance on generating the urge to learn in the academic environment. 'The quality of the teaching methodology needs to be improved to create an enthusiastic learning atmosphere. The focus to produce quality labour force with a high skill level should be initiated from the primary education' Prof. Perera stated.

'The education system should be reformed to produce graduates with skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, Dr. Upali Sedere added to the discussion. He emphasised that the resources should be made available for the students in rural areas as well, and the tertiary educations should motivate students to be entrepreneurs in the future to contribute to the growing economy of Sri Lanka. He highlighted that Sri Lanka is considered as a country with a high literacy rate among the other countries in Asia for primary and secondary education, even though the higher education

system needs to be revamped as it is not on par with the globally accepted standards.

The university entry methods need to be reconsidered to accommodate talented youth in the future. Education at each level, from higher education to tertiary or vocational have to inculcate the concept of contributing to the economy of the country, Prof. Sampath Amarathunge said.

The final discussion was about the future reforms in the entire spectrum of education, as this was highlighted in the vision statement of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa. The panel discussed the important role of Non-State higher education institutes that cater for the growing demand of the tertiary education.

Daranagama thanked the speakers for their time and insights during the discussion. He said the need of higher education to compete as a growing nation to move forward. 'International schools produce 10,000 students per annum who are fluent in communication in English. However, there is no pathway to absorb them to the state universities, which ultimately results in outflow of knowledge and foreign exchange.' He requested the speakers to reconsider the possible entry pathways for these students in order to retain them in the country, thereby saving foreign exchange.

## Grow-nourish-sustain together

By  
Vasana  
Abeynayake



World Food Day fell on October 16 which marked the 75th Anniversary of the founding of United Nations (UN) Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) with the theme "Grow, nourish, sustain together"

Food is the most important thing in our lives besides water. Everybody likes to eat delicious food. But the main difference is in the fact that some of them can find that the glass of milk is very delicious, whereas the other at that time cannot live even one day without fatty meat. It is because people are different and all of them have different style of life. Because of that, there is the need to find the food for you that can be useful and delicious at the same time.

Healthy food is one of the most important factors that play a clear and tangible role in human health. This plays an important role in preserving health in general. Some nutrients represent the major role in renewing the health of the body with its various organs. Where we observe the tendency of some nutrients for the benefit of the body as a whole by giving him the ability to keep his internal organs intact, where eating healthy food is the largest factor in the safety of internal organs that result in an inevitable body safety as a whole and thus lead to better performance in various functions of life.

Healthy eating means eating a variety of food that gives you the nutrients you need to maintain your health, feel good and have energy. These nutrients include protein, carbohydrate, fat, water, vitamin and minerals. When we take healthy fruits and vegetables, we reduce the chances of contracting diseases. Healthy food offers abundant benefits. It helps us in various spheres of life. Healthy food does not only aid our physical health but mental health too. For instance, green vegetables help us maintain strength and vigour. Certain healthy food items keep away long-term illnesses, such as diabetes and blood pressure.

As countries deal with the widespread effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, World Food Day 2020 highlights how food and agriculture are an indispensable part of the Covid-19 response. World Food Day 2020 calls for global cooperation and solidarity to help the most vulnerable to recover from the crisis. It calls on countries to build back better by making food systems more flexible and vigorous so that they can withstand increasing volatility and climate shocks, deliver healthy and sustainable diets for all and decent livelihoods for food system workers.

World Food Day 2020 celebrates the people who produce, plant, harvest, fish or transport our food and call on the public to thank these food heroes who, no matter the circumstances, continue to provide food to their communities

and beyond - helping to grow, nourish and sustain our world. Food is the essence of life and the bedrock of our cultures and communities. Preserving access to safe and nutritious food is and will continue to be an essential part of the response to the Covid-19 pandemic, particularly for poor and vulnerable communities, who are hit hardest by the pandemic and resulting economic shocks.

Similarly, obesity is the biggest problems our country is facing now. People are falling prey to obesity faster than expected. However, this can still be controlled. Obese people usually indulge in junk food. The junk food contains sugar, salt fats and more which contribute to obesity. Healthy food



AS COUNTRIES DEAL WITH THE WIDESPREAD EFFECTS OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, WORLD FOOD DAY 2020 HIGHLIGHTS HOW FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ARE AN INDISPENSABLE PART OF THE COVID-19 RESPONSE. WORLD FOOD DAY 2020 CALLS FOR GLOBAL COOPERATION AND SOLIDARITY TO HELP THE MOST VULNERABLE TO RECOVER FROM THE CRISIS

can help you get rid of all this as it does not contain harmful things.

Our actions are our future. Countries, the private sector and civil society need to make sure that our food systems grow a variety of food to nourish a growing population and sustain the planet together.

"I have a great diet. You are allowed to eat anything you want, but you must eat it with naked fat people".  
- Ed Bluestone



## A NEW WAVE IN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

# Open University offers Master of Energy Management Degree

A first of its kind in Sri Lanka is unique UGC approved SLQF Level 9 one year Master Degree Program in Energy Management offered by the Department of Mechanical Engineering of The Open University of Sri Lanka.

This Master's degree program is expected to fill the gap that prevents many graduates who aspire to become professionals in the energy sector as energy managers and energy auditors. Those who successfully complete the programme will be able to deal with issues related to energy policies and management with a sound knowledge in new technologies in view of contributing to energy conservation by eliminating losses and optimally utilising the energy sources with utmost consideration paid to the environment. The graduates will be in a position to carry out comprehensive energy research in an organisation or a facility, identify opportunities for energy efficiency improvements, and recommend re-

medial actions along with economic feasibility plans.

Sustainable power generation and utilisation has become critical global issue, especially in the backdrop of depleting fossil fuel reserves and global environmental impacts. With the sharp increase in demand for electricity in domestic as well as commercial and industry sectors, Sri Lanka must seriously pay attention to sustainable generation and use of energy to alleviate the unfavourable impacts.

Many countries employ qualified personnel as Energy Managers and Energy Auditors to deal with energy related problems in the organisations.

Recognising the importance of this sector and keeping with international trend, the Energy Auditing was recognised in Sri Lanka as a profession by the Government through a Gazette notification (No. 1715/12 July 20, 2011) published under the

Sri Lanka Sustainable Energy Authority (SLSEA) Act No. 35 of 2007.

#### The Program offers:

- Extensive group activities in the form of mini-projects, case studies and discussion sessions
- An Energy Audit project in the industry
- Two online courses delivered by the experts abroad
- Affordable fee

#### Mode of delivery

Intended Program outcomes are to be achieved through student centered activities guided by the internal staff and external resource persons. The courses are delivered in mixed mode in line with Open and Distance Learning practices. These would include day schools/lectures, online classes and printed instructional materials. Practical training

will be provided through reputed organisations in the energy sector. Most of the materials for supporting learning process are provided by the OUSL, Sri Lanka Sustainable Energy Authority and other private sector organisations.

The curriculum includes: Energy and Environment, Thermal Energy Utilities, Electrical Energy Utilities, HVAC and Building Lighting, Renewable Energy Technologies, Energy Policy and Planning, Management and Auditing Combined Energy Systems for Efficient Energy Use, Research Project, Planning and Implementation of Energy Projects, Financial Management and Human Resources for Energy Sector.

Join us on this remarkable experience to learn in a friendly environment and tap into the resources of global energy management. For more information, visit our website [www.ou.ac.lk](http://www.ou.ac.lk) and apply online till November 17.



## MSU - A VISION OF CONSISTENCY WITH PASSION OF DREAMS

BY VASANA ABEYNAYAKE

The Management & Science University (MSU), one of Malaysia's top Universities complements the needs of highly skilled and expert Human capital by offering both bachelor's degree and Diploma in the Hospitality and Tourism specialisation.

As one of Malaysia's top universities, MSU has received much recognition from the Malaysian and international independent bodies. In the most recent ranking, MSU has been ranked #28 in the world for Hospitality and Leisure Management. The 2020 QS World University Rankings by Subject places MSU at number 2 in Malaysia for Hospitality and Leisure Management. Scoring in five subjects, Management and Science University (MSU) made both the Top 50 and Top 100 lists in the latest ranking exercise.

MSU was also placed in the top 1.8 percent among Asia's best universities and placed in the top 544th universities of the world. MSU is also ranked as one of Malaysia's top five private universities through an establishment audit done by Ernst & Young.

Management and Science Institute (MSI) is the Colombo centre established by MSU. While the former offers a wide spectrum of Diploma programs, the latter continues the Degree and Master programs for academics to become professionals in their chosen field.

Following are the excerpts of the interview with MSI Director D. S. Peiris after the press conference in commemoration of their World Tourism day in the theme of "How to Develop the Pettah Floating market as a Tourism Hub".

#### Q: What is the specialty in MSU & MSI compared to other universities?

A: We continuously update our quality in education, and we provide exceptional support to our students. MSU has a versatile lecture panel, including professors from various foreign universities for special industries and areas. By the end of the research, we teach students to give a thorough back up moving steadfastly in life and career.

We have been recognised by the University Grants Commission in Sri Lanka. Our MBBS is recognised by the Sri Lanka Medical Council. We are getting students from the countries, such as the Maldives, Seychelles and India. We do have expatriate students also with us along with Sri Lankan students.

The specialty in Management and Science University is; our students achieve not only their gained success in paper qualifications but also their confidence and real life experience and recognition. Students get an international exposure, while their learning-teaching pro-

cess. They can visit MSU Malaysia for exposure in the respective faculties.

#### Q: What is your criterion of selection for MSU?

A: If the student needs to follow the bio-medical area, he needs the Advanced Level certificate. When selecting Hospitality and Event Management, only the Ordinary Level is sufficient. The knowledge of English is mandatory as the whole set up is catered for the background of communication, vocabulary and exposure in English. The students must have an acceptable knowledge of English to cater for their needs at MSU.

#### Q: What are the programs that you conduct in MSU?

A: In the Management and Science Institute, the following programs are offered from the level of Diploma to PhD.

#### SCHOOL OF SCIENCE

1. Biomedical science
2. Forensic science
3. Nutrition science

#### SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

1. Business Management
2. Human capital Management
3. Retail management

#### SCHOOL OF HOSPITALITY

1. Hospitality and Tourism management
2. Event management
3. Leisure Outdoor and Adventure Management

#### SCHOOL OF COMPUTING

1. Information Technology



MSI Director D. S. Peiris

2. Business Computing
3. Information Technology (Mobile and Wireless Technology)

#### Programs at MSU Malaysia

1. MBA
2. PhD

#### Q: How is their internship catered coinciding with their studies?

A: Internship is a specific sector for students. They follow what they learn theoretically while the practical application is carried out in the knowledge of practice. Practical application of their learned behaviour caters as to how they could get prepared for the industry. For example, we encourage our students who follow the hospitality industry to work at hotels. For those who follow the Business management are being instructed and directed to banks and finance companies. The students who are in the bio-medical field end up their last

Students can complete their degree at foreign universities, such as in MSU Malaysia; Hof University in Germany; Coventry in UK; Western Sydney University in Australia and AIT in Ireland. There are ample selections for the students of MSU.

#### Q: Are there any oncoming programs that MSU is going to introduce?

A: We are looking forward to introduce Foundation programs and Diploma in Psychology programs as the new discipline. It will be an IT related program relevant to data science and Artificial Intelligence. We are hoping to introduce more Science related programs.

#### Q: What is your message for the students who are hoping to

#### join MSU?

A: Education is a lifelong process so that we should never stop at one achievement. We must have a passion for our dreams and the vision of consistency in education. We must continue education throughout our life.

By enrolling students for programs at MSU, it will be a wonderful recognition and a lifelong investment for the parents. There will be an immense career expansion, an international ranking of universities and also with a tremendous enhancement of life by learning at MSU. This will be one of the best investments for your future.

**Management & Science Institute, No 300 Galle Road Colombo 3, e-mail enquiry@msi.edu.lk, telephone: 011 257 6900 / 011 257 6700, Hot line 077 0777 880 and website [www.msu.edu.my](http://www.msu.edu.my)**

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40 years

## THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA

### Master of Energy Management (MEM)

Department of Mechanical Engineering  
Faculty of Engineering Technology

Applications are called for the Academic Year 2021/2022

Admission Requirements

- A Bachelors Honours Degree in Engineering in the specializations of Mechanical, Mechatronics, Electrical, or Chemical Engineering of at least 120 SLQF credits obtained from a recognized university or
- A Bachelors Honours Degree in Engineering of at least 120 SLQF credits obtained from a recognized university in any other specialization and one year of post-qualifying experience in the relevant field or
- A Bachelors Degree in Science of at least 90 SLQF credits with Physics and Mathematics as subjects obtained from a recognized university, and two years of post-qualifying experience or
- Any other qualifications and experience acceptable to the University.

Duration

One academic year (2 Semesters)

Highlights

- ✓ First Study Programme in this type in Sri Lanka
- ✓ Extensive group activities in the form of mini projects, case studies and discussion sessions
- ✓ An Energy Audit project in the industry
- ✓ Two online courses delivered by the experts abroad
- ✓ Affordable fee
- ✓ A Qualification by a recognized state University
- ✓ Foreign nationals and Sri Lankans living abroad can also enroll (subject to the condition that a group of at least 5 students is registered for the programme and be prepared to undertake programme related activities from a single location of the country)

Issue of Applications

**Apply Online Only** Apply online by visiting our web page: <https://reginfo.ou.ac.lk/applyonline/>  
Online Applications will be available from **18.10.2020** to **17.11.2020** on the OUSL Website.  
On-line application is fee : **Rs. 800 /-**

For more information:

Brochure containing details of the above programme can be downloaded from <https://www.ou.ac.lk>  
• Dr. Iresha Atthanayake (Programme Academic Coordinator)  
Tele: +94 11 2881379 /Email: [iuatt@ou.ac.lk](mailto:iuatt@ou.ac.lk)  
• Eng. Ruchira Abeyweera (Programme Coordinator)  
Tele: +94 11 2881227 / +94 (0) 777821752 Email: [mem@ou.ac.lk](mailto:mem@ou.ac.lk)  
Registrar, The Open University of Sri Lanka, Nawala, Nugegoda.

# Advertorial



The opening of the two-day International Research Conference of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University



## KDU holds International Research Conference



**G**eneral Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) held its two-day International Research Conference under the theme "Holistic Approach to National Growth and Security," on Thursday and Friday.

The inaugural session of the conference held for the 13th consecutive time was graced by Education Minister Professor GL Peiris as the Chief Guest, and Professor Kapila Perera, Secretary to the Ministry of Education, was the Keynote Speaker.

Vice Chancellor Major General Milinda Pieris in his welcome address stated the significance of the Conference taking place in a challenging environment. He stressed the commitment of the university for continuity of events even under the most trying circumstances. Such efforts, he opined, would be necessary to enhance the resilience of the nation during crisis situations. The

Vice Chancellor added that KDU, from its inception, was instrumental in handing down the core values of security to the development paradigm in Sri Lanka. He further stated the importance of maintaining a harmonious blend in security and development in all national projects.

Prof GL Peiris appreciated the selection of an appropriate and timely theme for deliberations in this year's conference, and he praised the university for continuing its committed efforts even under exceedingly challenging circumstances adapting to novel situations. Prof Peiris elucidated the significance of the conference theme that highlights the intimate relationship between national security and the development, explaining with empirical evidence from the experiences of the nation in the recent past, how development efforts undermining security could be detrimental to a country's future.



Prof Peiris emphasized the urgent need for reforms to bridge the gap between education and employment opportunities. He stressed the need for revising what he called "obsolete and anachronistic curricula" in education and for introducing methods of teaching and learning that develop analytical and critical

faculties of learners to enable them to apply volumes of knowledge to face challenges and solve problems. He expressed his opinion that with its readiness for innovation, its quick identification of contemporary national needs and its appropriate interventions, KDU renders an invaluable service for the nation.

The Keynote Speaker, Professor Kapila Perera explained the concept of security in a broader perspective and elaborated how the absence of security would jeopardise our expectations of being developed.

He emphasised the need for applying a holistic approach in education. He said that KDU has proven to

be an institution that adopts such an approach.

With his closer affinity with KDU as one of its alumnus, Prof Perea commented on the success of the experimentations of KDU with a new model in education where civil and military students engage in their higher educational pursuits.

The two-day conference attracted 650 plus paper submissions for the technical sessions, and the first day of the conference was successfully concluded with the completion of the nine Faculty plenary sessions that were adorned with presentations by national and international scholars of eminence in each discipline on various sub themes.

The Health Guidelines and procedures issued by Health Authorities were strictly adhered to during the entire period of the event ensuring safety of all who attended the ceremony.



Participants at the Research Conference





**Rajarata University of Sri Lanka**  
**Mihintale**

**20th General Convocation**

The 20th General Convocation of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka is scheduled to be held on 22nd and 23rd October 2020 at the Mihintale premises of the Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, but due to unfavourable conditions prevailing in the country, the University has decided to postpone the general convocation indefinitely.

**REGISTRAR**

Education Minister Prof G.L. Peiris talking to French Ambassador to Sri Lanka Eric Lavertu



### Minister focuses on Sri Lanka-France Education Cooperation



**UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA, DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING**  
**M.Eng. in Highway & Traffic Engineering 2020/2021**

ELIGIBILITY		
<b>M.Eng. Degree in Highway and Traffic Engineering</b>		
a) B.Sc. Eng. degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Moratuwa, or any other recognized University as judged by the Faculty and approved by the Senate; <b>or</b>		
b) Any other engineering degree in a relevant field with at least one year experience in the relevant field judged by the Faculty and approved by the Senate; <b>or</b>		
c) An equivalent professional qualification, with at least one year experience in a relevant field, after obtaining such qualifications, the recognition of the institute and the relevance of the field for this purpose shall be judged by the Faculty & approved by the Senate;		
<b>DURATION:</b> 24 months (Part Time)	<b>Lectures on:</b> Fridays (4.30pm - 7.30pm) Saturdays (9.00am - 7.30pm)	<b>COURSE FEES:</b> Rs. 275,000/=
APPLICATION:		
<b>For further information and application forms:</b> Course Coordinator : Dr.G.L.D.I.De Silva Email : dimanthads@uom.lk Course Assistant : Mrs. Melani Jayakody TP: 2640170 - Ext. 2130 Website : <a href="http://www.mrt.ac.lk/web/civil">www.mrt.ac.lk/web/civil</a>	<b>Completed applications should be forwarded to:</b> Course Coordinator Transportation Engineering Division, Department of Civil Engineering, University of Moratuwa, Moratuwa.	
<b>Registrar, University of Moratuwa, Moratuwa.</b>		<b>Closing date for applications: 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020</b>

Education Minister Prof G.L. Peiris said programs should be planned for the development of educational relationship between Sri Lanka and France and the cooperation between the two countries should be further strengthened and that the importance of studying a foreign language should be explained to students, adding that the Government anticipates the contribution of the French government to uplift vocational education opportunities and training programs for the Sri Lankan students.

The Minister said so when French Ambassador to Sri Lanka Eric Lavertu met him at the Education Ministry recently.

French Ambassador praised Prof G.L. Peiris for his contribution as the Minister of Education towards the field of education.

Charge de Affaires of the French Embassy Aurelien Maillet said that more educational opportunities could be arranged, once the Covid -19 pandemic situation eases. It was also discussed to draw up a plan to popularise the French language in the school and University Education in Sri Lanka.



Continued from last week

# How Sri Lanka can be a Maritime Education and Training hub

BY PROF (DR) CAPT. NALAKA JAYAKODY

Sri Lanka is truly a blessed maritime nation. The country's exceptional maritime services, quality of seafarers and relevant training institutions, strategic geographical location, abundant natural and human resources, among many others coupled with successfully fighting against the global pandemic puts the country in a perfect position to thrive in becoming a maritime education and training hub not just in the region but globally as well. This is an opportunity that should never be missed. It's the ideal moment for the Government to lobby with other countries, establish sustainable public-private partnerships, create awareness about this lucrative profession, integrate maritime education into the school curriculum, encourage prospects to pursue their maritime training at home than abroad, invest in a range of infrastructure and support systems, among many others. It's now or never.

## From off-shore to on-shore

When we look at history, seafaring began by the Europeans who owned and managed various merchant ships. And after World War II, shipping thrived as a fruitful business. As time went by, as the American-European shipping trade grew significantly, these countries developed at a fast pace with

colossal wealth. And as this was happening, there were a wide range of opportunities on-shore in comparison to off-shore, with salaries not having a big difference at all. Eventually with off-shore jobs being very challenging and sacrificing, many preferred on-shore jobs. This resulted in outsourcing off-shore jobs to the Asian and East-European destinations at cheaper labor costs whilst still owning and managing the fleets.

Sri Lanka just like Philippines and many other Asian and East-European countries were enjoying this opportunity over the years and today these countries including ours is developing or developed in this particular sector, and this again is the same scenario that happened with America and Europe the transition from off-shore to on-shore. Sri Lanka has to leverage its blue economy and seize all opportunities before the outsourcing markets moves into the African region.

Many years ago, a student has to go to the University after A/Ls to pursue his or her higher education.

Today, there are many paths available right after one's O/Ls, with foundation programs paving way to degree programmes or professional qualification, with higher starting salaries and a wider range of opportunities on-shore. Going for an off-shore career is considered as the last resort like in China, and this has led to a drastic reduction in competitiveness among seafarers.

## Security services and crew change hub

I always view crisis as an opportunity. Sri Lanka has managed to earn colossal revenues by providing their exceptional security services (sea marshal) onboard ships including those that face piracy attacks. Similarly, Sri Lanka can also thrive as a hub for a crew change. The present unresolved crew change crisis can be a massive opportunity, with many seafarers remaining stranded on seas (around 400,000 seafarers according to IMO).

## The way forward

With the unprecedented global pandemic, Sri Lanka just like many other countries has restricted their ports. With the country being one of the very first countries to successfully tackle the virus, things are getting back to its normal stature, slowly but surely. It was very recently ranked 2nd in the latest World Survey on Pandemic Control by the YICAI Research Institute.

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) features a list of white-list of eligible countries to train their programmes. Sri Lanka is one of the many with only a handful of institutions providing similar qualifications. Sri Lanka is highly dependent on benchmarking in how other countries are doing in this sector. We don't have to. This mentality and attitude needs to change. In my personal view, we are well inde-

pendent and self-sufficient to stand by ourselves however the quality of these maritime education and training institutions need to be well overlooked and maintained. Therefore, it's the duty of the country's administration to ensure that these institutions continuously adhere to the guidelines set by the IMO. To overcome the issue of the quality of seafarers, I suggest three solutions.

Creating awareness- As a maritime nation, we need to equip ourselves with better knowledge in maritime. The best way to go about this which I also have proposed certain administrations to try and include some part of maritime education such as supply chain and logistics into the school A/L syllabus. This is a very attractive profession with high income, and the government needs to focus more on seafarers in contrast to sending domestic workers.

Lobbying and PPPs- We need to utilize the idling seafarers in the country. Even the present 5,000 seafarers are employed mostly on foreign vessels. Currently it's solely the private sector that spends money to get foreign ships or companies to enable our seafarers get access to job opportunities. I strongly suggest that the government has to get heavily involved by its officials from ministries and authorities participating and lobbying with other countries in this area. I believe lobbying is essential to the industry as a whole. Public-private partnerships (PPPs) are paramount to its success. They need to ensure that the seafarers'

community is well recognized, and take measures to increase the number of employed seafarers.

Maritime education and training hub- I want to stress that Sri Lanka most of the time misses the mark or opportunity- too many words spoken with very less actions. I have personally tried my very best to make Sri Lanka a maritime training hub but due to various external constraints, I've not been able to succeed. It's time that I now intervene with the officials and ministry to say that Sri Lanka with no doubt is in a better position with maritime training providers that are of the highest quality standards with state-of-the-art infrastructure and facilities in the region.

Professor Jayakody DSc (Cn), MSc (Swe), FNI (UK), FCILT (UK), FIMarEST (UK), CMarTech (UK), Master Mariner (Aus) also served as the Chairman of The Nautical Institute (NI-UK) Sri Lanka Branch and President of the Sri Lanka Association of Non-State Higher



Education Institutions (SLANSHEI), serves as advisory capacity in private and public sector. He also served as Board Director of Maritime Training Centre in Seychelles and Fiji Maritime Academy in Fiji, Member - National Task Force of IMO implementation of Ballast Water Strategy, Member - Sri Lanka, Marine Environment Forum, Visiting Professor as well as an External Auditor - Dalian Maritime University in China, Program Reviewer - University Grant Commission (UGC), Auditor - CILT Accrediting Committee, Former Vice Chairman - Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT-International- Sri Lanka Branch).

## SLIM launches South Asian Journal of Marketing



The Journal is presented to Education Minister Prof. G. L. Peiris



Signing the MOU between SLIM and Sabaragamuwa University for the academic partnership for SAJM

The National Body for Marketing in Sri Lanka, the Sri Lanka Institute of Marketing (SLIM) recently launched the "South Asian Journal of Marketing" (SAJM), which is a peer-reviewed open-access journal. The bi-annual journal, issued in July and December, was introduced in collaboration with Emerald Publishing, which is also the first Sri Lankan academic partnership with Emerald Publishing.

The ceremonial launch was held at Hilton Colombo Residences where Education Minister Prof G. L. Peiris graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Tony Roche, Publishing and Strategic Relationships Director, Emerald Publishing and Senior Professor Sampath Amarathunga, Chairman, University Grants Commission (UGC) attended the event as the guest of honour and the special guest. The journal was launched at the 50th anniversary celebration of the institute as SLIM believes that it is their duty to produce and disseminate research knowledge, that has an impact on the marketing fraternity.

Sharing his thoughts at the launch, Prof G. L. Peiris said, "Celebrating a legendary journey of 50 years in enriching the local marketing fraternity is undoubtedly a landmark achievement. Working in tandem with Emerald Publishing, one of the most prestigious publishing houses in the world, to introduce this journal is exemplary. As the Minister of Education, I would like to extend my unstinting and fullest cooperation to the future endeavours of SLIM".

While congratulating SLIM on its 50th anniversary, Senior Professor Sampath Amarathunga said that joining hands with SLIM was a great pleasure as this is a first of its kind initiative in Sri Lanka. He added that SAJM imparts knowledge and new trends related to the field of marketing through multiple opinions, research-based articles and debates.

The editorial team of SAJM comprises an eminent panel of researchers representing various South Asian countries. Dr. N. Jayantha Dewasiri heads the journal as Editor-in-Chief with Dr. Thilini Chathurika Gamage (Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka), Assistant Professor Kashif Saeed (GIFT University, Pakistan), Associate Professor Dr. Sudhir Rana (FIIB India) and Dr. G. Dinesh Samarasinghe (University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka) assisting as Editors of the journal. Zubair Ahmed, Associate Professor, Dr. Nazmul Hossain, Dr. Theesara Jayawardane, Dr. Samantha Ratnayake, Dr. Maduka Udunuwara, Assistant Professor Dr. Aarti Saini, Assistant Professor Roshee Lamichhane and Dr. Alka Rathore are working on the editorial board as Associate Editors represent-



Senior Prof. Sampath Amarathunga Chairman, the University Grants Commission (UGC)

ing Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, India, Nepal and Bhutan.

The Faculty of Management Studies of the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka was appointed as the academic partner of the journal and the faculty will be managing the journal. SAJM is a dynamic forum to publish valuable insights and innovative knowledge in the field of marketing management as it is a vast discipline of study. The journal covers a wide spectrum of study in the areas of Marketing Management, Marketing Theory, Consumption and Consumer Practice, Marketing and Society, Service Marketing and B to B Network Marketing.

The purpose of journals in academia is greater than merely being a source of information and a permanent record. Today, journals have become deeply embedded in academic infrastructure, enabling the contributors to share their exclusive knowledge with the fraternity. The innovations and research papers published in SAJM will not only improve the knowledge of marketing researchers and students of academia but also a wide scope of international readership in and outside the region to sharpen their knowledge on research-based advancements in the field.

The launch was followed by a panel discussion on the topic 'The Role of Research in Developing a Knowledge Economy'. The panel comprised eminent researchers in South Asia, local politicians, heads of governmental authorities and corporates as well as representatives of Emerald Publishing; Senior Professor Udith K. Jayasinghe, Vice Chancellor, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka; Professor Athula Gnanapala, Acting Vice Chancellor Sabaragamuwa Univer-

sity; Professor Nalin Abeysekera, Open University of Sri Lanka; Tony Roche, Publishing and Strategic Relationships Director, Emerald Publishing, Professor Muhammad Kashif, GIFT University, Pakistan/Ambassador, Emerald Publishing and Supun Weerasinghe, Group Chief Executive Officer, Dialog Axiata PLC. The forum was moderated by Professor Arosha S. Adikaram, Faculty of Human Resource Management, University of Colombo.

As the leading marketing body of Sri Lanka, SLIM has a national responsibility of producing exceptional marketing professionals to steer Sri Lanka towards economic prosperity. Research is one of the key pillars of the five-year strategic plan of SLIM, which focuses on creating a knowledge economy to propel the growth engine of the country. In celebration of the institute's golden jubilee, SLIM wishes to strengthen its research arm and disseminate a wealth of both industry and academic knowledge, to its diverse stakeholders. Apart from SAJM, ICM as well as the research scholar program are some of the prominent research projects organised and executed by SLIM. In line with the mission of establishing marketing as the driving force to enhance the business and national value of the economy, SLIM always strives to add value to the local marketing fraternity.

Commenting on the launch, Rohan Fernando, President, SLIM said,

"Creating a knowledge economy is one of the key pillars of the Restart Sri Lanka initiative. We are pleased to join hands with Emerald Publishing and introduce this journal to Sri Lanka in commemoration of SLIM's golden jubilee."

Sharing his thoughts, Sanath Senanayake, Chief Executive Officer/ Executive Director, SLIM said, "Launching SAJM indeed is a milestone in the 50-year journey of SLIM as this is the first time in history Emerald Publishing has partnered with a Sri Lankan institute to sponsor and manage an academic journal. SAJM is one of the first of its kind initiatives taken to disseminate industry and academic knowledge in the country."

"It's truly an honour to share my expertise with SLIM in introducing the institute's first academic journal as SLIM celebrates its half-decade journey. SAJM is driven by the impetus of providing a forum for industry scholars to publish authoritative and well-researched articles in marketing-related areas and issues. SAJM is sure to be one of the most sought-after academic journals of international repute," said Dr. Jayantha Dewasiri, Editor-in-Chief, SAJM.

SAJM features an open-access format that ensures enhanced visibility and global exposure. The journal can be easily accessed through: <https://www.emeraldgroupublishing.com/journal/sajm>.



## Master of Science MSc in Medical Physics UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

### DEPARTMENT OF NUCLEAR SCIENCE

The Department of Nuclear Science, Faculty of Science is pleased to announce the commencement of the MSc in Medical Physics course in February 2021.

**Duration:** 18-24 months and will be conducted in the evenings (Friday) and on weekends. They consist of two parts, **Part I** - course work (theory and laboratory) and **part II** - research work.

**Course fee:** 225,000/= **(Application fee code: 314061900002).**

In addition, students are expected to pay registration fees (Rs. 2500/=), library fees (Rs. 5000/=) and examination fees (Rs. 20, 000/=).

#### Eligibility and Admission Criteria:

BSc Degree with Physics as a subject from a recognized University OR any other equivalent qualifications acceptable to the Senate of the University of Colombo.

#### Application Procedure:

Application for enrolment must be on prescribed forms obtainable from the Academic and Publications Branch of the University on the payment of a non-refundable application fee of Rs. 2000/= . This fee can be paid at any branch of the People's Bank to the credit of the University of Colombo with the **application fee code as the account number (314061900002)**. The application form can also be downloaded from our website at <http://science.cmb.ac.lk/nuclear-science/>. Duly completed application form together with the deposit slip should be submitted on or before **16th November 2020**, to the Assistant Registrar, Academic & Publications, University of Colombo, 94, Cumaratunga Munidasa Mawatha, Colombo 03.

#### For further details, please contact (or visit our website):

Dr. J. Jeyasugithan, Course Coordinator,  
MSc in Medical Physics,  
Phone: 0112502525/0775953601  
email: [jeyasugithan@nuclear.cmb.ac.lk](mailto:jeyasugithan@nuclear.cmb.ac.lk).

The Registrar  
University of Colombo



## UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA, DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING M.Sc. in Transportation 2020/2021

### ELIGIBILITY

#### M.Sc. Degree in Transportation

- B.Sc. Eng. degree of the University of Moratuwa, or any other recognized University in a relevant field as judged by the Faculty and approved by the Senate; or
- A special degree in a relevant field with one year appropriate experience, after obtaining such qualifications, the recognition of the institute & the relevance of the field for this purpose shall be judged by the Faculty & approved by the Senate; or
- A general degree in a relevant field with two years appropriate experience, after obtaining such qualifications, the recognition of the institute and the relevance of the field for this purpose shall be judged by the Faculty and approved by the Senate; or
- An equivalent professional qualification with at least two years' experience in a relevant field, after obtaining such qualifications, the recognition of the institute and the relevance of the field for this purpose shall be judged by the Faculty and approved by the Senate;

**DURATION:** 24 months (Part Time)

**Lectures on:** Fridays (4.30pm - 7.30pm)  
Saturdays (9.00am - 7.30pm)

**COURSE FEES:** Rs. 275,000/=

### APPLICATION:

#### For further information and application forms:

Course Coordinator : Dr.G.L.D.I.De Silva  
Email : [dimanthads@uom.lk](mailto:dimanthads@uom.lk)  
Course Assistant : Mrs. Melani Jayakody  
TP: 2640170 - Ext. 2130  
Website : [www.mrt.ac.lk/web/civil](http://www.mrt.ac.lk/web/civil)

#### Completed applications should be forwarded to:

Course Coordinator  
Transportation Engineering Division,  
Department of Civil Engineering,  
University of Moratuwa, Moratuwa.

Registrar, University of Moratuwa, Moratuwa.

Closing date for applications: 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020

## Advertorial

# Nextgen Girls In Technology wins UNESCO World Prize

UNESCO world prize for Girls' and Women's Education was awarded to Sri Lanka for the Nextgen Girls In Technology project implemented by Shilpa Sayura Foundation. Nextgen won this prestigious global award for making a difference for girls' education through developing emerging technology skills among school and university girls.

## UNESCO Prize for Girls' and Women's Education

The UNESCO Prize for Girls' and Women's Education honours outstanding and innovative contributions by organisations in the world to advance girls' and women's education. This is the first time Sri Lanka has won a UNESCO Prize for an education project.

The Prize was established by UNESCO's Executive Board. It contributes to the attainment of the 2030 Sustainable Development agenda, particularly SDG 4 on education and 5 on gender equality.

## Nextgen Girls In Technology

Sri Lanka, becoming a hub for technology and innovation, offers a range of careers. But, girls pursuing these careers remain low. Out of 52.08% schoolgirls, less than 8% study ICT as a major subject.

There is a skills mismatch in the tech industry. Stemming from students studying outdated ICT curriculums, girls entering government universities are most vulnerable. As a result gender disparity is growing in the technology sector.

NextGen Girls in Technology increases women participation in emerg-



ing technology careers by introducing a techno-extracurricular program in schools to improve analytical, logical and creative thinking and Training university girls on-demand skills like IoT, Machine Learning, Cybersecurity and Design to bridge the skills mismatch and increase their employment opportunities.

The nextGen project reached all corners of Sri Lanka from north to south offline and online in the past two years. Training 2,482 school students, 566 teachers and 418 university students

Nextgen gave some girls their first technology experience changing their career expectations. University Girls learned in-demand industry skills which were not taught in their univer-

sities and got better internships and jobs.

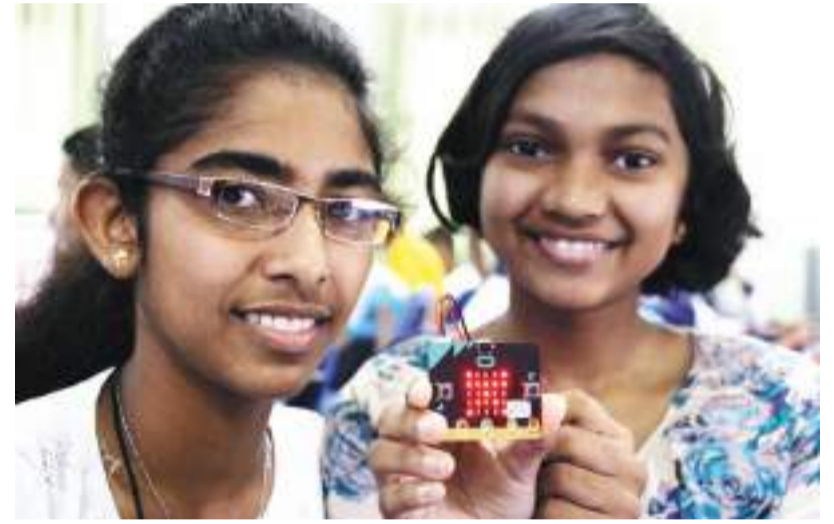
Responding to Covid-19 global pandemic NextGen started online training in April 2020 and trained 1,318 students, 528 teachers, 122 university students with 1,968 beneficiaries in total.

Our Impact multiplied with other organisations, telecentres using our content, tools and model to start coding training. The project was also recognised by International Telecommunication Union as a Champion of WSIS Prizes 2020. Nextgen Girls in Technology program is supported by Dialog Idearmart, Internet Society, APNIC Foundation, ISIF Asia, Google Education, Adobe and Computer Society of Sri Lanka

## Shilpa Sayura Foundation

Shilpa Sayura Foundation was founded in 2005 with the partnership assistance of ICTA e Sri Lanka national project for Digital Development and Innovation. Shilpa Sayura enabled rural youth digital access to national education, media creation for social change and internet technology and skills development.

Shilpa Sayura helped rural education development through Nenasala telecentres and schools Islandwide during the past 14 years. Currently, Shilpa Sayura provides ICT and STEM education from grade 6 to 13 through shilpa64.lk and Creative skills, advanced ICT skills training for teachers, University and School students sup-



ported by Google Education, Internet Society, Adobe Inc, APNIC foundation and Dialog Idearmart.

Shilpa Sayura has won a number of international awards for education innovation and impact including i4D award in 2007, Stockholm challenge

2008, Microsoft youth solutions 2011, ITU WSIS 2020 championship 2020, Adobe Aspire award 2013, World Summit Youth Award (WSYA) 2013, DISKO-BOLOS international award 2008 and Global Knowledge Partnerships (GKP) Award 2007.

## Peradeniya University collaborates with Moscow City Clinical Hospital

A video-conference was held between the Medical Faculty of University of Peradeniya and Moscow City Clinical 52 to discuss areas and aspects for further collaboration in experts' opinion exchange, online interaction, research and education and signing of an MOU between the University and the Clinical Hospital.

In his introductory remarks, Ambassador Prof. M.D. Lamawansa underlined the first steps to establish links between the two institutions. Dean of the Medical Faculty Prof. Asiri Abeygunawardana spoke about the main activity of the Centre for Education, Research and Training on Kidney Diseases of the University with specific attention to the prevalence of chronic kidney disease of unknown origin in the country.

Prof. Thushara Kudagammana presented on paediatric allergic diseases and asthma in Sri Lanka, highlighting the pressing issues and developments with regard to diagnostics and therapeutic options,



training and research, while Dr. Champa Ratnatunga made a presentation on covering the general information on Laboratory Immunology, laboratory infrastructure and specified the areas where diagnostics and research capabilities need to be further developed.

From Russian side, Dr. Darya

Fomina briefed about the clinical and scientific resources of the regional centre for allergy and immunology, focal problems and achievements, and ongoing projects on international cooperation and Dr. Oleg Kotenko spoke about the history of Moscow City Clinical and Scientific Center of Nephrology, Kidney Transplant Pathology and Urology, developed methodology, cumulative experience, structure and innovative multidisciplinary telemedicine approaches of the centre.

The participants expressed their readiness to cooperate in the possible areas of mutual benefit.

Moscow City Clinical Hospital was represented by its President Prof. Vladimir Vtorenko and his experts. From the University of Peradeniya, Dean of the Medical Faculty Prof. Asiri Abeygunawardana and his professional team took part in the discussion.

Ambassador Prof. M.D. Lamawansa and the Embassy team facilitated the meeting.

## B.Ed (Hons) Early Childhood Education Degree HORIZON CAMPUS INTRODUCES E-LEARNING MODE

Horizon Campus that carries a strong reputation for excellence and in topping the list for offering the best degree in Early Childhood Education in the country, recently introduced an e-learning mode for this well renowned degree due to popular demand.

Horizon Campus CEO Ajitha Wanasinghe said that an encouraging demand for early childhood educators prevailed at present. He said that both national and international shortages in the early childhood education sector have been prevalent for years. Today, with a renewed focus on the importance and benefits of a strong pre-school education, and with the recognition that early childhood educators can make a difference in the lifelong learning experiences of their students, the field of early childhood education was growing at a relatively faster rate for the first time in several decades, thereby making the outlook and prospects even better for the next generation of teachers.

He said that today's aspiring early childhood educators had a robust career ahead of them, with a wave of new jobs and opportunities to advance and grow professionally within individual employment settings across the sector. Henceforth, it was decided by the management of Hori-



zon Campus to conduct this part time program virtually.

Those who successfully obtain their undergraduate degree in early childhood education had several career options open to them, with great employment prospects that include a good balance of both public teaching positions and private institutions and even overseas. This means that an investment made in training and education in this field will be rewarded with plenty of career opportunities, as there is virtually zero unemployment in this field, which is not expected to change any time soon.

The normal career path in early childhood education will generally follow an upward path of promotions. One can start by working in a preschool and then move on to designing curriculum or working for private education companies that will need the guidance of teachers to develop learning tools and products

aimed at young learners and can even eventually move to a policy or management position in education.

He added that Horizon Campus's Early Childhood Education Degree, keeping in line with industry requirements, covers a comprehensive curriculum that gives a foundation in specialty training in childhood development, literacy, diversity and behaviour. Through the coursework, participants will learn how to establish expectations, develop teaching plans, work with developmental needs, partner with parents and set their students on the path to a life full of success. The aim, he said, was to enable their students to become outstanding early childhood teachers, decision makers, and intellectual and ethical leaders.

He concluded by saying that by gaining the right qualifications and with plenty of concentrations and many career avenues to pursue, early childhood education today is stated as a great choice for those who relate well with children and have a passion for teaching and has become a career for life, with opportunities for progression into leadership positions in the field of education.

For further information or Registrations, call Ishara 071-5563288 or visit the Horizon Campus website on [www.horizoncampus.edu.lk](http://www.horizoncampus.edu.lk).

## CMA National Management Accounting Conference – 2020

**BUSINESS 2030 – GLOBAL IMPACT AND VALUE CREATION IN THE NEXT NORMAL - OCTOBER 21 AND 22**



**Ajith Nivard Cabraal**  
State Minister of Money and Capital Market and State Enterprise Reforms



**Prof. Mervyn E. King**  
Chair Emeritus of the International Integrated Reporting Council (IIRC) London



**Prof. Lakshman R. Watawala**  
Founder President CMA - Sri Lanka

The Institute of Certified Management Accountants of Sri Lanka holds its 17th annual flagship event the CMA National Management Accounting Conference 2020 on the theme 'Business 2030 - Global Impact and Value Creation in the Next Normal' on October 21 and 22 from 2.00pm to 6.00pm comprising four technical sessions. The National Professional Management Accounting Institution incorporated by Act of Parliament No. 23 of 2009.

This year due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, CMA will hold 'Virtual Conference' to the Members of CMA, Business Community and Government Sector. They will be invited to attend the webinar free of charge and benefit from the conference.

The conference brings together local and foreign expertise to help participants navigate through the challenges that faced today responding effectively and quickly to new technologies.

Covid-19 pandemic has infected millions of people and brought economic activity to a near-standstill as countries imposed tight restrictions on movement to halt the spread of the virus. It's not only health crisis, it's also restricted the global economic order and remote learning became a lifeline for education but the opportunities that digital technologies offer go well beyond a stopgap solution during a crisis.

The Inaugural session will be on October 21 on the topic 'Overcoming Covid-19 impact and Navigating to the Next Economy'. The keynote address will be delivered by State Minister of Money and Capital Market and State Enterprise Reforms Ajith Nivard Cabraal. The session will be chaired by Founder President, CMA Sri Lanka



**Prof. Ho Yew Kee**  
Professor of Accounting Singapore Institute of Technology



**Gayani De Alwis**  
Chairperson, Global WiLAT

Prof. Lakshman R. Watawala who will detail about the outline of the conference. The session will be moderated by Dinesh Weerakkody, Chairman, the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce.

The second session will be on 'Re-positioning Higher and Professional Education in the Next Economy'. The keynote address will be delivered by Prof. Ho Yew Kee, Professor of Accounting, Singapore Institute of Technology and the session will be moderated by Assoc. Prof. Luckmika Perera, Director (Education) - Centre for Integrated Reporting, Faculty of Business and Law, Deakin University.

The third and fourth session will be on October 22 on the topics 'Sustainability and Creating Long Term Value in the Next Normal' and 'The Impact of Covid-19 on Global Supply Chain in the Next Normal'. The keynote address will be delivered by Prof. Mervyn E. King, Chair Emeritus of the International Integrated Reporting Council (IIRC) London.

Gayani De Alwis, Chairperson, Global WiLAT. Sessions will be moderated by A.N. Raman, Advisory Council Member, CMA Sri Lanka and Past President SAFA and Adrian Perera, Council Member, CMA Sri Lanka.

Each session will have a keynote address and followed by a panel discussion where eminent panellists will contribute their views on the topics and will conclude with a question and answer session where participants will also have an opportunity to discuss practical applications and obtain clarifications via chat option.

The webinar is meant for: Members of CMA Sri Lanka and other Professional Accounting Bodies, Finance Directors, CEOs, CFOs, Finance Managers, Accountants, Financial Analysts and other Accounting and Finance Professionals and Academics.

Those who wish to attend are requested to send an e-mail to: [registrations@cma-srilanka.org](mailto:registrations@cma-srilanka.org) on or before October 19.





It is our passion to search for the best talent to take the Company to greater heights in order to sustain our continued growth. If you have the talent, confidence & passion to achieve the impossible and Believe in quality, join our team!

**ATLAS COPCO AIR COMPRESSOR DAVISON**

**TECHNICIANS / TRAINEE TECHNICIANS (INDUSTRIAL)**

- Requirements
- Certificate from CGTTI, NAITA or any recognized Technical Institute.
  - Should have knowledge of Hydraulic & Pneumatic system and Mill Wright course at CGTTI would be added qualification.
  - Male of age below 40 years with valid driving/riding license

**AC TECHNICIANS / TRAINEE AC TECHNICIANS**

- Requirements
- Certificate from CGTTI, NAITA or any recognized Technical Institute in the field of Refrigeration/Air Conditioning
  - Male of age below 40 years with valid driving/riding license

**ELECTRICIANS (INDUSTRIAL)**

- Requirements
- Certificate from CGTTI, NAITA or any recognized Technical Institute in the field of Electrical
  - Should have knowledge of VSD/Electronic repair & trouble shooting with 2-3 years experience in the same field would be added qualification.
  - Male of age below 40 years with valid driving/riding license

An attractive remuneration packages with other fringe benefits are on offer for the right candidate.

Please forward / E-mail your application within 07 days of this advertisement.

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The Housewives' companion  
 Classifieds on  
**Daily News**

**VACANCY**

A BOI approved, market leader, in the business of Paper based packaging for over 25 years, is looking for high caliber individuals.

**Business Development Manager**

The candidate should have a pleasing and outgoing personality together with excellent communication, presentation, writing and negotiation skills. Relationship building and inter-personal skills should be at the highest level.

He/she should be a qualified marketer (CIM/SLIM/or similar). An MBA from a recognized institute/university will be advantageous.

The candidate should have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar capacity. Exposure to the printing/packaging industry would be an advantage, but not the deciding factor.

**Asst. Sales Manager / Key Account Executive (Offset Div.)**

The candidate should have a minimum of 3 years' experience in a similar capacity. Exposure to the offset printing & packaging industry is required.

An attractive remuneration package is on offer for the selected candidate.

Please submit your CV, stating the designation applied for, in the subject line, including the names of 2 non-related referees to,

Human Resources Manager,  
**Econopack Industries (Pvt) Ltd.,**  
 101, New Galle Road, Galthude, Bandaragama.  
 Email: hr@econopackltd.com



**Your lifeline for life**

**VACANCIES IN LIFE INSURANCE SALES & DISTRIBUTION**

LIC Lanka Ltd., in partnership with the Bartlett Group, represents the world's largest life insurance organization in the world - LIC of India. As a well-established member of Sri Lanka's life insurance industry, we offer a range of carefully designed life protection solutions for all Sri Lankans. These include sensible investment funds and personal saving plan that provide attractive return to all our customers.

Expanded marketing activity has created the following opportunities for qualified candidates to join our progressive team.

**BRANCH MANAGERS , ASSISTANT BRANCH MANAGERS AND MARKETING ASSISTANTS (SALES) (MALE / FEMALE)**

**PROFILE**

- Category 01 - Young university graduates who are interested in pursuing a sales career.
  - Category 02 - Presently working in the insurance industry.
  - Category 03 - Out side the Insurance industry but interested to switch "Career" and make a success in the field of Insurance.
- Your ability to speak in Sinhala / Tamil / English will have a distinct advantage. Should be below 45 years of age.

**OPERATIONAL AREAS**

Gampaha, Kurunegala, Negambo, Chilaw, Puttalam, Balangoda, Bandarawela, Colombo and Suburbs

You may suggest the preferred areas of working, as well in the application.

**REWARD**

The remuneration package is re-drafted to suit to the best in the Industry and negotiable at the selection interview.

Send in your application together with the names of 2 non related referees whilst indicating the position applied for on the top left hand corner of the envelope, to reach the under signed on or before 26th October. Email applicants should indicate the position applied for on the subject bar and should be mailed to [careers@liclanka.com](mailto:careers@liclanka.com)

Senior Manager - Human resource and Administration  
 Life Insurance Corporation (Lanka) Ltd  
 Sharnell Building, 29/2, Visaka Road, Colombo 04

[www.liclanka.com](http://www.liclanka.com)

**BE PART OF THE TECHNOLOGY TEAM SHAPING THE FUTURE OF SRI LANKA**



Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka (ICTA) is the apex government entity spearheading the national digital transformation journey. As the agency for driving the national digital agenda, ICTA is entrusted to action the digital strategy of the vision for vistas of prosperity and splendor.

ICTA plays an integral role in building a digitally inclusive nation by delivering efficient and citizen-centric digital government solutions, facilitating a strong digital economy with technology diffusion and innovation to build a prosperous country.

**Competent and passionate technology professionals are invited to join hands with us to realize the digital transformation journey of Sri Lanka.**

**Positions Required**

- Software Architect
- Technical Lead (Fullstack Java/JS)
- Senior Software Engineer (Fullstack Java/JS)
- Software Engineer (Fullstack Java/JS)
- Software Engineer - Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- DevOps / Site Reliability Engineer (SRE)
- Senior Software Support Engineer
- Senior UI/UX Engineer
- Project Manager

- Associate Project Manager
- Software Quality Assurance (QA) Lead
- Software Quality Assurance (QA) Engineer
- Lead Information Security Engineer
- Business Analyst (Product Manager)
- Senior Systems Engineer (Cloud)
- Systems Engineer (Cloud)
- Internal IT / Tech Support Engineer
- Lead Data Engineer

Use the following link to obtain details of the job roles.  
<https://www.icta.lk/careers>

**Chief Executive Officer**  
 The Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka  
 160/24, Kirimandala Mawatha, Colombo 05

94 112369099 @icta\_srilanka www.icta.lk

The selected candidates will get an opportunity to be part of the technology team who builds and manages the foundational software platforms and digital infrastructure which serve hundreds of government organizations touching the lives of millions of citizens on a daily basis.

Please forward your application along with contact details of two non-related referees within 14 days of this advertisement to [careers@icta.lk](mailto:careers@icta.lk). Indicate the position applied for, in the subject line of the email. Only short-listed applicants will be contacted.

The selected candidate will receive an attractive remuneration package, in keeping with the market standards.



State Ministry of Coconut, Kithul and Palmyrah Cultivation Promotion and Related Industrial Product Manufacturing & Export Diversifications  
**COCONUT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

Applications are hereby invited from the citizens of Sri Lanka who are well-experienced and have necessary qualifications with regard to the undermentioned posts presently vacant at the Coconut Development Authority.

**1. Post : Director (Administration)**

No. of Vacancies : 01

Service Category : Senior Management Level (HM 1-1)

Salary Scale : Rs. 80,295/= 15x2,270/= Rs.114,345/- (HM 1-1 2016) (Per month) - + approved Government Allowances.

**Educational Qualifications and Experience:**

**For External Applicants:**

Should have obtained a first Degree from a university recognized by the University Grants Commission in the fields of Public Administration/ Business Administration/Management/Law with a Post graduate Degree of the relevant field.

WITH

At least 15 years experience in Managerial level relevant to the field in a government or government recognized institution.

**For Internal Applicants:**

Should have completed satisfactory period of service & not less than 05 years in a related field in a Managerial level (MM 1- 1) with the salary scale of Grade 1 of the Coconut Development Authority.

**Age Limit:**

Candidates should not be less than 35 years of age and be not more than 50 years as at the closing date of applications. The upper age limit would not be applicable to Applicants already in the services of Government Depts./ Provincial Government/ State Corporations/ Statutory Boards and Permanent Service in the Coconut Development Authority.

**Method of Selection:** By a Structured Interview.

Transport facilities are provided as per the Public Enterprises Circular Nos. 1/2015 and 1/2015 (1)

**2. Post : Director (Processing Development)**

No. of Vacancies : 01

Service Category : Senior Management Level (HM 1-1)

Salary Scale : Rs. 80,295/= 15x2,270/= Rs.114,345/- (HM 1-1 2016) (Per month) - + approved Government Allowances.

**Educational Qualifications and Experience:**

**For External Applicants:**

- Should have obtained a Bachelor's Degree from a university recognized by the University Grants Commission in the fields of Science (with a subject of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Agriculture, Food Science) or should have obtained a first Degree in the fields of Engineering /Technology

WITH

A Postgraduate Degree qualification (Masters') in the relevant field or Corporate Membership of a recognized professional Chartered Institute, which is relevant to the subject area of the post.

AND

Should have at least 15 years experience in Managerial level relevant to the field in a Government, State Corporation / Statutory Board or recognized private institution.

OR

- Full Membership of a recognized professional Chartered Institution in a related field to the post.

AND

Should have at least 15 years experience in Managerial level relevant to the field in a Government, State Corporation / Statutory Board or recognized private institution.

**For Internal Applicants:**

Having obtained the qualifications required by the external candidates above.

OR

Should have completed satisfactory period of service of not less than 05 years in a related field in the Management level (MM 1- 1) Grade 1 of the Coconut Development Authority.

**Age Limit:**

Candidates should not be less than 35 years of age and be not more than 55 years as at the closing date of applications. The upper age limit would not be applicable to applicants already in the Permanent Service in the Coconut Development Authority.

**Method of Selection:** By a Structured Interview

Transport facilities are provided as per the Public Enterprises Circular Nos. 1/2015 and 1/2015 (1)

**3. Post : Assistant Director (Processing Development)**

No. of Vacancies : 01

Service Category : Middle Management Level (MM 1-1)

Salary Scale : Rs. 53,175/-, 10x1,375/-, 15x1,910/- = Rs. 95,575/- (MM 1-1 2016) (Per month) + approved Government Allowances.

**Educational Qualifications and Experience:**

**For External Applicants:**

Should have obtained a Science degree from a university, recognized by the University Grants Commission in the fields of Pure / Applied / Biology, Agricultural Science.

WITH

At least 03 years of experience in the relevant field of a government or government institution after obtaining the above qualification.

**For Internal Applicants:**

Should have completed satisfactory period of service of not less than 05 years in a related field in a Junior Management level (JM 1- 2) with the salary scale of grade 11 of the Coconut Development Authority.

OR

Should have obtained a Science degree from a university, recognized by the University Grants Commission in the fields of Pure / Applied / Biology, Agricultural Science.

WITH

A Minimum of five (5) years satisfactory service in a related field with a salary scale of the MA-3 Category.

**Age Limit:**

Candidates should not be less than 22 years of age and be not more than 45 years as at closing date of applications. The upper age limit would not be applicable to applicants already in the services of Government Depts./ Provincial Government/ State Corporations/ Statutory Boards and Permanent Service in the Coconut Development Authority.

**Method of Selection:** Written competitive examination and / or a structured interview

**Other:**

For all the above posts

- Should be a citizen of Sri Lanka
- To perform the duties assigned to the post well and to any part of the country Must be physically and mentally fit to serve.
- Must be of excellent character.

**Benefits:**

For all the above posts

- Gratuity under the Act. No. 12 of 1983.
- Covered under a staff Medical Insurance Scheme and Personal Accident Insurance Scheme/Workmen Compensation Insurance Scheme
- Employees' Provident Fund (EPF), Employee -10%, Employer 15% and Employees' Trust Fund (ETF) 3% Contribution by Employer.
- Other fringe benefits applicable to employees of the Authority.

Application of the candidates inclusive of the details of the applicant's present employment, salary particulars, previous positions held with duration and names and addresses of two non-related referees, and all the other particulars of the applicants together with copies of Birth Certificate, Educational, Professional & service certificates thereof, should be forwarded under registered cover to reach on or before 12.11.2020. The post applied for should be indicated on the top left-hand corner of the envelope.

Applications from employees in Government Departments / Provincial Government Service / State Corporations / Statutory Boards should forward their applications through the respective Heads of Institutions and applicants who are already in permanent service in the Coconut Development Authority should forward their applications through the respective Divisional Heads of the Authority.

Applications received after the closing date or sent without copies of the abovementioned certificates or not sent through Heads of Departments/Institutions will be rejected.

This advertisement may be downloaded from CDA website - www.cda.gov.lk

Chairman  
Coconut Development Authority  
No. 54, Nawala Road, Narahenpita,  
Colombo 05.



Ministry of Health

The Global Fund

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

GLOBAL FUND PROJECT

TUBERCULOSIS COMPONENT (LKA-T-MOH)

**Vacancy**

The Ministry of Health is the Principal Recipient of 3 grants amounting to over US\$ 8.7 million awarded by the Global Fund for the period 01st January 2019 to 31st December 2021. The components (on project support) are involved in the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis, as well as the prevention of reintroduction of Malaria in Sri Lanka (on budget support).

Applications are called from qualified and experienced individuals for the following position at the Tuberculosis (TB) Component of the Global Fund Project.

**POST OF 'PROJECT OFFICER' - TB Component, Global Fund Project**

- 01 vacancy - Contract Basis

(Management Service Circular No. 01/2019; Service Code: PS - 06: Category A)

A fulltime service of a "Project Officer" is required for the TB Grant of the Global Fund Project to support activities of the Component. Project Officer will assist Project Manager to provide programmatic, financial guidance; and coordinate with central, provincial and regional level officers regarding timely submission of proposals and other documents. He/she will also involve in preparation of annual activity plans, strategic plans, budget plans related to funding proposals and report to the Project Manager.

The Project Officer reports to the Project Manager/Grant Director, TB Grant and will be based at the National Programme for Tuberculosis Control and Chest Diseases, Public Health Complex, Narahenpita, Colombo 05.

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Contribute to the overall process of the Project while coordinating specific activities assigned by the Grant Director.
- Scrutinize and review all documents submitted by districts and activity coordinators at the centre and identify any document deficiencies and ensure getting down the missing documents by contacting relevant officers/district level authorities.
- Ensure timely payments of advances to the districts / timely settlements of advances from districts and maintenance of records pertaining to advance payments.
- Provide assistance in the reviews done by authorized auditing firms, Internal Auditors and Government Auditors
- Carry out data collection, data entry and assist in data analysis.
- Provide assistance in the preparation of the TB Performance Update Disbursement Report (PUDR) and collect and compile on programme related data that are necessary for the completion of the PUDR
- Coordinate and assist the execution of surveys, annual activity plans, strategic plans, budget plans related to funding proposals and prepare/compiling reports.
- Liaise with and assist appropriate staff members of the Global Fund Project and/or counterpart officials such as MoH, regional officials, other project partners and stakeholders regarding timely submission of proposals and other documents and in implementation of the Global Fund activities.
- Coordinate, organize and provide logistical and administrative support (such as arranging appointments, translating the local language into English and vice versa, collecting/distributing materials and information as necessary, prepare minutes after workshops, trainings and meetings) for stakeholder and other meetings undertaken by the Global Fund Project National and International workshops, exchange visits in relation to project activities trainings and other project management discussions.
- Assist with monitoring and evaluation activities of the Project.
- Assist/support other grants of the Global Fund Project of the Ministry of Health, if and when needed.
- Any other Global Fund Project related activities entrusted by Supervising authorities.

**REQUIRED EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE, SKILLS & COMPETENCIES:**

- A Bachelor's Degree in the relevant field which is recognized by the University Grants Commission or A qualification recognized by the University Grants Commission as an equivalent qualification to the degree in the relevant field or An associate membership/ A similar professional qualification obtained from a recognized professional institution in the relevant field or Having obtained a certificate of proficiency not below than the National Vocational Qualification Level 7, issued by a Technical/Vocational Training Institute accepted by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission for the post related to Technical field.  
Having obtained a certificate of proficiency not below than the National Vocational Qualification Level 6, issued by a Technical/ Vocational Training Institute accepted by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission for the post related to Technical field and At least 05 years of experience in the required area of specialization.  
Having obtained a certificate of proficiency not below than the National Vocational Qualification Level 5, issued by a Technical/ Vocational Training Institute accepted by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission for the post related to Technical field and At least 10 years of experience in the required area of specialization.
- Postgraduate degree in Project Management will be an added advantage.
- Preference will be given to those who have at least 3 years' prior work experience in a similar capacity in foreign funded projects, especially in the public sector
- Strong computer skills adept at statistical software, spreadsheet, word processing, presentation, internet and email software is a must.
- Highest proficiency in English is required with fluency in Sinhala and/or Tamil language.
- Demonstrated communication skills (written and oral) and negotiation /consultation skills is required.
- Proactive with high level of ownership of work and team player.

**GENERAL CONDITIONS:**

- The duty station will be Colombo but may need to travel to project implementation sites all over the country.
- Age should be below 64 years as at 31.12. 2020.
- Recruitment will be on contract basis.
- The initial contract will be for one year and then till 31.12.2021 until the end of the current funding cycle. The first three months will be on probation. The contract period is renewable, through the satisfactory performance demonstrated at a formal performance appraisal by the Supervising Officers and Global Fund written approval.
- Salary is as per PS 06: Category A of the Management Services Circular No. 01/2019 - 15.03.2019. (Rs. 55,000.00 + Rs. 7,800.00 = Rs. 62,800.00)
- The contribution of the employer to EPF is 12% and ETF is 3% of the salary. The EPF contribution of the employee is 8% of the salary.
- Selected applicant should be able to take up the assignment within reasonable time period preferably within one month.
- Candidates who are already in the public service should send their applications through the relevant Heads of the Departments / CEO of the Agency who should indicate that the candidate could be released in the event of being selected to the post.
- Only short-listed candidates will be called for an interview.

**All applications should be sent through post or via email along with the CV and copies of relevant certificates and documents (essential) in order to prove the qualifications and experience, which otherwise will not be considered.**

State the position you are applying ("Application for the post of 'Project Officer', TB Component, Global Fund Project") on top of the left side of the envelope to reach the address below.

**Closing Date: 01<sup>st</sup> November 2020**

**The Project Director,**

Project Management Unit - Global Fund Project, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Public Health Complex,  
No. 555/5, Elvitigala Mawatha, Colombo 05.

Email: [vacancygfatm@gmail.com](mailto:vacancygfatm@gmail.com) | Tel No: 0112581918 | Fax: 0112368885



Owned by Browns Investments PLC and LOLC Holdings PLC being its parent Company, BI Commodities & Logistics (Pvt) Ltd is the leading service provider in "Timber preservation industry" by treating of structural timber by Vacuum Pressure Impregnation technique. It also has the state of the art "Kiln drying" facility to add value to the service as "One stop Shop". The treatment process has the ISO 9001: 2015 certification and this ensures quality and service in treatment service.

Further, having the treating facility, BICL is the market leader in manufacturing and supplying of treated "Wooden pallets and Crates" to the export market in line with the quarantine regulations and also to logistics operations in Sri Lanka.

We seek for an energetic, result oriented individual who can work independently and perform under pressure conditions

**Business Development Executive / Assistant Business Development Manager**

**Job Profile**

- Developing, maintaining, and improving relationships with key accounts to maintain a high level of service, client satisfaction and loyalty.
- Researching and identifying sales opportunities, generating leads, and targeting potential clients to boost sales
- Being aware of current market changes and trends to be able to come up with new sales strategies.
- Tracking sales goals and reporting results as necessary
- Managing organizational sales by developing a business plan that covers sales, revenue and expense controls.

**Applicants should possess:**

- Adaptive personality with the ability to learn and apply new sales strategies quickly
- Exceptional communication and interpersonal skills
- Being resourceful, energetic, driven, and structured
- Strong organizational, operational, and planning skills in a sales focused environment
- A part or full qualification in marketing /sales or any other relevant field.
- Up to 3 years' experience in the field of sales and marketing specially in the corporate and project market.
- Age between 25 - 35

The selected candidates can look forward for an attractive remuneration package along with a rewarding career.

Send us your CV within 7 days through [Careers@brownsinvestments.com](mailto:Careers@brownsinvestments.com)

- Mark the position applied for as reference
- Canvassing in any form will result in disqualification



Our client, a leading listed conglomerate with a local and global presence is on the lookout for an experienced, dynamic and self-driven professional to join their team as;

# COMPANY SECRETARY

Reporting to the Group Chief Financial Officer, the selected candidate would be responsible in leading the Secretarial Practice of the Group and ensuring the integrity of the governance framework is maintained, whilst fostering an efficient administration within the Group function.

**Key Responsibilities**

- Organise and attend Board and Sub-committee meetings and preparation of notices, agenda, resolutions and preparation of minutes for all legal entities of the Group including listed and unlisted companies.
- Coordinate and sustain a good relationship with the Chief Executive Officer, Members of the Board and other relevant stakeholders.
- Maintain effective networking and good partnership relationships with the relevant authorities such as the Colombo Stock Exchange, Registrar of Companies etc.
- Ensure compliance with the statutory and regulatory requirements across all group companies.
- Review with Statutory and Internal Auditors on all Secretarial practice areas and support the units in ensuring compliances with audit notes / observations.
- Maintain and update the Statutory Registers, Insider Trading Register and records and filing of various returns for the Company.
- Demonstrate a good knowledge and understanding of the Companies Act, Stock Exchange Rules and Corporate Governance to update the Board accordingly.
- To work closely with the Annual Report preparation team.
- To oversee and lead the day to day operations and administration of the Company Secretariat Department.
- Leading, guiding and developing team members of the Corporate Secretarial Department.

**Ideal Candidate**

- An Attorney-at-law or a Fellow member of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (UK).
- Possess at least 10 years of experience in a Corporate Secretarial Department of which 5 years or above at a senior leadership level in a similar Corporate establishment.
- Excellent teamwork skills and attention to detail.
- Ability to build and maintain a close rapport across the separate businesses and units.
- Exceptional written and verbal communication skills in English.

The remuneration package will be attractive and negotiable and commensurate with the pre requisites applicable to a managerial position in the company.

Please forward your complete resume in PDF format with contact details of two non-related referees to [mslr@slt.net.lk](mailto:mslr@slt.net.lk) within 10 days of this advertisement quoting **MSL Ref.No.7534** in the subject line of your e-mail.



✉ No: 08 Tickell Road, Colombo 08.  
 📧 [mslr@slt.net.lk](mailto:mslr@slt.net.lk)  
 🌐 [www.bposrilanka.com](http://www.bposrilanka.com)



# VACANCIES @ LANWA SANSTHA WANE

Ceylon Steel Corporation Ltd., under the brand name "LANWA Sanstha Wane", the pioneer in the steel manufacturing industry in Sri Lanka, is today the undisputed market leader with cutting-edge technology and leading steel solutions for the construction industry.

The company, in its present expansion programmes, is looking for team spirited, result oriented individuals with passion and dynamism for the following vacancy.

## MANAGER – Corporate Sales

**REQUIREMENTS**

- A Bachelor's Degree in Business Management or Diploma in the field of Sales Management from a recognized local or foreign institution
- Minimum 10 year's work experience in the construction industry. Priority will be given for those who have technical related sales experience in a similar capacity
- Exceptional communication skills in English, both verbal and written
- Well-organized and responsible with an aptitude to problem-solving
- Energetic with enthusiasm and passion to work as a team
- Age over 40 years

If you are highly motivated & result oriented, here is your chance to fast-forward your carrier prospects. An attractive remuneration package awaits the right candidate.

If interested,

Please apply within 14 days of this advertisement, with contact details of two non related referees, to:

[vacancies@ceylonsteel.com](mailto:vacancies@ceylonsteel.com)

Please state the position applied for on the subject line.

Ceylon Steel Corporation Limited, Oruwala, Athurugiriya, Sri Lanka.

Tel: 011220 6095 [www.ceylonsteel.com](http://www.ceylonsteel.com)

# VACANCIES



## NATIONAL WATER SUPPLY & DRAINAGE BOARD (Ministry of Water Supply)

### POSTS OF SYSTEMS ENGINEER & DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR

National Water Supply & Drainage Board (NWS&DB) is the leading government agency responsible for provision of Water Supply and Sewerage facilities to the people of Sri Lanka. The Board presently provides piped water to about 08 million people through more than 2 million service connections. It is a prestigious Organization having a large number of Professionals. Activities of the Board are being expanded to achieve the government's objective of piped water coverage up to 75 % and safe water coverage up to 100 % in Sri Lanka by the year 2024.

Applications are hereby invited from Citizens of Sri Lanka, for vacancies existing in the above-mentioned posts. The applicants should possess the following qualifications and experience.

#### 01. SYSTEMS ENGINEER

**Qualifications & Experience:**

- Bachelor's Degree in Engineering (Computer Engineering) from a recognized University in Sri Lanka.

**Salary Code** : MM 1-1

**Salary Scale** : Rs. 105,718 – 10 x 2,254 – 128,258/= p.m. plus cost of living allowance & other allowances.

**Board Grade** : 6

**Criterion of Selection** : Interview

- Fringe Benefits** :
- \* Annual Bonus Payment, Productivity Allowance, Professional Allowance.
  - \* Encashment of un-availed medical leave.
  - \* Medical reimbursement scheme.
  - \* Housing loans through the Government Banks
  - \* Distress loans on concessionary terms.

#### 02. DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR

**Qualifications & Experience :**

- B.Sc. Degree in Computer Science / Information Technology from a recognized University or equivalent qualifications.

OR

- B.Sc. Degree in Engineering / Mathematics / Statistics from a recognized University or equivalent qualifications with 2 years experience as a Database Administrator in a recognized IT related institution.

**Salary Code** : JM 1-2

**Salary Scale** : Rs.83,763 – 15 x 1,725 – 109,638 p.m. plus cost of living allowance & other allowances.

**Board Grade** : 7

**Criterion of Selection** : Interview

- Fringe Benefits** :
- \* Annual Bonus Payment & Productivity Allowance.
  - \* Encashment of un-availed medical leave.
  - \* Medical reimbursement scheme.
  - \* Housing loans through the Government Banks
  - \* Distress loans on concessionary terms.

**Age Limit** : Not more than 45 years of age on the closing date of applications. This age limit will not apply to the candidates in the Government Sector Organizations. Their applications should be forwarded through the respective Heads of their Institutions.

Applications with complete Bio-data along with copies of all relevant testimonials should be forwarded under registered post to reach the Additional General Manager (Human Resources Management), National Water Supply & Drainage Board, Galle Road, Ratmalana on or before 02nd November, 2020. The post applied for should be marked on the top left-hand corner of the envelope. The applications to which the relevant certificates are not attached will be rejected. An additional copy of the application should be sent by e-mail to [vacancies@waterboard.lk](mailto:vacancies@waterboard.lk). Post of "Systems Engineer" or "Database Administrator" should be mentioned in the "subject" line.

**General Manager**

**National Water Supply & Drainage Board,  
 Galle Road,  
 Ratmalana.**



State Ministry of Coconut, Kithul and Palmyrah Cultivation Promotion and Related Industrial Product Manufacturing & Export Diversifications

# Coconut Development Authority

## VACANCIES

Applications are hereby invited from the citizens of Sri Lanka who are well experienced and necessary qualifications with regard to the undermentioned posts presently vacant at the Coconut Development Authority.

**1. Post : Programme Assistant (Internal Audit)**

No. of Vacancies : 02

Service Category : Associate Officer(MA -3)

Salary Scale : Rs.32,200/-, 10x445/-, 11x660/-, 10x730/-, 5x750/- = Rs.54,960/- (MA 3-2016) (Per month) + Approved Government Allowances.

**Educational Qualifications:**

Should have obtained a Degree from a University, recognized by the University Grants Commission in the fields of Commerce/Accounting/Business Administration/ Public Administration/ Management.

**2. Post : Programme Assistant (Processing Development)**

No. of Vacancies : 02

Service Category : Associate Officer(MA -3)

Salary Scale : Rs.32,200/-, 10x445/-, 11x660/-, 10x730/-, 5x750/- = Rs.54,960/- (MA 3-2016) (Per month) + Approved Government Allowances.

**Educational Qualifications:**

Should have obtained a degree from a university, recognized by the University Grants Commission in the fields of Chemistry, Pure Science, Applied Science or Agriculture Science.

**3. Post : Programme Assistant (Technical Service)**

No. of Vacancies : 13

Service Category : Associate Officer(MA -3)

Salary Scale : Rs.32,200/-, 10x445/-, 11x660/-, 10x730/-, 5x750/- = Rs.54,960/- (MA 3-2016) (Per month) + Approved Government Allowances.

**Educational Qualifications:**

Should have obtained a degree from a university recognized by the University Grants Commission in the fields of Science /Agriculture /Engineering.

**4. Post : Programme Assistant (Quality Control)**

No. of Vacancies : 02

Service Category : Associate Officer(MA -3)

Salary Scale : Rs.32,200/-, 10x445/-, 11x660/-, 10x730/-, 5x750/- = Rs.54,960/- (MA 3-2016) (Per month) + Approved Government Allowances.

**Educational Qualifications:**

Should have obtained a degree from a university recognized by the University Grants Commission in the fields of Chemistry, Microbiology, Biochemistry, Botany.

**Age :** Candidates should not be less than 22 years old and not more than 45 years as at closing date of applications. The upper age limit would not be applicable to Applicants already in the services of Government Dept./ Provincial Government/ State Corporations/ Statutory Boards and Permanent Service in the Coconut Development Authority.

**Method of Recruitment :** Written competitive examination and a structured interview

**5. Post : Inspector**

No. Of Vacancies : 10

Service Category : Management Assistant Technical (MA 2-2 )

Salary Scale : Rs.30,310/-, 10x300/-, 7x350/-, 4x600/-, 20x710/- = Rs.52,360/- (MA2-2 2016) (Per month) + Approved Government Allowances.

**Nature of Duties :** The coconut industry will have to engage in full-time field work and work in a non-normal working hour. A special interest is paid to those who possess motorcycle licenses. The relevant official description is detailed in www.cda.lk.

**Qualifications**

**1. Educational Qualifications**

Should have passed G.C.E.(Ordinary Level) Examination in six (06) subjects in one sitting with four (4) credit passes obtained for Sinhala Language / Tamil Language, Mathematics, Science and English.

And

Should have passed all subjects of the G.C.E.(Advanced Level ) Examination in one sitting in the Science stream, (exclusive of the General Common Test)

And

**2. Technical Skills/Competencies:**

Should have followed not less than one year technical Diploma or a certificate course in the relevant field, conducted by the Open University of Sri Lanka, or government Technical Training Institute or any other government or Private Institute which shall meet the Level -05 (NVQ-05) of the National Vocational Qualifications in specified technical skills relevant to the post as determined by the tertiary and Vocational Education Commission. Experience in not less than one (01) year in the relevant field will be considered as an added qualification.

**Age :** Candidates should not be less than 18 years old and not more than 45 years as at closing date of applications. The upper age limit would not be applicable to Applicants already in the services of Government Dept./ Provincial Government/ State Corporations/ Statutory Boards and Permanent Service in the Coconut Development Authority.

**Method of Recruitment :** Written competitive examination and a structured interview.

**06. Post : Technical Assistant (Transport)**

No. Of Vacancies : 01

Service Category : Management Assistant Technical (MA 2-2 )

Salary Scale : Rs.30,310/-, 10x300/-, 7x350/-, 4x600/-, 20x710/- = Rs.52,360/- (MA2-2 2016) (Per month) + Approved Government Allowances.

**Qualifications**

**1. Educational Qualifications**

Should have passed G.C.E. (Ordinary Level) Examination in six (06) subjects in one sitting with four (4) credit passes obtained for Sinhala Language / Tamil Language, Mathematics, Science.

And

Should have passed all subjects of the G.C.E.(Advanced Level ) Examination in one sitting in the Science stream, (exclusive of the General Common Test)

And

**2. Technical Skills/Competencies**

Should have successfully completed and certified a technical course not less than the National Vocational Skills (N.V.Q) level five (05) in Automotive Technology.

**Age :** Candidates should not be less than 18 years old and not more than 45 years as at closing date of applications. The upper age limit would not be applicable to Applicants already in the services of Government Dept./ Provincial Government/ State Corporations/ Statutory Boards and Permanent Service in the Coconut Development Authority.

**Method of Recruitment :** Written competitive examination and a structured interview

**07. Post : Book Keeper**

No. of Vacancies : 02

Service Category : Management Assistant (Technical) (MA -2-2)

Salary Scale : Rs. 30,310/-, 10x300/-, 7x350/-, 4 x 600/-, 20x710/- = Rs.52,360/- (MA 2-2 2016 ) (Per month) + Approved Government Allowances.

**Qualifications (External) :**

**Educational Qualifications**

i. Should have passed G.C.E.(Ordinary Level) Examination in six (06) subjects in one setting with four (04) credit passes including Sinhala Language /Tamil Language, Mathematics and Accounting

And

ii. Should have passed all subjects of the G.C.E.(Advanced Level) Examination in the Commerce stream, and credit pass for the subject of Accounting (Exclusive of the General common test ) in one and the same sitting.

And

iii. Should have followed a computer course in MS Office package at a recognized institute

And

**Technical Skills/Competencies**

Should have completed the final examination of the Association of AccountingTechnicians (AAT)

Or

Diploma in Commerce /Accounting

Or

Should have passed the Foundation Examination of the Institute of Chartered Accounts in Sri Lanka or a similar examination of recognized professional Accountancy Institute

**Qualifications (Internal):**

Should have completed satisfactory period of service not less than 05 Years, in a relevant field, in a post having the Management Assistant Service category of Grade 01 of the Coconut Development Authority. (Final examination in AAT/Commerce/Accounting Diploma/ Foundation Examination of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Sri Lanka as Considered in a added qualifications)

**Age :** Candidates should not be less than 18 years old and not more than 45 years as at closing date of applications. The upper age limit would not be applicable to Applicants already in the services of Government Dept./ Provincial Government/ State Corporations/ Statutory Boards and Permanent Service in the Coconut Development Authority.

**Method of Recruitment:** Written competitive examination and a structured interview

**08. Post : Technical Assistant (Mechanical/Electrical)**

No. Of Vacancies : 01

Service Category : Management Assistant Technical (MA 2-2 )

Salary Scale : Rs.30,310/-, 10x300/-, 7x350/-, 4x600/-, 20x710/- = Rs.52,360/- (MA2-2 2016) (Per month) + Approved Government Allowances.

**Qualifications**

**1. Educational Qualifications**

Should have passed G.C.E.(Ordinary Level) Examination in six (06) subjects in one sitting with four (4) credit passes obtained for Sinhala Language / Tamil Language, Mathematics , Science.

And

Should have passed all subjects of the G.C.E.(Advanced Level ) Examination in one sitting in the Science stream, (exclusive of the General Common Test)

And

**2. Technical Skills/Competencies:**

Should have successfully completed and certified a technical course not less than the National Vocational Skills (N.V.Q) level five (05).

**Age :** Candidates should not be less than 18 years old and not more than 45 years as at closing date of applications. The upper age limit would not be applicable to Applicants already in the services of Government Dept./ Provincial Government/ State Corporations/ Statutory Boards and Permanent Service in the Coconut Development Authority.

**Method of Recruitment :** Written competitive examination and a structured interview

**09. Post : Management Assistant**

No. of Vacancies : 06

Service Category : Management Assistant (NonTech)(MA -1-1)

Salary Scale : Rs.27,910/-, 10x300/-, 7x350/-, 4x495/-, 20x660/- = Rs.48,540/- (MA1-1 2016) (Per month) + Approved Government Allowances.

**Qualifications (External) :**

**Educational Qualifications**

i. Should have passed G.C.E.(Ordinary Level) Examination in six (06) subjects in one sitting with four (04) credit passes including Sinhala Language /Tamil Language, and Mathematics

And

ii. Should have passed all subjects of the G.C.E.(Advanced Level) Examination (Exclusive of the General common test ) in one and the same sitting.

And

iii. Should have followed a computer course in MS Office package at a recognized institute

**Qualifications (Internal) :**

Should have passed G.C.E.(Ordinary Level) Examination in six (06) subjects with four (04) credit passes including Sinhala Language / Tamil Language, and Mathematics

And

Holding permanent posts in a primary, semi-technical or technical service category post in the Coconut Development Authority and having been confirmed in those appointments.

And

Should have completed 05 years of continuous satisfactory service from a permanent appointment prior to the due date

And

Ability to handle computer MS Office package

**Age :** Candidates should not be less than 18 years old and not more than 45 years as at closing date of applications. The upper age limit would not be applicable to Applicants already in the Coconut Development Authority

**Method of Recruitment :** Written competitive examination and structured interview

**Other**

For all the above posts

1. Should be a citizen of Sri Lanka
2. To perform the duties assigned to the post well and to any part of the country Must be physically and mentally fit to service.
3. Must be of excellent character.

**Benefits :**

For all the above posts

1. Gratuity under the Act. No. 12 of 1983.
2. Covered under a staff Medical Insurance Scheme and Personal Accident Insurance Scheme/Workmen Compensation Insurance Scheme.
3. Employees' Provident Fund (EPF), Employee - 10%, Employer 15% and Employees' Trust Fund (ETF) 3% Contribution by Employer.
4. Other fringe benefits applicable to Employees of the Authority.

Application of the candidates inclusive of the details of the applicant's present employment, salary particulars, previous positions held with duration and names and addresses of two non-related referees, and all the other particulars of the applicants together with copies of Birth Certificate, Educational, Professional & service certificates thereof, should be forwarded under registered cover to reach on or before 12.11.2020. The post applied for should be indicated on the top left-hand corner of the envelope.

Applications from employees in Government Departments / Provincial Government Service / State Corporations / Statutory Boards should forward their applications through the respective Head of Institutions and applicants who are already in permanent service in the Coconut Development Authority should forward their applications through the respective Divisional Heads of the Authority.

Applications received after the closing date or Unsigned applications or sent without copies of the above mentioned certificates or not sent through heads of Departments/Institution will be rejected.

This advertisement may be downloaded from CDA web site - www.cda.gov.lk

**Chairman**  
**Coconut Development Authority**  
No 54, Nawala Road,  
Narahenpita  
Colombo 05

**URGENT VACANCIES IN HOTEL RANDIYA ANURADHAPURA**

♦ Accounts Clerk/Asst. Accountant (Experience in hospitality field)  
 ♦ Commis I (Western Cuisine)  
 ♦ Pool Attendant (Experience in similar job role)  
 ♦ Steward/Barman (Experience in similar job role)

Please send your resume to below email address

E-mail - ourhome@silnet.lk  
 Hotline - 0777-228238  
**Hotel Randiya Anuradhapura (Pvt) Ltd.**  
 No. 394/19A, Muditha Mawatha, Anuradhapura.  
 Tel - 0777-322820

**VACANCY PIPE WELDERS**

**ASME QUALIFIED 6-G WELDERS FOR OIL TANK CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AND OTHER WORK SITES.**

• AGE LIMIT - BELOW 45 YEARS  
 • APPLY WITH A CONTACT NUMBER

**INDO EAST ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION (LANKA) PVT LTD.**  
 133A, ATTAMPOLAWATTE ROAD, HENDALA, WATTALA.  
 TEL: 0112-932745/6, 0777-766306  
 FAX: 0112-937176 | E-MAIL: indoeast@silnet.lk

**Company Secretarial Assistants**

An established firm engaged in Company Secretarial practice wishes to recruit Trainee Assistants preferably students of Law / Accounting or from school-leavers with working knowledge of English.

Allowance / Salary negotiable. Good prospects for the right candidates.

Email : [asoka@aajco.lk](mailto:asoka@aajco.lk) for a quick interview or send CV to

94/12, Kirulapone Avenue, Colombo 05.



**VACANCY NOTICE**

**National Consultancy to review the positive disciplining manuals**

Contract type : Consultancy  
 Duty station : Colombo

**We are looking for**

- A qualified individual with a masters or a higher degree in Social Science or any other relevant field(s).
- With at least 5 to 7 years of practical experience in the field of education, child protection & care, psychology/counselling, social work or associated field.

**If you are a committed, creative professional and are passionate about making a lasting difference for children, the world's leading children's rights organization would like to hear from you.**

UNICEF is committed to diversity and inclusion within its workforce and encourages qualified female and male candidates from all religious and ethnic backgrounds, including persons living with disabilities, to apply to become a part of our organization.

UNICEF is a non-smoking working environment.

Only short-listed applications will be acknowledged.

**Apply online**

<http://jobs.unicef.org/cw/en-us/job/535053>

In order to apply for this position, it is mandatory to create your profile on the e-recruitment portal following the link given above.

Application deadline

**22 OCTOBER 2020**

Job number : 535053



**State Mortgage & Investment Bank**  
**Career Opportunities at SMIB**

SMIB, as the premier housing bank to the Nation, is in the process of restructuring the bank's operation to offer a higher level of customer satisfaction and a wider variety of services. As such, we invite applications from candidates who have demonstrated dynamic leadership roles and make full commitment to achieve business goals with relevant qualifications and experience for the following posts.

**Deputy General Manager – Finance & Planning**

**Key Responsibilities :**

As the in-charge of Accounting and Finance Department, DGM-Finance & Planning is required to lead and manage entire functions including introducing and implementing sound internal control systems, preparing annual budgets, corporate plans, preparing annual financial statements and liaison with the external auditors. He/ she is responsible for introducing and reviewing business policies, mobilization of funds, preparation of performance reports, and carry out any other duties assigned by General Manager/Board of Directors.

**Qualifications :**

Bachelor's Degree in Accounting or Finance from a UGC recognized University  
 And Intermediate Level qualification of ICASL/CIMA/ACCA - UK  
 A Master's degree in the related fields would be an added qualification.

**OR**

Full Professional Membership of ICASL/ CIMA/ACCA - UK

**Experience :**

15 years' experience in the relevant field of which minimum 05 years at senior management level and experience in the relevant field in a banking institution.

**Deputy General Manager – Human Resource Development and Management**

**Key Responsibilities :**

As the in-charge of the Human Resources Management Functions of the bank, DGM- HRD & Management is required to lead and manage overall administrative functions of the head office, branches and maintain overall control of all aspects of infrastructure services and supplies. He/she is responsible for formulating and monitoring of HRM strategies in line with the corporate plan of the bank ensuring effective implementation of HR policies such as employee performance management policy, training and development policy and employee disciplinary policy and coordinating all labour related work connected with legal matters and represent the bank in Courts of Law/Labour Tribunals where applicable.

**Qualifications :**

Bachelor's degree in Human Resources from a UGC recognized university.  
 And full Professional membership from a recognized Human Resources Institute.  
 A Master's degree in the related fields would be an added qualification.

**Experience :**

Overall, 15 years' experience in the relevant field of which a minimum of 05 years at senior management level and experience in the relevant field in a banking institution or similar.

**Remuneration :**

Salary Scale- Rs.196,570-6895x12-279,310 per month together with bank approved allowances. Monthly gross salary on this basis would be approximate.

<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
<b>Rs.297,214/-</b>	<b>Rs.406,430/-</b>

**Age** - Not more than 50 years (The age limit will not, however, apply to those already employed in a state sector organization)

**General Conditions :**

**Method of Selection** - Inviting applications as per the recruitment policy and procedure of the bank.  
 Selection by Interview

**Other Benefits :**

- Provident fund contribution 15% by the employer and 10% by the employee. The bank contributes the ETF
- The annual bonus of two months gross salary
- Housing loans at concessionary rates after confirmation in the service
- Benefits under the bank's medical scheme
- Encashment of unutilized medical leave

**Closing Date for Applications - 02.11.2020**

**How to Apply :**

Interested qualified candidates should send their Curriculum Vitae and copies of their Educational/Professional transcripts and the names, addresses and contact numbers of two professional non-related referees. Post applied for should be indicated on the top left-hand corner of the envelope enclosing the application.

All applications will be treated in strict confidential and any form of canvassing will be regarded as a disqualification. The Bank reserves the right to decide the selection, postponement or cancellation of recruitment or any other action and/or change the selection criteria for this recruitment. The decision of the Board of Directors will be final and conclusive. Applications should be sent under Registered Post to :

**General Manager / CEO,**  
**State Mortgage and Investment Bank,**  
**No.269, Galle Road,**  
**Colombo 03.**

**IMMEDIATE VACANCY**

We, **SAMOD CONSTRUCTIONS (PVT) LTD.** are a reputed Construction Company and wish to appoint professionals as follows:  
 The qualifications, experience, skills and taking responsibilities are required for the positions.

**Required qualifications are as follows:**

**1. TECHNICAL OFFICER - CIVIL**

- Should have passed G.C.E. (A/L)
- Should have completed NCT/HNDE Civil Engineering
- Computer literacy
- Fluency in English
- 3 years experience in similar capacity
- Valid driving licence (Light Vehicles)

*The positions carry an excellent salary and benefit packages.*

*If you have required qualifications, leadership and management skills, you are informed to apply by E-mail or registered post immediately.*

**SAMOD CONSTRUCTIONS (PVT) LTD.**

No. 361/7, Henri Pedris Mawatha,  
 Dangedara, Galle.  
**samodconstructions@yahoo.com**



**State Mortgage & Investment Bank**  
**Career Opportunities at SMIB**

SMIB, as the premier housing Bank to the Nation, is in the process of restructuring the Bank's operation with a view to offering a higher level of customer satisfaction and wider variety of services. As such we invite applications from candidates who have demonstrated dynamic leadership roles and make full commitment to achieve business goals with relevant qualifications and experience for the following post.

**IT Network & Communication Analyst/Administrator**

**Key Responsibilities**

- Efficient and effective management of the Bank's LAN/WAN and Internet system to provide reliable and secure operations.
- Upgrade, design and implementation of network infrastructure as per layered security architecture
- Build high availability and disaster recovery capability
- Ensure Network Security with proactive monitoring and complying to industry standards
- Manage Network Information Security Threats
- Vendor management of services, implementation, maintenance and support contracts / service level agreements.
- Capacity planning, health check monitoring and management reports for data / voice network.
- Develop system recovery processes to minimize the impact of disaster scenarios.
- Adhere to the established Information Security Policy of the Bank.
- Respond to inquiries from a variety of sources (Eg: Regulators, Auditors, Management, vendors and service providers etc.) for the purpose of providing technical assistance and support.
- Knowledge in IBM, Unix, Linux, Solaris, Windows 2008, Windows 2012 server administration.
- Conduct network traffic analysis and proactively report on possible issues.

**Qualifications & Experience**

**Qualifications**

A Degree of a recognized university in Computer Science or a degree of a recognized university in Mathematics, Statistics, or Electronics with a diploma (minimum of one year) in Computer Systems design or an equivalent qualification from the National Institute of Business Management or from a recognized Institution.

**Experience**

Overall 4 years experience in the field of Information Technology of which at least 2 years as a System/Network Administrator in a reputed organization. Preferably the experience in a bank or recognized financial institution. Candidate should have good communication, interpersonal skills.

**Remuneration**

Salary Scale: **Rs. 49,195 - 840\*20 - 65,995** per month together with Bank approved allowances. Monthly gross salary on this basis would be approximate.

<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
<b>102,678/-</b>	<b>124,855/-</b>

**Age:** Not more than 40 years (The age limit will not however apply to those already employed in a state sector organization)

**General Conditions**

**Method of Selection** - Inviting applications as per the recruitment policy and procedure of the Bank.  
 Selection by Interview

**Other Benefits**

- Provident fund contribution 15% by the employer and 10% by employee. Contribution to the ETF is made by the Bank
- Annual bonus of two months gross salary
- Housing loans at concessionary rates after confirmation in the service
- Benefits under Bank's medical scheme
- Encashment of unutilized medical leave

**Closing Date for Applications - 02.11.2020**

**How to Apply**

Interested qualified candidates should send their Curriculum Vitae and copies of their Educational/Professional transcripts and the names, addresses and contact numbers of two professional non-related referees. Post applied for should be indicated on the top left-hand corner of the envelope enclosing the application.

All applications will be treated in strict confidential and any form of canvassing will be regarded as a disqualification. The Bank reserves the right to decide the selection, postponement or cancellation of recruitment or any other action and/or change the selection criteria for this recruitment. The decision of the Board of Directors will be final and conclusive.

Applications should be sent under Registered Post to

**General Manager / CEO,**  
**State Mortgage and Investment Bank,**  
**No. 269, Galle Road,**  
**Colombo 03.**

**MANAGER**

The Wijaya Agro (Pvt) Ltd is a Subsidiary company of Wijaya Products (Pvt) Ltd, engaged in growing and manufacturing high quality tea leaves in up county, looking for a most suitable personnel for the above post, right candidates should be required for the high grown **Luccombe Tea Estates in Maskeliya.**

**REQUIREMENTS**

- ★ Male in the age between 35 – 60 with pleasant personality.
- ★ Minimum 5 years Experience in a similar capacity.
- ★ Passed G.C.E. (A/L) in Agricultural Stream & G.C.E. (O/L) Credits in Mathematics & English.
- ★ Professional Diploma in N.I.P.M. or any other equivalent course would be an added Qualification.
- ★ Should be able to write and speak in Sinhala and English, conversation of Tamil would be an advantage.
- ★ Salary Rs.60,000/= per month (Total Package) + Other facilities.

Please send your CV with contact Phone Numbers and recently taken photograph to reach the following address within 7 days. Please indicate the post applied for on the top left hand corner of the envelope.

**The Human Resources Manager**  
**Wijaya Products (Pvt) Limited**  
 Dodangoda, Kalutara.  
 T.P. 034-2280092/93 Fax: 034-2280285  
 E-Mail: [hr@spicowijaya.com](mailto:hr@spicowijaya.com) / [wijayaproducts@silnet.lk](mailto:wijayaproducts@silnet.lk)

**INSTITUTE OF HUMAN RESOURCE ADVANCEMENT**  
**University of Colombo**  
**POST OF DIRECTOR**

The Academic Syndicate of the Institute of Human Resource Advancement (IHRA), as per Section 8 (i) of the Institute of Human Resource Advancement Ordinance No. 01 of 2006 (amendments to Institute of Workers' Education Ordinance No. 11 of 1979), acting in terms of Section 24 A(i) of the Universities Act No. 16 of 1978 and subsequent amendments, invites Applications/ Nominations for the Post of the Director, Institute of Human Resource Advancement, University of Colombo.

The applicants/nominees should be citizens of Sri Lanka and should be less than 63 years of age. The successful applicant/nominee will hold the office for a period of three years from the date of appointment or until he/she completes his/her 65th year, whichever occurs earlier. The IHRA is an Institute affiliated to the University of Colombo approved by the University Grants Commission to conduct programs leading to Degrees, Diplomas, and Certificates. It currently offers Postgraduate and Undergraduate degrees that are awarded by the University of Colombo, and conducts a range of Diploma and Certificate Programmes. The IHRA student population mainly comprises of those who are currently employed in public and private sector organizations. It engages in research and consultancy services as well.

The Director is a full time Officer of the Institute and is the Academic and Administrative Head. He/She is also the Accounting Officer of the Institute, an ex-officio member and the Chairman of the Academic Syndicate, which is the governing body of the Institute. It shall be the duty of the Director to maintain transparency and accountability and will be responsible for providing academic leadership. The Director is also responsible for the maintenance of discipline within the Institute. He/She should possess an understanding of the needs of clients and staff of the institute, and should be able to generate funds, and develop University-Institute and industry collaborations as well as international relationship on academic affairs.

The Director shall be a person with a vision to achieve goals of the Institute through his/her intellectual as well as managerial brilliance. The applicant /nominee is expected to be a person of high academic caliber and integrity with a record of excellent research publication profile, proven leadership qualities with high level of interpersonal skills, and should have a clear understanding of policy issues.

The Director will receive a salary of a Professor and other allowances applicable to the Post.

The following documents should accompany applications/nominations:

- A complete Curriculum Vitae of the applicant/nominee including date of birth. (a certified copy of the Birth Certificate must be attached)
- A statement of vision for the development of the Institute
- A brief account of what he/ she proposes to achieve, if appointed to the Post of Director
- A letter of consent from the nominee, in case of nominations
- A letter from the employer indicating whether the applicant /nominee could be released in the event of his/her appointment to the post in the case of an applicant/nominee serving in Public Sector, Corporations, Statutory Bodies and Higher Educational Institutions other than the Institute of Human Resource Advancement.

The process of Selection will be made in terms of instructions given in the UGC Circular No. 7/2020 dated 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020. (The Circular can be downloaded from [www.ugc.ac.lk](http://www.ugc.ac.lk)). Applications/nominations should be in a sealed cover/envelope addressed to the Secretary to the Academic Syndicate, No. 275, Institute of Human Resource Advancement, Baudhaloka Mawatha, Colombo - 07 and either delivered or sent under Registered cover to reach the above office on or before **3.00 p.m. on 06<sup>th</sup> November 2020**. The envelope containing the application/nomination must be marked 'Post of Director' on its top left-hand corner.

Applications/nominations received after the closing date will not be entertained.

**Secretary to the Academic Syndicate**  
**Institute of Human Resource Advancement**  
**University of Colombo**  
**16<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

MINISTRY OF BUDDHA SASANA, RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS  
**DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

Recruitment to the post of Dancer in the State Dance Ensemble and to the post of Musician in the State Music Ensemble on contract basis

The closing date of applications has been extended to **23.10.2020** for the recruitment to the posts of Dancer and the Musician in the Department of Cultural Affairs on contract basis, appeared in the Sunday Observer on 20.09.2020.

**Tharani Anoja Gamage**  
 Director (Acting)  
 Department of Cultural Affairs

**MARKETING MANAGER & MARKETING EXECUTIVES**

SIGNXNEON is a Leading company in Sri Lanka, Manufacturing Neon & LED sign board by applying New advanced technology.

The ideal candidates should confirm to the following minimum requirements..

- \* Minimum G.C.E.(O/L) & (A/L) qualification.
- \* Should possess good communication skill.
- \* Previous 2 years Working experience above related Advertising Industries Knowledge (sign board industry)
- \* Below 40 (Own a Car or Motor Bike & Riding License-Essential)

Salary - Negotiable

Those who meet the above criteria may submit their complete resume with two non-related referees to reach us within 07 days..

Director  
 SIGN-X NEON ADVERTISING (PVT) LTD.  
 No 456/6, High Level Road, Kottawa, Pannipitiya.  
 Tel : 0112 780 210, 0777 999 985  
 Email : info@sigx.lk



**STATE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF MINOR CROPS INCLUDING SUGARCANE, MAIZE, CASHEW, PEPPER, CINNAMON, CLOVES, BETEL, RELATED INDUSTRIES AND EXPORT PROMOTION**

**SUGARCANE RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

**VACANCIES**

Applications are invited from the citizens of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka who possess the requisite qualifications to fill the following vacancies of the Sugarcane Research Institute at Uda Walawe.

**Internal Auditor - (MM 1-2) - 01 Position**  
**Procurement Officer - (JM 1-2) - 01 Position**

Please visit the Institute's website for details:

Applications should be submitted in the prescribed form by downloading from the Institute's website: [www.sugarres.lk](http://www.sugarres.lk) under registered post to reach the undersigned on or before 09th November 2020.

The post applied for should be clearly mentioned on the top left-hand corner of the envelope.

Applicants from Government Departments/Corporations/Statutory Boards should forward the applications through their respective Heads of Departments.

Non-conformity with this requirement will result in the application being rejected.

**The Chairman,**  
**Sugarcane Research Institute,**  
**Uda Walawe.**

Replies to Classifieds & Casual Advertisements published C/o the **Daily News** should only be sent by ordinary post. Replies sent under registered cover will not be accepted.

**OBSERVER JOBS**

BREAKING BOUNDARIES

THE COUNTRY'S LARGEST RECRUITMENT DATABASE

FOR JOBSEEKERS

[www.observerjobs.lk](http://www.observerjobs.lk)

**OPPORTUNITIES IN FINANCE INDUSTRY**

Alliance Finance Company PLC (AFC), incorporated in 1956 is a registered Finance Company with the Central Bank of Sri Lanka and listed in the Colombo Stock Exchange. The Company is built on a solid foundation of trust and has an unblemished track record for ethical business practices amongst Finance Companies in Sri Lanka. AFC's business philosophy is guided by triple bottom line principles focusing on People, Planet and Profit. AFC offers a diversified product portfolio consisting of Fixed Deposits, Savings, Finance Leasing, Operating Leasing, Hire Purchase, Development Finance, Gold Loans, Housing Loans and Business Loans. AFC has a number of foreign funding relationships with reputed international DFIs and banks.

**EXECUTIVE / SENIOR EXECUTIVE - CREDIT MARKETING**

- Age below 30 years Male/ Female.
- 2-5 years experience in Leasing, Sales, Marketing, Insurance or Recoveries.
- Valid riding / driving license.

**JUNIOR EXECUTIVE - CREDIT MARKETING**

- Age below 25 years Male/ Female.
- At least 1-year experience in Leasing, Sales, Marketing, Insurance or Recoveries.
- Valid riding / driving license.

**OFFICER IN CHARGE - GOLD LOAN**

- 2-3 years' experience in gold related business is compulsory.
- Strong communication skills in Sinhala/Tamil and English languages.
- Dynamic individuals with a smart and outgoing personality with high self-motivation and good interpersonal skills.
- Special consideration for gold identification ability.
- The ideal candidate should be below 40 years of age.

**JUNIOR EXECUTIVE - GOLD LOAN**

- Should possess G.C.E Advanced Level Qualification.
- 1 Year experience in pawning field will be an added advantage.
- Strong communication skills in Sinhala/Tamil and English languages.

**JUNIOR EXECUTIVE - CASHIER / DOCUMENTATION**

- Should possess G.C.E Advanced Level Qualification.
- Experience in handling documentaion/cashier role will be an added advantage.
- Strong communication skills in Sinhala/Tamil and English languages.

Please submit your CV with two non-related referees, together with their addresses and telephone numbers within 10 days of this advertisement to reach the Head of Human Resources stating the post applied for in the subject line of the e-mail.



Head of Human Resources  
**Alliance Finance Co. PLC**  
 No. 84, Ward Place, Colombo 07.  
 Tel : 0112 673 673  
 Email : [careers@alliancefinance.lk](mailto:careers@alliancefinance.lk)

Since 1956  
**Alliance Finance Co. PLC**  
 Built on Trust. Powered by Innovation.  
[www.alliancefinance.lk](http://www.alliancefinance.lk)

THE FIRST COMPANY IN THE BANKING AND NON-BANKING SECTOR OF SRI LANKA TO BE CERTIFIED WITH ISO 9001:2015 QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND ISO 22301:2012 FOR BUSINESS CONTINUITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS.

EMPLOYER BRANDING AWARDS  
 BEST EMPLOYER 2016-2017

PEOPLE • PLANET • PROFIT  
 Sri Lanka's pioneering triple bottom line financial institution

**National PVC PIPES & FITTINGS**

We are a public quoted Company, a leading manufacturer and an islandwide distributor of superior quality PVC and PE products, Electrical switches and accessories. We are seeking a proactive and dynamic individual to join our team for the following position at our manufacturing facility located in Wattala.

**MAINTENANCE CO-ORDINATOR**

**Job Profile**  
 Preparation of plant maintenance schedules and allocating resources for maintenance jobs. Procurement of emergency supplies. Maintaining all manual and computer based service and maintenance records of the division.

**Candidate's Profile**

- ◆ G.C.E. (A/L) preferably in science or technical stream.
- ◆ Minimum 2 years related experience in a reputed organization.
- ◆ Below 30 years of age.

**Remuneration package is negotiable.**

Please forward a complete resume giving full details of qualifications and experience along with contact details of two non-related referees, within 07 days of this advertisement to;

**Central Industries PLC**

**CENTRAL INDUSTRIES PLC**  
 Manager HR & Administration  
 No: 312, Nawala Road, Nawala, Rajagiriya  
 Tel: 011-5303070, 011-5303071, 011-5303073 Fax: 011-5303033.  
 E-mail: [careers@nationalpvc.com](mailto:careers@nationalpvc.com) Web: [www.nationalpvc.com](http://www.nationalpvc.com)



**EASTERN UNIVERSITY, SRI LANKA**

**VACANCY**

The Eastern University, Sri Lanka will entertain applications from suitably qualified persons for the following post.

**POST OF MEDICAL OFFICER (ON VISITING BASIS)**

**Qualifications:**

- Medical Degree of a recognized University with at least three (03) years experience as a Medical Practitioner
- Registered Medical Practitioner with experience could also apply.

**Note :** The intern period will be considered for the period of experience.

**Duration :** One year

**Allowance :** 1,500.00 per visit (two hours) (Maximum 3 visits per day)

**Closing Date :** 03.11.2020

**HOW TO APPLY :**  
 Curriculum Vitae (CV) along with certified copies of academic and professional qualifications with service certificates should be forwarded under the registered cover to reach the "Senior Assistant Registrar, Establishments Department (Academic Division), Eastern University, Sri Lanka, Vantharumoolai, Chenkalady" on or before the closing date.

The post applied for should be indicated on the top left-hand corner of the envelope.

Applicants who are employees of Government Departments, State Corporations and Statutory Bodies should forward their applications through the Heads of their respective institutions, but may send an advance copy in the first instance. However, no such applicant will be considered for appointment, if the application channeled through the Head of the Department is not received.

**Note :** The University reserves the right to shortlist and interview only such applicants as the University may consider suitable for appointment.

**REGISTRAR**  
**EASTERN UNIVERSITY, SRI LANKA.**  
**VANTHARUMOLAI, CHENKALADY.**

16.10.2020

**A Revolution in Emergency Healthcare in Sri Lanka**

**IN CASE OF EMERGENCY**



**1990**  
 සුව සුවය

Call 1990 for free 24-hour pre hospital care ambulance service

This service is now implemented Island-wide.  
 Lake House is proud to partner this initiative.

# NOTIFICATION

## PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

### MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

## OPEN RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF LEGAL OFFICER (Executive Officer Category - Grade III)

Applications are invited from the citizens of Sri Lanka with the following qualifications for the post of Legal Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture.

**01. Method of Recruitment**

Among applicants who have completed the requisite qualifications indicated in the notification, the candidate securing the highest marks based on the results of a structured interview to be held by an Interview Board appointed by the Public Service Commission will be recruited for this vacancy. The structured interview will be held in keeping with marking scheme approved by the Public Service Commission.

The effective date of appointment will be decided by the Public Service Commission.

**02. Qualifications required**

**(i) Educational/Professional Qualifications**

Having taken oaths as an Attorney-at-Law of the Supreme Court.

**(ii) Experience**

Obtained active professional experience not less than three (03) years from the date of taking oaths as Attorney-at-Law of the Supreme Court (with regard to the documents to be submitted to prove the active professional experience, it is essential to indicate clearly the period of experience with the due dates and official frank).

Or

Having experience applicable to the following disciplines of the profession not less than 03 years in the field of law after taking oaths as Attorney-at-Law of the Supreme Court.

- I. Legal work related to filing of cases and co-ordinating with Attorney General's Department.
- II. Legal work connected with Agreements.
- III. Legal work related to various enactments.
- IV. Drafting of legal documents such as draft bills, circulars/ regulations.
- V. Legal/Judicial work or investigations to be conducted by various statutory establishments.

(The above submissions should be confirmed by certification issued by the Secretary/Head of the Department)

**(iii) Physical Qualifications**

Every applicant should be physically and mentally fit to serve in any part of the island and perform duties in the post.

**(iv) Other**

- Every Applicant,
  - Should be a citizen of Sri Lanka
  - Should be of excellent moral character
  - Should have completed requisite qualifications in all aspects as at 11.08.2020 for recruitment to the post.

**03. Conditions of Employment and service conditions**

- (i) This post is permanent and you are subjected to policy decisions of the Government taken in future on pension scheme entitled by you. Further you shall pay contributions to the Widows' & Orphans' Pension Fund/Widowers and Orphan Pension Fund. You shall pay contributions to this Fund as determined by the Government from time to time.
- (ii) This post is subjected to 03 year probation period. First Efficiency Bar has to be passed as referred to in the Scheme of Recruitment within 03 years from the date of recruitment to Legal Officer, Grade III.
- (iii) You have to acquire proficiency in the other official language in addition to the language qualified for recruitment before the expiry of five (05) years from the date of accepting the appointment as per provisions of the Public Administrative Circular No.01/2014 dated 21.01.2014 and officer who qualified for recruitment in non official language should obtain proficiency in the relevant official language.
- (iv) This appointment is subjected to procedural rules of the Public Service Commission, Establishment Code of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Government's Financial Regulations and other departmental/regulations.

**04. Age Limit**

Should not be less than 21 years and not more than 45 years at the closing date of applications. (The upper age limit will not apply to public officers with active and satisfactory service experience not less than five (05) years in a post applicable to the field of Agriculture and officers who have fulfilled qualifications under 2 above.)

**05. Salary Scale**

Monthly salary scale applicable to the post is (Rs.47,615-10 x 1335-8 x 1630-17 x 2170 - 110895/- (SL-1-2006)

**06. Marks will be given for structured interview based on the following Marking Scheme.**

Subject			
<b>01 Additional Educational Qualifications</b>		<b>25</b>	
Postgraduate Degree applicable to the relevant field obtained from a University recognized by the University Grants Commission	25		
Postgraduate Diploma applicable to the relevant field or Post Diploma in Law obtained from an institution recognized by the government. (Not less than one year)	20		
L.L.B Degree obtained from a university recognized by the University Grants Commission			
First class	15		
Second upper class	10		
Second lower class	07		
L.L.B (General) Degree	05		
First Class Pass at the final year examination of the Law College of Sri Lanka or	10		
Second Class Pass of the final year of Law Degree	05		
Note: 05 marks are given for pass at the final year examination of the Degree with honours (Marks are given only for maximum of one qualification)			
<b>02 Additional Professional Experience</b>		<b>35</b>	
<b>i. Additional professional qualifications</b>	10		
Completion of a Diploma course, duration of which is more than one year applicable to the relevant field conducted by an institution recognized by the Government. (10 marks for each Diploma)			
Completion of a Diploma course, duration of which is more than 06 months and less than one year applicable to the relevant field conducted by an institution recognized by the Government. (05 marks for each Diploma)			
Completion of a certificate course, duration of which more than 03 months and less than 06 months applicable to the relevant field conducted by an institution recognized by the Government. (03 marks for each course)			

(Other qualifications except for certificates for which marks are given under 01 above) ii. Additional experience Experience required under 2 (ii) of the application calling notification. (Other than 03 year service required for fulfilling the basic qualification) (05 marks for each year upto the maximum of 25 marks) (More than 06 months and less than one year - 02 marks) Completion of a period of service not less than 15 years (This period of service should be indicated in the certificate itself issued in respect of the applicant. This additional experience shall be confirmed through a certificate obtained from an Attorney-at-Law, Presidential Counsel or a Judge.)  At the confirmation of additional experience by Head of Institution in respect of state officials or officials in the private sector who have fulfilled above qualifications, it is necessary to confirm through a service certificate/certificate that the applicant is serving a post applicable to legal work.	25		
<b>03 Knowledge on Information Technology</b>		<b>10</b>	
A Degree (main subjects of which being IT subjects) obtained from a University recognized by the University Grants Commission.	10		
A Diploma course, duration of which not less than 01 year or which covers 1500 hours conducted by an institution recognized by the Government.	07		
A certificate course on Information Technology conducted by an Institution recognized by the Government.			
- 06 months/720 hours	05		
- 03 months/360 hours	03		
(Marks are given only for the maximum qualification)			
<b>04 Language Proficiency</b>		<b>15</b>	
Postgraduate Degree / Degree / Masters in Law/L.L.B studied in English medium.	15		
(All paper should have been answered in English medium)			
Diploma course in English Language conducted by a University recognized by UGC or an Institution recognized by the Government (One (01) year or 1500 hours)	10		
Certificate Course in English conducted by a University recognized by the University Grants Commission or an Institution recognized by the Government.			
- 06 months/720 hours	07		
- 03 months/360 hours	05		
(Marks are given only for the highest qualification)			
<b>05 Performance at the Interview</b>		<b>15</b>	
i. General knowledge & Intelligence	05		
ii. Knowledge on modern tendencies in the field of Law	05		
iii. Ability to expressing ideas clearly and Personality	05		
<b>Total</b>		<b>100</b>	

**Note:** If the relevant periods are not indicated in certificates submitted at the interview for evaluating the eligibility, it would be the responsibility of applicant to get these periods confirmed the relevant institution and resubmit the same. Certificates not indicated the relevant period and not confirmed the same will not be considered for giving marks.

**07. Identity of Applicants**

- > Only the candidates who have submitted applications completed in all aspects will be called for the eligibility - testing interview.
- > Originals of all certificates and duly certified copies of the same should be submitted at the interview.
- > The following Identity Cards are accepted for establishing the identity at the structured interview.
  - i. The National Identity Card issued by the Commissioner of Registration of Persons.
  - ii. Valid Passport.

**08. Method of Application**

- i. Applications should be sent under registered cover to reach the Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, 80/5, Govijana Mandiraya, Rajamalwatta Avenue, Battaramulla on or before 08.11.2020 Applications received after that date will be rejected.
- ii. Specimen Application form appears at the end of this notification. Self hand written applications using both sides of A4 papers (on first page No.1.0 to 3.2, second page No.3.3 to 5.0 and the rest on page 3 and 4) should be forwarded. (Keeping photocopy of the application with the applicant may be useful.)
- iii. The top-left hand corner of the envelope enclosing the application should be clearly marked as "Application for the post of Legal Officer".
- iv. Attestation of the signature should be done by a Principal of a government school/a Justice of the Peace/Commissioner of Oaths/Attorney-at-Law /Notary Public/Commissioned Officer of three Armed Forces or an Officer holding permanent post in the Public Service receiving a monthly consolidated salary of Rs.47,615/-.
- v. Officers of the Public Service or Provincial Public Service should forward their applications through their respective Heads of Departments.
- vi. Applications not prepared in accordance with the attached specimen application form will be rejected. Any complaint of losing or delaying applications will not be entertained.

**09. Submission of false information**

If any of the information included in the application sent by you is found to be false or incorrect before recruitment, your candidacy will be cancelled and the same is revealed after recruitment, action will be taken to dismiss you from service subject to the relevant cause of actions.

**10. Right of filling or not filling vacancies will be reserved with the Public Service Commission.**

**11. In the event of arising any conflicting situation within this recruitment procedure or on any matter not referred in this notification, the decision of the PSC will be final.**

**12. In the event of any inconsistency or difference between Sinhala, Tamil and English texts of this Gazette Notification the Sinhala text shall prevail.**


**By Order of the Public Service Commission.**

**Secretary  
Ministry of Agriculture  
80/5, Govijana Mandiraya  
Battaramulla.**


**Application for recruitment to the post of Legal Officer**

**Ministry of Agriculture**

	Serial No. <input style="width: 100px; height: 15px;" type="text"/>				Office use only
1.0	1.1 Name in full (Mr./Mrs./Miss)	..... (In Sinhala/Tamil)			
	1.2 Name in full	..... (In English Block Capitals)			
	1.3 Name with Initials (Mr./Mrs./Miss)	..... (In Sinhala/Tamil)			
	1.4 Name with Initials	..... (In English Block Capitals) Eg. GUNAWARDHANA, M.G.B.S.K.			
2.0	2.1 Permanent Address	..... (In Sinhala/Tamil)			
	2.2 Permanent Address	..... (In English Block Capitals)			
3.0	3.1 Sex:	Male	-	0	<input type="checkbox"/>
	(Write in the relevant cage)	Female	-	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
	3.2 Civil Status:	Married	-	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Unmarried	-	2	<input type="checkbox"/>
	3.3 Date of Birth: Year	<input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	Month	<input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	Date <input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>
	3.4 Age as at 08.11.2020: Years	<input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	Months	<input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>	Days <input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>
	3.5 National Identity Card No.	<input style="width: 100px; height: 15px;" type="text"/>			
4.0	4.1 Details of qualifications obtained as per application calling notification to apply for interview.				
	Institution from which Qualification obtained				Date
	.....				.....
	.....				.....
	.....				.....
	Date of taking oaths as Attorney-at-Law:	.....			
	4.2 Details of obtaining qualifications (separately) under No.06 of the Application calling notification.	.....			
	4.3 Additional Educational Qualifications :	.....			
	4.4 Additional Professional Qualifications :	.....			
	4.5 Additional Experience :	.....			
	4.6 Language Proficiency :	.....			
	4.7 Knowledge on Information Technology:	.....			
5.0	Have you been convicted by a court on any day of any offence? (Tick the relevant cage) (If answer is 'Yes' furnish details)	.....			
	No <input style="width: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>			Yes <input style="width: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>	
6.0	Declaration of the Applicant:	.....			
	I declare that the information given in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and all parts of the application are correctly filled. I also declare that if the declaration made by me is proved to be false I am liable to disqualification before appointment and to dismissal from service after appointment. I also agree to be bound by all rules governing this recruitment.	.....			
	Date			Signature of the applicant	
7.0	Attestation of signature of the applicant.	.....			
	I hereby certify that Mr./Mrs./Miss ..... who submits this application is known to me well and he/she placed his/her signature in my presence on this day of .....	.....			
	Date			Signature of Attester	
	Name in full : .....				
	Post : .....				
	Date : .....				
	(official frank)				
8.0	Recommendation of the Head of the Department.	.....			
	I hereby certify that Mr./Mrs./Miss ..... is serving in this office and the particulars furnished in this form are true and correct. His/her work and attendance and conduct are satisfactory. If he/she is selected for this post he/she could be released from the service of this institution.	.....			
	Signature of the Head of the Department/Institution.				
	Name : .....				
	Designation : .....				
	Address : .....				
	Date : .....				
	(Official Frank)				



ලංකා සීනි ( පුද්ගලික ) සමාගම  
 லங்கா சீனி நிறுவனம் (தனியார்) லிமிடெட்  
**Lanka Sugar Company (Private) Limited**



**State Ministry of Development of Minor Crops Including Sugarcane, Maize, Cashew, Pepper, Cinnamon, Cloves, Betel Related Industries And Export Promotion**

**VACANCIES**

Lanka Sugar Company (Pvt) Limited - Pelwatte and Sevanagala is the largest Agriculture based rain-fed Organization in Sri Lanka manufacturing golden brown Sugar and many Other by-products. The both companies are located in the Monaragala District of Uva Province is seeking to recruit self-motivated, proactive, dynamic, suitably qualified and experienced personnel with aggressive drive for work in their respective disciplines for the under mentioned positions in the company.

**PELWATTE UNIT**

**01. Mechanical Engineer - Factory Engineering - 03 Vacancies**  
 • BSc Degree in Mechanical Engineering with 02 Years' experience  
 or  
 • NDT/HNDE Qualified with 10 Years working experience in the relevant field.

**02. Engineer (Instrument) - Factory Electrical - 01 Vacancy**  
 • Bachelor's Degree with specializing in Electrical / Electronic or Electro Mechanic. Must be familiar with PCL / PID Automation Systems and Industrial Instrumentation. (Experience in Sugar Base Industry will be an added advantage) 02 Years' experience in the relevant field.

**03. Electrical Engineer - Distillery - 01 Vacancy**  
 • BSc Degree in Electrical Engineering with 03 Years' experience in the relevant field

**04. Management Trainee - Distillery- 01 Vacancy**  
 • Bachelor's Degree in Science (Subject Chemistry, and Botany Or Microbiology)

**05. Guest House Manager - 01 Vacancy**  
 • Bachelor's degree in hotel management hospitality or business with fluency in English language with 2 Years' working experience in a Hotel management job position or Hotel School Diploma in Hotel Management and Hospitality with 7 Years' working experience in a hotel management job position.

**06. Cook - 02 Vacancies**  
 • Up to G C E (O/L) with a certificate on cookery from a reputed hotel or a Hotel Training School or N A B certificate for the trade of cook with 02 Years' experience as a cook in a reputed Hotel with 02 Years' Experience. (NVQ Certificate will be added advantage)

**07. Assistant Purchasing Manager - 01 Vacancies**  
 • Bachelor's degree in Commerce or Management Accountancy / Purchasing and Material Management / CIMA II / Chartered Intermediate with 02 Years' experience.  
 or  
 • HNDA/ AAT / HNDC/NDBS Completed with 05 Years' experience.  
 or  
 • HNDA/ AAT / HNDC/NDBS with 03 Years' Completed with 10 Years' experience

**08. Superintendent - Agriculture Workshop - 01 Vacancy**  
 • BSc Degree in Mechanical Engineering with 03 Years' working experience  
 or  
 • NDT/ HNDE Certificate with 04 Years' working experience in the relevant field.

**09. Superintendent - Agriculture Division - 02 Vacancies (Settler Admin / Out grower)**  
 • BSc Degree in Agriculture with 02 Years' Working experience OR NDT/ Agriculture Diploma (Hardy/Aquinas / Kundasale) Or equivalent and 04 Years' working experience in the relevant field.

**10. Assistant Superintendent - Agriculture Division - 16 Vacancies (Settler / Outgrower / Agronomy / Nucleus Estate / Harvesting & Buying)**  
 • BSc Degree in Agriculture with 01 Years' Working experience  
 or  
 • NDT/ Agriculture Diploma (Hardy / Aquinas / Kundasale) Or equivalent with 02 Yrs working experience in the relevant field.

**11. Management Trainee - Agriculture - 02 Vacancies (Land Development / Agronomy)**  
 • Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture

**12. Surveyor - 01 Vacancy**  
 • Bachelor's Degree in Surveying and Mapping with 02 Years' Industrial experience in a similar capacity in a Corporation, Statutory Board / Institution or a reputed private Institution.

Please send your application with CVs giving details of educational / professional qualifications, experience, Contact address, telephone number and e-mail address quoting with non - related referees to reach the undersigned within 10 days of this advertisement.

**Chairman**  
 Lanka Sugar Company - (Pvt) Limited - Pelwatte Unit  
 Private Mail Bag  
 Buttala.

**SEVANAGALA UNIT**

Below positions carry an attractive remuneration package with fringe benefits such as accommodation (more than 15 KMs) and recreational facilities in the company premises on par with highest industrial standard.

**01. Civil Engineer - 01 Vacancy**  
 • BSc. Civil Engineering degree from a university, approved by UGC.

**02. Chemical Engineer - 03 Vacancies**  
 • BSc. Chemical Engineering degree from a university, approved by UGC.

**03. Electrical Engineer - 01 Vacancy**  
 • BSc. Electrical Engineering degree from a university, approved by UGC.

**04. Surveyor - 01 Vacancy**  
 • Surveying degree from a university, approved by UGC.  
 or  
 • Diploma in relevant field from a government recognized institute with 05 years' experience.

**05. Irrigation Officer - 01 Vacancy**  
 • BSc. Civil Engineering degree from a university, approved by UGC.  
 or  
 • Diploma in relevant field from a government recognized institute with 05 years' experience.

**06. Vat Room Officer - 01 Vacancy**  
 • Bachelor of Science degree from a university, approved by UGC.

**07. Agri Assistant - 01 Vacancy**  
 • Diploma in relevant field from a government recognized institute.

**08. Irrigation Assistant - 02 Vacancies**  
 • Diploma in relevant field from a government recognized institute.

**09. Survey Assistant - 01 Vacancy**  
 • Diploma in relevant field from a government recognized institute.

**10. Engineering Assistant (Automobile) - 01 Vacancy**  
 • NDT/ NDES/ HNDE in Mechanical Engineering

**11. Engineering Assistant (Production) - 03 Vacancies**  
 • NDT/ NDES/ HNDE in Chemical Engineering

**12. Engineering Assistant (Electrical) - 03 Vacancies**  
 • NDT/ NDES/ HNDE in Electrical Engineering

Interested applicants should forward a detailed C.V. with name and also contact details of two non-related referees by registered post to reach the address given below within 10 days of this advertisement. The detected incomplete and late applications will be rejected without further notice. The post applied for should be written on the top of left hand corner of the envelope.

**Chairman**  
 Lanka Sugar Company - (Pvt) Limited - Sevanagala Unit  
 Sevanagala,  
 Embilipitiya.

Age Limit:- Below 45 years (age limit will not apply to those who are presently employed in Government Departments, State Corporation or Statutory Boards)

Selected persons are expected to work long hours and in weekends in a challengeable working environment, taking minimum leaves.

Number of persons to be appointed and effective date of appointments shall be determined by the Appointing Authority. Further, the Appointing Authority reserves the right to refrain from filling some or all of the vacancies.



**UNFPA Vacancy Notice**

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) strives to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe, and every young person's potential is fulfilled. In Sri Lanka, we deliver this mandate by advocating for reproductive rights and gender equality and promoting evidence-based decision-making in line with the Sustainable Development Goals. Here is your chance to join our team!

Applications are invited from Sri Lankan Nationals for the following vacant positions:

**Title: Project Officer - PROMISES**

No.	Grade	Type of Contract	Deadline
01.	SC7 / SB4 - Peg 1	Service Contract	Sunday, 01 November 2020, Mid-Night, Sri Lanka time

**Title: Project Officer - Youth and Social Cohesion**

No.	Grade	Type of Contract	Deadline
01.	SC7 / SB4 - Peg 1	Service Contract	Sunday, 01 November 2020, Mid-Night, Sri Lanka time

Please review the complete Job Descriptions and application instructions in the following link: [sri Lanka.unfpa.org/vacancies](http://sri Lanka.unfpa.org/vacancies)

Applications must be submitted through the web link given above. Applications received through other means will not be considered.

Only applications meeting all requirements as per vacancy announcements will be considered.



*The British School  
in Colombo*


**We are looking for an energetic, self-motivated and hardworking teachers on behalf the parents of the children attending our school to join our team in the following position with immediate effect.**

**One-to-One  
Learning Support Assistants**  
- Junior School -


- Relevant teaching qualifications and experience.
- Experience with supporting Speech and Language development or a willingness to learn.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Employment contract will be administered by the parents, following a successful interview with the school.

Please email your CV together with a letter of application to [humanresources@britishschool.lk](mailto:humanresources@britishschool.lk) or post them to  
**Head of Human Resources,  
The British School in Colombo,  
No. 63, Elvitigala Mawatha,  
Colombo-08.**

Applications must reach us by **26 October 2020**



**Sri Lanka State Trading  
(General) Corporation Ltd**



No:100, Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 02.

**VACANCY**

**MANAGER (MARKETING) MM 1-1- 03 Vacancies**

We are looking for result oriented & self motivated individuals with exceptional integrity & competence to result for the following positions.

**Job Description**

Responsible for planning, coordination with other divisions, directing the sales and marketing functions entrusted to the organization and monitoring of those activities efficiently and productively in the marketing and sales division which is the main component of the operation process of the institution.

Responsible for conducting marketing development activities and research functions in view of expanding the market share by observing the marketing opportunities in relation to the goods of your division.

Responsible for encouragement and performance of subordinate staff to achieve expected marketing targets and identifying the targeted customers by segmenting the market on our goods and planning of sales on the goods released to the market.

Responsible for training of subordinate staff, assigning of duties to them and evaluation of their performance through these activities and guiding them for achieve overall targets and objectives of the institution.

Responsible for fulfilling duties assigned by the supervisors in relation to the sales and marketing functions.

**External Candidates (1 or 2 below)**

1. A Degree in Management, Public Administration, Business Management, Marketing or Commerce which is recognized by the U.G.C.

AND

- Minimum three (03) years post qualifying experience in the relevant field to the Post, after obtaining the first degree.
2. Having passed the Intermediate Examination of a recognized professional Chartered Institute and minimum three (03) year post qualifying experience in the relevant field to the post.

**General Conditions**

- Age : should be not less than 22 years and not more than 45 years.
- Other:

**Every Applicant**

- Should be a citizen of Sri Lanka.
- Should be physically and mentally fit to discharge the duties of the post well and to serve in any part of the Island.
- Should be of excellent moral character.

- Salary Scale (as at 01.01.2020)  
 Rs.53,175/= (1,375 X 16) Rs.75,175/=
- The initial salary point for the above post is Rs.53,175/= Rs.7,800/= Cost of Living Allowance
- Application Procedure

Applicants giving full bio- data together with copies of all certificates for academic, professional qualifications & experience with names, addresses & telephone numbers of two non related referees should be send to reach to following address on or before 2<sup>nd</sup> of November,2020 under the registered post indicating the post applied on the top left hand corner of the envelop. Applicants from Departments/Statutory Board/Public Corporations/ Fully Government Corporations should send their applications through the respective Heads of the Organizations. Applications received after the closing date will not be considered. Incomplete applications will be rejected without intimation.

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TEL : 011 2384603 / 011 2422341/2440880 FAX : 011 2447970 E-MAIL : <a href="mailto:lankagen@stnet.lk">lankagen@stnet.lk</a> WEB : <a href="http://www.stc.lk">www.stc.lk</a>	Chairman Sri Lanka State Trading (General) Corporation Ltd, No. 100, Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 02.
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**SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGER**

**Responsibilities**

Overlook warehouse and transport operation. Support and supervise office admin and operational matters.  
 Liaise with third parties for company requirement, occasional visit to customers.

**Requirements**

- Female candidates only
- Should be a degree holder in Management
- Fluency in English and Sinhala
- Knowledge in MS Office package

Please send your CVs to: [lmsts2002@gmail.com](mailto:lmsts2002@gmail.com)  
 Office situated in Kelaniya.

www.wadz.lk

it's what you want



**Repeat Your Ad For Better Offers**

**Maintenance/Operations Manager**

Hampden Court Management is looking for a Maintenance/Operations Manager.

Please send your CV to:  
hcmcol4@gmail.com

**Co-op Hospital of Eravur MPCs LTD**

**DOCTOR WANTED**

Wanted a Doctor having MBBS or RMO qualification with SLMC Registration for our Co-op hospital located in Eravur in Batticaloa district.

Retired doctors and foreign graduates with SLMC registration can apply.

**Duty hours:** 8 hrs.

**Experience:** 1-2 yrs.

**Salary:** salary on other terms are negotiable.

**Accommodation:** will be provided to those who come from outer districts.

Applications can be emailed to [mpcsevr@gmail.com](mailto:mpcsevr@gmail.com) or sent to the following address on or before 31.10.2020.

**Hony. President, Co-op Hospital, Eravur MPCs LTD, Main Street, Eravur**

E-mail: [mpcsevr@gmail.com](mailto:mpcsevr@gmail.com)

Contact: 065-2240488/065-2240808

**Wharf Clerks / Trainee Wharf Clerks**

Scanwell Customs Brokers (Pvt) Ltd., a highly reputed, long established Import Clearance Company requires energetic, self-motivated individuals to join the Organization in the capacity of Wharf Clerks / Trainee Wharf Clerks in our Colombo Office.

**Eligibility Criteria**

- Have passed GCE (O/L)
- Should possess a valid riding licence
- CHA certificate is a necessity for Wharf Clerks

Interested candidates may send their CV's to [hr@forwardair.biz](mailto:hr@forwardair.biz) or by post on or before 26th October 2020.

**General Manager**

**Human Resources Division Scanwell Customs Brokers (Pvt) Ltd. 67/1, Hudson Road, Colombo 03.**

TP. 0719664287

**Ministry of Urban Development & Housing**

**State Ministry of Rural Housing & Construction and Building Material Industry**



**National Housing Development Authority**

**Posts Vacant**

It is hereby notified that reference the Press Notice published on **04.10.2020** by the National Housing Development Authority calling for applications with taking into consideration the prevailing spreading of the Covid 19 virus, the closing date for acceptance of applications contained therein, has been extended up to **25.10.2020**.

Further, as per the provisions of the Recruitment Procedure in force in the Authority, the Appointing Officer will make the selections by conducting a structured interview.

Also, as per the provisions of the procedure on recruitment of applicants, they in every way, should have fulfilled the relevant qualifications as on the day of closing of applications.

**Chairman National Housing Development Authority**

**International Construction Consortium (Pvt) Ltd**

**VACANCY**

Being a leading Multidisciplinary, CS2 Grade, ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001 certified construction company, ICC takes pride in stepping into the 5th decade of our success story with award winning, internationally acclaimed projects.

We are now seeking a self-motivated professional, who enjoys working in a challenging environment to join our team of professionals in the position mentioned below.

**CONTRACTS MANAGER**

The selected candidate should be able to coordinate & negotiate with clients, consultants and potential sub-contractors on contractual matters. Further he/she should be able to handle claims & variations.

- Should be a Chartered Quantity Surveyor.
- B.Sc. degree in Quantity Surveying or equivalent qualification from a reputed university.
- Minimum of 8 years working experience in the Construction industry with a minimum of 5 years in Road Construction.
- Exposure to projects in foreign countries will be an added qualification.
- Should possess thorough knowledge of claims & variations.

Attractive remuneration packages and career development opportunities within the organization based on performance await the right candidate.

Applicants should forward their Curriculum Vitae and contact telephone numbers with names of two non-related referees and their contact telephone numbers, within 07 days of this advertisement to the below address.



Please indicate the post applied for on the top left hand corner of the envelope or the subject line of the e-mail.

Manager - Human Resources

**International Construction Consortium (Pvt.) Ltd.**

70, S. De S. Jayasinghe Mawatha, Kohuwala, Nugegoda.

Tel: 0114 400 600

E-mail: [cv@icc-construct.com](mailto:cv@icc-construct.com)

[www.icc-construct.com](http://www.icc-construct.com)



**POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INDIGENOUS MEDICINE UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO**

**VACANCY - POST OF DIRECTOR**

Applications are invited from citizens of Sri Lanka for the Post of Director, Postgraduate Institute of Indigenous Medicine, University of Colombo from suitably qualified and experienced persons to manage and lead the Postgraduate Institute of Indigenous Medicine.

The Director PGIIM shall be a full-time officer of the Institute and be the principal executive, academic and accounting officer. He/ She shall be responsible for the maintenance of discipline within the Institute. He/ She shall be an ex-officio member and the Chairman of the Board of Management.

**1. Qualifications**

- Should possess a Doctor of Medicine (MD) or a Doctorate (PhD or equivalent) in Medical or Indigenous Medicine specialty.
- Should have Five (05) years administrative experience after obtaining doctoral qualification.
- Previous administrative experience in Higher Education, especially in Indigenous or Allopathic Medicine will be an advantage.

**2. Age**

Applicants should be less than 63 years of age on the closing date of applications.

**3. Salary Scale**

Rs. 117,530-13x2700-Rs.152,450/-p.m. U-AC5(II) and allowances applicable to the post.

If the applicant is a teacher as defined in the Universities Act, drawing a salary higher than the above, he/she will be placed at the salary drawn at present with academic allowance and other allowances as per the UGC circulars.

N.B: Those who are presently in Government service and drawing a salary exceeding the initial of the above salary scale will be placed at an equivalent salary point.

The terms and conditions of appointment will be governed by the provisions of the Universities Act No. 16 of 1978 (as amended) and the Postgraduate Institute of Indigenous Medicine Ordinance No 05. Of 2017.

**4. Terms of Office**

Three years from the date of appointment, or the 65th birthday, whichever event occurs earlier.

**5. Other Benefits**

- Official transport
- Entertainment Allowance
- University Provident Fund contribution
- Employees' Trust Fund contribution

**6. Submission of Applications**

Prospective applicants need to submit their CVs under registered post to the **Senior Assistant Registrar, Postgraduate Institute of Indigenous Medicine, University of Colombo, 5th Floor, National Ayurveda Teaching Hospital, Cotta Road, Borella on or before 10th November, 2020.** Applicants are advised to indicate on the top left-hand corner of the envelope "Application for the Post of Director"

The applicant is required to submit a statement of vision for the development of the institute and a brief account of what he/she proposes to achieve, if appointed to the Post of Director and a full Curriculum Vitae including the date of birth of the applicant with evidence according to the categories in the UGC Circular No. 07/2020 issued on 11th September 2020.

Applicants from Universities and Institutes established under the University Act, Public Service, Corporations and Statutory Boards should forward their applications through the respective Heads of such institutes.

**Applications which are incomplete or illegible or do not conform to the requirements mentioned above or received after the closing date will be rejected without prior notice.**

**Senior Assistant Registrar Secretary to the Board of Management Postgraduate Institute of Indigenous Medicine University of Colombo 5th Floor, National Ayurveda Teaching Hospital, Cotta Road, Borella.**

16th October 2020



**Vacancy Announcement 03 X Mechanics (Contract Position)**

The Mines Advisory Group (MAG) is British Non-Governmental Organization registered as a charity, undertaking humanitarian mine action around the world. MAG is working to save lives and build futures in Sri Lanka by reducing the risk presented by remnants of conflict. MAG Sri Lanka is seeking applications from suitable candidates to consider for the post of **Mechanic**. Selected candidates will be deployed in **MAG North/East province** and should be flexible in working all parts of the region according to MAG operational locations. As part of MAG's commitment to safeguarding, this post is subject to check reference before an offer of employment is confirmed.

**Essential Skills & Requirements**

- Should have at least a certificate level qualification in Heavy vehicle/Construction Equipment repairs and maintenance from a recognised institution.
- Minimum 1-2 years' experience on mechanical, electrical, hydraulic repairs and maintenance
- Preference will be given to heavy equipment mechanics and automobile mechanics
- Preferable given for Mechanics with welding skills.
- MAG operates on a 21-day rotational (3 weeks continuous work cycle) and be prepared work away from home.
- Accommodation Allowance will be provided to find accommodation.

Salary will be based upon the MAG Salary Scale on a fixed term contract.

Please submit your CV to:

Human Resources Coordinator: [recruitment.lk@maginternational.org](mailto:recruitment.lk@maginternational.org)

(Include "Mechanic" in the subject line)

**Deadline: 4:00pm Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

[www.maginternational.org](http://www.maginternational.org)

MAG is an equal opportunity employer. Women are highly encouraged to apply the above post



**State Mortgage & Investment Bank**

**Career Opportunities at SMIB**

SMIB, as the premier housing Bank to the Nation, is in the process of restructuring the Bank's operation with a view to offering a higher level of customer satisfaction and wider variety of services. As such we invite applications from candidates who have demonstrated dynamic leadership roles and make full commitment to achieve business goals with relevant qualifications and experience for the following post.

**ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER (CREDIT)**

Overall purpose of the job is to lead the credit function of the bank to build a quality credit portfolio by guiding and directing credit officers to identify and sourcing creditworthy client profile through credit analysis, and ensure credit disbursement and minimum NPL towards agreed targets by adhering to regulatory requirements and internal controls of the Bank.

**Key Responsibilities :**

- Review and formulate policies, procedures and plans rated to credit functions of the bank in order to comply with business goals and regulatory requirements
- Guide and support credit officers in promotion of loan products of the Bank
- Guide and supervise the credit officers, particularly on credit appraisals, credit analyses, documentation and disbursement process in view of identifying and sourcing of credit worthy client profile which is impacting bank profitability and minimize NPL
- Supervise, guide and coordinate credit officers in order to ensure that they are adhering to regulatory requirements, circular instructions, banking practices and internal standards of the Bank
- Supervise and be attentive in recovery actions, monitor loan repayments and guide credit staff to maintain effective customer network
- Positive contribution made in acquisition of creditworthy client profile and increasing the amount of loans granted and earning profits while contributing to the overall growth of the Bank

**Qualifications & Experience**

**Qualifications**

A Bachelor's Degree in Banking

or

A Bachelor's Degree in Commerce/Management and full membership of a professional Banking Institution.

**Experience**

Overall 12 years' experience in the relevant field of which a minimum of 05 years at senior management level and experience in the relevant field in a banking institution.

**Remuneration**

Salary Scale: Rs.158,890 - 4,935 x 12 - 218,110 per month together with Bank approved allowances. Monthly gross salary on this basis would be approximate.

Minimum	Maximum
Rs. 247,189/-	Rs.325,359/-

**Age:** Not more than 45 years (The age limit will not however apply to those already employed in a state sector organization)

**General Conditions :**

**Method of Selection** - Inviting applications as per the recruitment policy and procedure of the Bank.  
Selection by Interview

**Other Benefits :**

- Provident fund contribution 15% by the employer and 10% by employee.
- Contribution to the ETF is made by the Bank
- Annual bonus of two months gross salary
- Housing loans at concessionary rates after confirmation in the service
- Benefits under Bank's medical scheme
- Encashment of unutilized medical leave

**Closing Date for Applications** - 02.11.2020

**How to Apply :**

Interested qualified candidates should send their Curriculum Vitae and copies of their Educational/Professional transcripts and the names, addresses and contact numbers of two professional non-related referees. Post applied for should be indicated on the top left-hand corner of the envelope enclosing the application.

All applications will be treated in strict confidential and any form of canvassing will be regarded as a disqualification. The Bank reserves the right to decide the selection, postponement or cancellation of recruitment or any other action and/or change the selection criteria for this recruitment. The decision of the Board of Directors will be final and conclusive.

**Applications should be sent under Registered Post to :**

**General Manager / CEO, State Mortgage and Investment Bank, No. 269, Galle Road, Colombo 03.**

## CORRECTION NOTICE



# NAITA

National Apprentice & Industrial Training Authority

This refers to the above titled advertisement published on page No. 52 of Sunday Observer on 11th October 2020.

Please note that the closing date is amended as **02-11-2020**.

The other contents remain unchanged.

Chairman,  
National Apprentice & Industrial Training Authority,  
No. 971, Sri Jayewardenepura Mawatha,  
Welikada, Rajagiriya.  
Tel: 011-2888782-5  
www.naita.gov.lk

## Executive - Human Resources

We are looking for a dynamic, energetic individual who is looking for career development and would like to take on challenges and is well motivated to work.

### Qualifications :

- A Degree, Diploma or professional qualification in Human Resources Management
- G.C.E. Advanced Level in Commerce stream
- Over 01 year's experience in Human Resource Management
- Experience in the Hospitality Industry would be an added advantage
- Computer skills, including Microsoft Outlook, Word and Excel or comparable applications
- Strong analytical skills and the ability to work longer hours according to the requirement
- Age between 25-40 years

The successful candidate would be offered with a competitive remuneration package based on the qualifications and working experience.

Send your CV to the email address mentioned below.

Email : [career.wart@gmail.com](mailto:career.wart@gmail.com)

Please mention "Executive - Human Resources" on the subject line of the email application.



## KOLON GLOBAL CORPORATION

SYSTEM REHABILITATION FOR NRW REDUCTION  
IN EAST PART OF THE COLOMBO CITY

## GROUND PENETRATION 3D SCANNER FOR SALE (USED)

### Description:

MALA Mini MIRA 400Hz 3D scanner is available for immediate sale.

Control Unit  
Dimension Box  
Weight  
Power  
Pulse Repetition Frequency  
Suitable Target depth  
Number of data channels  
Number of samples  
Standard Antenna Frequency  
Communication  
Positioning input  
Environmental

MALA Pro Ex with array Opation  
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200kHz  
Up to 4 meters  
8 channels  
up to 1024  
400 MHz (Options available)  
Point to point Ethernet, 100 Mbit/s  
Supports all major RTK, GPS and total Stations  
IP65



Price – 10 Million LKR (Negotiable)

## KOLON GLOBAL CORPORATION

No.69/1, Ward Place, Colombo-7

Please contact us for further details:  
+94 11 406 3950 / +94 77 939 4327  
[jgj82@kolon.com](mailto:jgj82@kolon.com) / [athirubant@gmail.com](mailto:athirubant@gmail.com)

## PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT PLC

(A Subsidiary of Bank of Ceylon)

Property Development PLC is a Public Listed Company and is the owner of a prestigious high-rise building in Colombo. Its core area of operation is upkeep of real property and operation and maintenance of central A/C system, electrical, water supply and sewerage disposal system etc. of the Building. The company seeks the services of high caliber staff with the necessary qualifications to fill the following position.

### Engineering Assistant (Civil) Junior Executive Grade

#### Responsibilities

- Carrying out activities related to maintenance, modification and improvements of building finishes, water supply, sewage disposal and fire fighting systems etc.
- Assisting in implementing special upgrading/modernization projects
- Technical communication of activities relating to the facilities and maintenance with the relevant parties

#### Your credentials should be

- NDT/HNDE/NDES or equivalent qualification in the fields of Civil Engineering with a minimum 05 years work experience in a reputed organization.
- Experience in checking & certifying contract payments
- Experience in preparation of Bill of Quantities and Estimates
- Experience in MS Office package and knowledge in AutoCad etc.
- Age below 45 years

The above position awaits attractive remuneration package which will be commensurate with qualifications and experience of the applicant.

Please forward applications with names of two non-related referees within 10 days to:

O-10032, C/o Sunday Observer,  
Lake House, Colombo.

## OBSERVER JOBS

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Sunday Observer



### INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE PROVISION OF HEALTH INSURANCE FOR 800 STAFF FOR ONE YEAR

The Mines Advisory Group (MAG) is an international organisation with field offices in Sri Lanka, setting new standards for humanitarian mine clearance, advocacy and innovative approaches to logistics management. Our risk education programs, community liaison, and flexible multi-skilled mine action teams make a real difference on the ground in communities afflicted by mines and unexploded bombs in Sri Lanka.

MAG invites sealed bids from experienced and qualified Insurance Companies (Head offices only) to take part in this national tender process. Companies must be submitted using the Standard MAG Invitation to Tender (ITT) form. The format and instructions should be strictly observed as per the ITT.

MAG's intended timeline for this procedure is as follows:

The ITT tender package will be made available for FREE OF CHARGE for collection from 20.10.2020 (Tuesday) to 04.11.2020, between 09:00AM to 04:00PM. (Closed on public holidays & weekends) at the address below. Final day of tender submission will be 09<sup>th</sup> November 2020, before 4pm. Only one authorized officer is permitted to collect ITT documentation. ITT documentation will only be transferred upon presentation of an authorization letter on company letterhead proving identity.

Mines Advisory Group (MAG)  
30A, Pamankada Lane, Colombo 6

For questions, please contact our official email: [tendersrilanka@maginternational.org](mailto:tendersrilanka@maginternational.org)

MAG looks forward to your involvement in this tender process. MAG actively promotes transparent processes in all its procurement activities and readily encourages all qualified Sri Lankan companies to participate in this competition.

## Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka

### Invitation for Bids (IFB)

### Procurement of Hardware items for Enhancement and Expansion of General Cluster Lanka Government Cloud (LGC 2.0)

[IFB No: ICTA/GOSL/GOODS/NCB/2020/01]

- Information and Communication Technology Agency (ICTA) established the Lanka Government Cloud is the main government owned infrastructure. To strengthen the Lanka Government Cloud, in order to achieve this, enhance and expand the current infrastructure and it is intended to procure the required hardware items for Lanka Government Cloud (LGC 2.0). Detailed description of the Requirements and Specifications is given in the bidding document.
- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee (DPC), on behalf of ICTA, now invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified Bidders for Procurement of Hardware items for Enhancement and Expansion of General Cluster Lanka Government Cloud (LGC 2.0)
- All bids must be accompanied by Bid Securities in the form of a Bank Guarantee using the format given with the bidding documents in the amount of Sri Lanka Rupees Two Million (LKR 2,000,000.00)
- The Bidders should meet the following minimum qualification criteria:
  - Financial Capability**  
The Bidder shall furnish documentary evidence that it meets the following financial requirements:
    - Minimum average annual turnover of LKR 300 Million calculated as total certified payments received for contracts in progress or completed, within the last three (3) years;
    - Audited statements of accounts of the company for the past three (03) years shall be submitted with the bid.
  - Commercial, Experience and Technical Capability**  
The Bidder shall furnish documentary evidence to demonstrate that it meets the following requirements:
    - Bidder shall be a legally registered company in Sri Lanka and has been in operation for the last five (05) years.
    - Detailed list of similar projects/orders that the bidder has completed successfully during the period of last three (03) years ending on the deadline of bid submission.
    - Bidders shall have technically competent as an accredited agent or authorized dealers/suppliers for brands/products offered in the bid for the last 3 years in supply, delivery installation, providing warranty, support and maintenance.
    - Bidder shall have skilled and technically competent team to carry out necessary warranty, support, maintenance and after sales services, as elaborated in Section V. Schedule of Requirements.
- Bidding will be conducted using the **National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure that shall be governed by the procurement guidelines of the Government of Sri Lanka** and is open to all eligible bidders that meet the eligibility and qualification requirements given in the bidding documents.
- Interested bidders may **inspect the bidding documents** free of charge during office hours on working days commencing from October 19, 2020 at Procurement Division of ICTA, 160/24, 2nd Floor, Kirimandala Mawatha, Colombo 05. Telephone: 2369099, email: [procurement@icta.lk](mailto:procurement@icta.lk) Bidding documents are also available on ICTA Website (<https://www.icta.lk/procurement/>) only for inspection purposes.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English Language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Sri Lankan Rupees Twenty Five Thousand (Rs 25,000.00) effective from **October 19, 2020** during office hours on working days from the office of the ICTA at 160/24, 2nd floor, Kirimandala Mawatha, Colombo 05. The method of payment will be by cash.
- Bids must be delivered to the address given below at or before **3.00 p.m., November 9, 2020**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened immediately after the deadline of bid submission in the presence of the bidders' representatives, who choose to attend. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the form of a Bank Guarantee using the format given in the Bidding Document in the amounts indicated in para (3).
- A Pre-bid meeting will be held at **10.00 a.m. on October 27, 2020** at the office of ICTA at the address below address.

Chairman

Department Procurement Committee

Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka (ICTA),  
160/24, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Kirimandala Mawatha,  
Colombo 05.

October 18, 2020



### INVITATION TO BID FOR RENTING-OUT A CAFETERIA OUTLET SPACE

We wish to call for applications to invite the renowned caterers in the food and beverage industry to operate a Healthy food & juicing corner. The space is at a prime location spreading into 155 sq.ft on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Main Cafeteria of Asiri Hospital Holdings Building, located at No. 907, Peradeniya road, Kandy.

Applications could be obtained from the Procurement Department of Asiri Hospital Holdings PLC - Kandy or Asiri Surgical Hospital PLC - Colombo upon the submission of a letter of request by the company.

Duly filled applications indicating "Cafeteria Facility - 2021/2023" on the top left-hand corner of the envelope should be submitted to the under mentioned address on or before the 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

Please note that rejection or acceptance of applications solely depend upon the discretion of the Management of Asiri Group of Hospitals

For further inquiries: 0776404608

**Asiri Hospital Holdings PLC,**  
907, Peradeniya Road, Kandy. | Tel - 081 4528800



The Sri Lanka Export Credit Insurance Corporation requires the services of a Consultancy group for Comprehensive HR study of SLECIC

### Expressions of Interest

Expressions of Interest are invited from individuals/firms on consultancy services in the field of HR Development, Management to conduct a comprehensive study of the existing HR system of the Corporation so as to enable Sri Lanka Export Credit Insurance Corporation (SLECIC) to emerge as a progressive and customer service oriented organization.

Selected consultancy group/individual is required to conduct a comprehensive HR study taking into consideration the need of additional manpower, expansion plans of the Corporation and to develop HR Model that will be best suited to achieve the goals of SLECIC. The consultancy agreement would include involvement in the development and implementation of a HR Model for SLECIC to achieve its objectives.

Guidelines for Expression of Interest are available at the Sri Lanka Export Credit Insurance Corporation.

Proposals should be submitted to the Chairman & Managing Director by 3.30 p.m. on 2nd November 2020 at the following address.

**Chairman & Managing Director**  
**Sri Lanka Export Credit Insurance Corporation**  
Level 4, NDB-EDB Tower  
No 42, Nawam Mw, Colombo 2, Sri Lanka  
Tel. : 011 2307606, 011 2307519-23

### United Nations Development Programme



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

**Development of websites for Local Authorities and Provincial Department of Local Governments in Sri Lanka.**

(RFP/CDLG/2020/97)

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Sri Lanka wishes to call for Request for Proposals from qualified service providers to provide a Proposal for Development of Green City Master Plan/Road Map for selected Local Government Authorities.

This procurement process is being conducted through Online Tendering System of UNDP and detailed instructions and link to the e-Tendering event can be accessed from [www.lk.undp.org](http://www.lk.undp.org)

procurement > procurement notices.

**Bid Submission deadline appearing on e-Tendering portal will be FINAL and prevail on the ones appearing on other websites.**

**Proposals submitted via email or by hard copies will not be accepted.**

Head of Procurement/Administration  
United Nations Development Programme  
202-204, Baudhaloka Mawatha  
Colombo 07,  
Sri Lanka.

*UNDP reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal. The procurement process will be governed by the rules and regulations of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)*

## INVITATION FOR BIDS



### PROCUREMENT OF SERVICE FOR THE SRI LANKA AIR FORCE

1. The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee of the Sri Lanka Air Force invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the undermentioned Service.

Procurement Identification Number	Description	Date and Time of Bid Closing / Opening	Non Refundable Fee (Rs.)
AHQ/20/PUB/MIS/1009	Obtaining of <b>Air Freight</b> Facility for cargo which is to be imported/exported from/to South Sudan and Central Africa, Non DG and DG Cargo (Door to Port and Port to Door basis for 06 Months period) on rate approval basis for the year 2021	04 November 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
AHQ/20/PUB/MIS/1010	Obtaining of <b>Sea Freight</b> Facility for Major Components/ Spares which is to be dispatched for overseas repairs, Non DG and DG Cargo (Port to Port basis for 06 months period) on rate approval basis for the year 2021	04 November 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
AHQ/20/PUB/MIS/1011	Obtaining of <b>Sea Freight</b> facility for cargo which is to be imported/exported from/to South Sudan and Central Africa, Non DG and DG cargo (Door to Port and Port to Door basis for 06 months period) on rate approval basis for the year 2021	04 November 2020 at 1030 Hrs	2,000.00
AHQ/20/PUB/MIS/1012	Obtaining of <b>Air Freight</b> Facility for Major Components/Spares which is to be dispatched for overseas repairs, Non DG and DG Cargo (Port to Port for 06 months period) on rate approval basis for the year 2021	04 November 2020 at 1030 Hrs	6,000.00

- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- Complete set of bidding documents in English language could be inspected by interested bidders from the Sri Lanka Air Force website: [www.airforce.lk](http://www.airforce.lk) and may purchase from the Procurement Division (Tender Section) from 14 October 2020 between 1000 hrs and 1400 hrs every working day before the closing date of the respective procurement upon payment of a non-refundable fee to the Shroff at Sri Lanka Air Force Station Colombo for each procurement. The offers without the receipt of payment will not be accepted.
- The sealed bids in duplicate, shall be addressed to "The Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee and may either be dispatched by registered post or deposited in the Tender Box at the Main Guard Room well before the closing time. Late bids will not be accepted. Bids will be opened soon after closing the bids. Bidders or their authorized representatives will be permitted to be present at the opening of the bids, upon presentation of their National Identity Card and letters of authorization from their employers. No bidder or his representative will be permitted to attend the bid opening after the bid closing time.
- The procurement conditions and required service are listed in the "Schedule of Prices" of each bidding document and the applicable rates of supplies shall be indicated for each item listed therein. The rates quoted by each bidder in the Schedule of Prices shall not be subjected to variation on any account.
- The prospective bidders shall be aware that they shall include all their expenses with all taxes including VAT and other levies in the quotations submitted.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Chief Procurement Officer (Tel. 011-2325468) or Procurement Officer - Tenders (Tel. 011-2441553 or 011-2441044, Extension 23569, Fax: 011-2441553 and 011-2347694).
- The address referred to above is:  
**Sri Lanka Air Force**  
No. 140, Sir Chittampalam A Gardiner Mawatha,  
Colombo 02.

**COMMANDER OF THE AIR FORCE**

Air Force Headquarters  
P.O. Box 1592  
Colombo 02.



### STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA

## TENDER NOTICE

The Chairman, Procurement Committee of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, Colombo 01 invites sealed quotations from registered and previous sources for following items and bids will be closed at the respective times on the dates given below and will be opened immediately thereafter. (E. mail /Fax offers as well as FOB offers are not acceptable)

Sealed Bids may be sent by post under registered cover or may be personally deposited in the box available for this purpose at Internal Audit Department in the mezzanine floor of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation at No. 75, Sir Baron Jayatilake Mawatha, Colombo 1, Sri Lanka.

Bidders or their authorised representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of Bids.

#### SURGICAL SPECIAL ITEMS

TENDER NO.	CLOSING DATE	CLOSING TIME	ITEM	QUANTITY
DHS/RSS/RQ/82/20	02.11.2020	2.00 pm	Surgical Sutures	Please refer SPC web site <a href="http://www.spc.lk">www.spc.lk</a>
DHS/RSS/RQ/211/19	02.11.2020	2.00 pm	Surgical Non-Consumables	Please refer SPC web site <a href="http://www.spc.lk">www.spc.lk</a>
DHS/RSS/RQ/213/19	02.11.2020	2.00 pm	Percutaneous Femoral Venous Cannulas in various sizes	Please refer SPC web site <a href="http://www.spc.lk">www.spc.lk</a>
DHS/RSS/RQ/215/19	06.11.2020	2.00 pm	Femoral Arterial Cannulas in various sizes	Please refer SPC web site <a href="http://www.spc.lk">www.spc.lk</a>

#### SURGICAL ANNUAL ITEMS

TENDER NO./ BID REFERENCE	CLOSING DATE	CLOSING TIME	ITEM	QUANTITY
DHS/RS/RQ/137/19	23.10.2020	2.00PM	Incentive Spirometer for Paediatric, disposable.	1,700
DHS/RS/PQ/11/21	17.11.2020	2.00 P.M.	Non Absorbable Synthetic Monofilament Suture Polypropylene BP/USP	6,250
DHS/RS/PQ/12/21	17.11.2020	2.00P.M	Non Absorbable Monofilament Surgical Suture	264,000
DHS/RS/PQ/13/21	17.11.2020	2.00 P.M.	Absorbable Synthetic Surgical Suture	10,500

#### LAB ITEMS

TENDER NO/BID REFERENCE	CLOSING DATE	CLOSING TIME	ITEM	QTY
DHS/RL/109RS/19	29.10.2020	2.30 p.m.	Laboratory Consumables	Please refer SPC web site <a href="http://www.spc.lk">www.spc.lk</a>
DHS/RL/62CPW/20	29.10.2020	2.30 p.m.	Hepatitis E-Anti HEV IgG Antibody - ELISA (96T/kit)	3 kits
			Hepatitis E anti HEV IgM Antibody ELISA (96 tests/kit)	15 kits
DHS/RL/63WKL/20	29.10.2020	2.30 p.m.	Laboratory Consumables	Please refer SPC web site <a href="http://www.spc.lk">www.spc.lk</a>

Bids should be prepared as per particulars given in the Bidding Documents available at the Head Office of State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, No.75, Sir Baron Jayatilake Mawatha, Colombo 1.

Wherever necessary potential bidder/bidders should get registered in terms of the Public Contract Act No.3 of 1987 before collecting the Bid Documents and also should get the contract registered after the award.

**CHAIRMAN -PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE**  
**STATE PHARMACEUTICALS CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA**  
75, SIR BARON JAYATILAKE MAWATHA  
COLOMBO 1  
SRI LANKA.

FAX : 00 94-11- 2335008/2344082  
TELEPHONE : 00 94-11- 2335008/2326227/2335374  
E-MAIL : [dgmsurgical@spc.lk](mailto:dgmsurgical@spc.lk)

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Matara - TEL: 041 22 35 412 FAX: 041 22 29 728 / Nugegoda - TEL: 011 2 828 114 FAX: 011 4 300 860 / Jaffna - TEL: 021 2225361 FAX: 021 22 25 361

A project funded by :



A project implemented by :

**CALL FOR TENDERS****SUPPLY OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS FOR CONSTRUCTING 10 GRAVITY FED WATER SYSTEMS (IGFWS) FOR SELECTED ESTATES IN AMBAGAMUWA DIVISIONAL SECRETARIAT DIVISION, NUWARA ELIYA DISTRICT****PHASE 3,4 – Construction of 10IGFWS****Ref. No.2020\_10\_001\_NE\_IGFWS\_MAT\_PHS 3&4**

**Assisting Communities in Creating Environmental and Nutritional Development (ACCEND)** is a project funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented jointly by ADRA UK, ADRA Sri Lanka, and Oxfam Italy. The overall objective of the project is to contribute towards the improvement of health, nutrition, hygiene and sanitation of the rural and estate communities in Uva and Central provinces.

Through the ACCEND project, ADRA and Oxfam intend to construct a total of 10 Improved Gravity Fed Water Supply Schemes in selected estates in Ambagamuwa Divisional Secretariat Division in Nuwara - Eliya District. These constructions will be carried out through contributions from both community and estate management.

We invite suitable construction **MATERIAL SUPPLIERS** to submit tenders under the given tender reference number.

Interested parties can **COLLECT THE RELEVANT TENDER DOCUMENTS** at the undermentioned project offices at Hatton and Colombo 9.00 am to 3.30 pm during weekdays (on Fridays between **9.00 am and 12.00 noon**) from **19th October 2020 to 29th October 2020**. **CONTACT PERSON** for collecting tenders is Operations Manager, ADRA Sri Lanka on 071 929 4767 (Colombo) or Logistics Assistant (Hatton) on 077 751 2539.

Required to submit ONE ORIGINAL AND ONE COPY in separate two sealed envelopes. Clearly mention the relevant TENDER REF. NO. on top left-hand corner and ORIGINAL/ COPY ON top right-hand corner of the sealed envelopes. Should place sealed envelopes carrying the ORIGINAL & COPY of the tenders in one cover envelope and clearly mark on the top left-hand corner the relevant TENDER REF. NO. The deadline for submitting tenders is **2nd November 2020, on or before 3:00 pm**. The tenders shall be submitted by registered post or by depositing in the **Tender Boxes at:**

**ACCEND Project Office, No. 167/1, 1st Lane, Dimbula Road, Hatton.**

**ADRA Head Office, No. 37, Purana Road, Wattedgedara, Maharagama.**

This tender is managed by ADRA Sri Lanka and hence, any complaints and queries related to the tender should be addressed to ADRA Sri Lanka.

**Invitation for Bids****Institute of Technology University of Moratuwa****Provision of Outdoor Cleaning and Garden Maintaining Service****For year 2020/2021****ITUM/1/2/7/2020-2021**

1. The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee (Major), on behalf of the Institute of Technology University of Moratuwa, Diyagama Homagama (ITUM) now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for providing Outdoor Cleaning and Garden Maintenance Service, for its Diyagama premises.
2. The intended service period is one year with effect from 05<sup>th</sup> December 2020.
3. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
4. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English Language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the Assistant Registrar-General Administration, Institute of Technology University of Moratuwa, Diyagama, Homagama and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 2000/- (Two Thousand Rupees) on working days from 19.10.2020 to 09.11.2020 between 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs to the Shroff of the ITUM.
5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Assistant Registrar-General Administration, Institute of Technology University of Moratuwa, Diyagama, Homagama (Tel No: 011-2124116, E-mail [ar-ga@itum.mrt.ac.lk](mailto:ar-ga@itum.mrt.ac.lk)) and inspect the Bidding Documents free of charge at the office of General Administration, Institute of Technology University of Moratuwa, Diyagama, Homagama.
6. The Bidder should also comply with the statutory requirements of payment of salaries under the Wages Board Ordinance, contribution to EPF and ETF.
7. Sealed Bids must be delivered by registered post to the address given below or deposited in the tender box kept in the Office of General Administration, ITUM **on or before 1400 hrs on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened at 1415 hrs on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at the Board Room, Division of Student Affairs, Institute of Technology University of Moratuwa, Diyagama, Homagama in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security of Rs. 60,600/= issued by a reputed commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka.
8. Bid security shall be valid until 08.02.2021.
9. Bid shall be valid until 25.01.2021
10. Pre Bid meeting is scheduled to be held on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 1400 hrs. at the ITUM

The Chairman  
Department Procurement Committee (Major)  
Institute of Technology University of Moratuwa  
Diyagama, Homagama  
18.10.2020

# SELENDIVA INVESTMENTS LTD

## INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR

### TRANSACTION ADVISORY SERVICES

Selendiva Investments Ltd, a fully owned entity of the Government of Sri Lanka, holding company for the State-Owned Hospitality Portfolios with an assets base of more than US\$ 200 million, is intending to engage the services of a Transaction Advisor with proven track record and competency in the advisory, restructure and listing process, preferably with experience in the hospitality sector.

The Company now intends to raise capital through equity in the Colombo Stock Exchange and other alternative financing options. The Scope of transaction advisory shall cover the minimum of the following scope of works to provide the most suitable financing arrangement for the Company :-

- a. Advisory services for the Company alternative investment options available and the most appropriate market driven investment option for each portfolio entity to maximise the stakeholder returns.
- b. Prepare the Information Memorandum for the Entity to arrange and coordinate the road show for the listing process and alternative financing arrangement to attract high calibre investors.
- c. To carry out all necessary formalities in order to successfully raise the capital in the optimum manner.

**Interested Bidder shall submit the Expression of Interest on or before 27th October 2020 by 3.00 p.m. in a sealed envelope stating "Expression of Interest for Transaction Advisory Service" on the top-left hand corner of the envelope.**

**The document should be addressed to:**

**The Chief Financial Officer,  
Selendiva Investments Ltd,  
C/o Hilton Colombo, Colombo 1.\***



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இலங்கை மத்திய வங்கி  
CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

## EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUND

# NOTICE

## STATEMENTS OF MEMBER ACCOUNTS FIRST HALF OF 2019

**For the special attention of all Employers and Members**

The Statements of Accounts of the members for the First Half of 2019 showing the contributions credited to the member accounts from **January to June 2019 have been posted** to the respective employers for distribution among the relevant members.

Accordingly, members of the Employees' Provident Fund are hereby requested to obtain these Statements of Accounts from their employers.

**If any discrepancies are noted with respect to the details such as member names, National Identity Card Number and the contribution amounts in these Statements, please forward the documents applicable for correction of such details through your employers to the Superintendent, Employees' Provident Fund, immediately.**

Telephone Nos. : EPF Help Desk 011-2206642  
011-2206690  
011-2206691  
011-2206692  
011-2206693

Fax No : 011-2206694

Email : [epfhelpdesk@cbsl.lk](mailto:epfhelpdesk@cbsl.lk)

**A G U Thilakarathna  
Superintendent**

**Employees' Provident Fund Department  
Central Bank of Sri Lanka, Level 12, Tower 5  
No.30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo 01.**

## For classified advertisements and for replies

received in response to advertisements published under Lake House box numbers

Please Contact

MANAGER FRONT OFFICE

Hotline: 1949



**- FOR SALE -**

**Used Air-conditioners for immediate sale in Rajagiriya.**  
 BTU 48000, 60000, 49000, 24000, 12000  
 Address:  
 No. 33, Walikadawatta Rd, Rajagiriya.  
 0706362349 / 0706539710

**SALE OF RUBBER TREES**

Approximately 950 Rubber Trees are available for sale to Contractors to uproot a 05 acre field on Nottinghill (50 Acre, Private) Estate, Kahapathwela, close to Mawathagama in the Kurunegala District. The trees could be inspected by prior appointment. **Please contact the Superintendent on 0777123737 or 0373144395.** Please submit quotation after inspection by registered post to **Mr W. De Mel, 36/5, Sir Marcus Fernando Road, Colombo 07** on or before **02nd November, 2020.**

**AMENDMENT FOR THE INVITATION FOR BIDS**



**PROCUREMENT OF GOODS FOR THE SRI LANKA AIR FORCE**

- This is with reference to the Procurement Notice published in Silumina and Sunday Observer Newspaper on **27th September 2020**, Dinnamina and Daily Newspaper on **30th September 2020**, the closing date of the following bid has been amended as follows;

Procurement Identification Number	Description	Date and time of Bid closing / opening	
		Delete	Insert
AHQ/20/PUB/E/1007	Purchase of Qty 01 Aviation Fuel Trailer Bowser (2000 Ltrs)	19 October 2020 at 1030 Hrs	02 November 2020 at 1030 Hrs

Last date of issuing of Bid Documents will be **29th October 2020.**

- All other matters in the notice will remain unchanged.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Chief Procurement Officer (Tel. 011-2325468) or Procurement Officer Tenders (Tel. 011-2441553 or 011-2441044 Extension 23569 Fax : 011- 2441553 and 011-2347694).

**Air Force Headquarters,  
 P.O. Box 1592  
 Colombo 02**

**COMMANDER OF THE AIR FORCE**



**Ministry of Plantation  
 Tea Research Institute  
 of Sri Lanka  
 Talawakelle**



**LEASING A HOUSE AND ITS PREMISES FOR A CIRCUIT BUNGALOW CUM OFFICE IN COLOMBO SUBURBS**

Quotations are invited by the Chairman, Procurement Committee(Minor), for leasing a house and its premises for a Circuit Bungalow cum office in Colombo suburbs for a minimum period of three (03) years which may be renewed by mutual consent.

**Minimum specifications required are as follows;**

- Office space - 500 sq.ft. along with a washroom facility
- A/C room 01 No. with an attached bathroom and normal 05 Nos. rooms, of which at least 03 should be with attached bathrooms
- Parking area for 05 Nos. of vehicles including an area for TRI bus
- Water supply and overhead tank (minimum 2000 ltrs. capacity)
- Drivers Room with attached bathroom for approximately 06 drivers
- Kitchen area
- Pantry
- Living area
- Boundary wall & gate
- Servant room & toilet

All bidders are kindly advised to submit self-prepared quotation giving details indicated in above number 1 to 10 and should be sent by registered post addressed to **Chairman, Procurement Committee (Minor), The Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka, St, Coombs, Talawakelle** within 02 weeks of this notice.

The quotation will be opened **04th November 2020 at 2.00 pm on the same day** in the **Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka, St Coombs, Talawakelle** and Bidder or his/her Authorized Representative is requested to be present at the time of opening of quotation.

The Chairman, Procurement Committee reserves the right to accept or reject all quotations without giving any reasons if they do not meet with the said minimum specifications.

**Chairman,  
 Procurement Committee (Minor)  
 Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka  
 Talawakelle**



**SRI LANKAN-GERMAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION**

**INVITATION FOR TENDER**

As a service provider in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development and international education work, GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH) is dedicated to shaping a future worth living around the world. GIZ has over 50 years of experience in a wide variety of areas, including economic development and employment promotion, energy and the environment, and peace and security. The diverse expertise of our federal enterprise is in demand around the globe – from the German Government, European Union institutions, the United Nations, the private sector and governments of other countries. GIZ has been working in Sri Lanka since 1956.

GIZ Sri Lanka invites interested suppliers to submit offers to supply, installation commissioning and testing the 01 unit of 100 KVA Diesel Generator

From 17th October until 23rd October 2020 we invite suppliers who are interested in submitting bids for Generator to collect tender documents, by sending their request via email to **LK\_Quotation@giz.de** with reference to **Tender 91144144-100KVA Diesel Generator.**



**Distributors Wanted**

Ceylon Beverage International (Pvt) Ltd is a BOI approved CAN and PET bottle filling company for both local and export markets. We are planning to launch new product to the market. And requiring distributors to be appointed for the purpose of covering under stated districts.

**Colombo/Gampaha/Kaluthara/Galle/Matara/Kurunegala/Kegalle/Kandy**

Requirements for qualifying

- The ability to furnish an appropriate bank guarantee
- Ability to finance sales operations
- Appropriate storage facilities
- Vehicles for redistribution (with driver & helper)

Please respond within 07 days of this advertisement, by sending in your application to the under mentioned address or email. The are/region you are applying for should be stated clearly on the top left corner of the envelop.

Ceylon Beverage International (Pvt) Ltd.  
 Lot No. 53 B, Horana Export Processing Zone,  
 Poruwadanda, Boralugoda.

Email: [careers@ceylonbeverage.com](mailto:careers@ceylonbeverage.com)  
 Telephone  
 0778743982



**State Mortgage & Investment Bank**

**REGISTRATION OF SUPPLIERS FOR THE YEAR 2021**

Applications are invited for the Registration of Suppliers to supply the following goods, works and services for the year 2021

**Group 01 - Machinery**

- Accounting Machines & Calculators
- Air-conditioners
- Cheque Writer Machines
- Generators
- Multi Media Projectors
- Notes & Coins Counting Machines
- Photocopiers
- Postal Franking Machines
- Refrigerators
- Television Sets
- Typewriters (Manual / Electronic)
- Fax Machines
- Finger Print Sensor Machines
- All types of Weighing Machines
- Any other types of office Machines
- Date Stamping Machines

**Group 02 - Computers, Computer Peripherals & Networking**

- Computers & Laptops
- Network Accessories
- Printers Passbook, Dot Matrix, Laser
- Uninterruptible Power Supply Units (UPS Units)
- Network Cabling
- Data Links
- (Mouse, Keyboard, Mouse pad) computer items
- CDs/DVDs - Recordable & Rewritable
- Printer, Fax, Scanner Photocopy, Typewriter Machines, Ribbon, Toner, Cartridge, Drum Unit, Imaging Unit, Imaging Unit, Fuser Unit
- Power Supply, Hard Disk, DVD Ram, Mother Board, Processor Fan
- Storage Media (Diskettes, Tapes, USB Pen Drives, Head Cleaning Kits, etc.)
- Any other types of computer accessories
- Computer Software Development

**Group 03 - Office Furniture & Miscellaneous Equipment**

- Audio - Visual Equipment
- Bank Safes, Vault Doors, Time Lockers / Drop Safes, Safes & Fire Resistance Cupboards
- Clocks
- Communication equipment & Public address systems
- Fan (Pedestal, Ceiling, Wall)
- Filters / Boilers / Kettles
- Fire equipment
  - Fire Extinguishers
  - Fire Protection Equipment
  - Fire Alarm Systems
  - Repairs to Fire Fighting Equipment
- Floor Polishers & Vacuum Cleaners
- Security & Safety Systems
  - Metal Detectors
  - CCTV Cameras
  - Security Mirrors

3.9.4 Security Alarm Systems

- Plastic Furniture
- Steel Furniture
- Office Furniture
- Any other types of miscellaneous equipment (Black Light) & Furniture
- UV Lamps

**Group 04 - Printing & Services**

- Savings Pass Books
- Annual Compliments as Diaries & Calendars
- Annual Reports & Magazines
- Computer Stationery (Continuous), Black & Pre Printed
- Envelopes
- Forms, Registers, Books & Pads etc. (Offset & Letterpress)
- Posters, Handbills, Leaflets, Brochures, etc.
- Security document printing such as Certificates of Deposits, etc.
- Binding of Books, Ledgers & Label Albums
- Ledger Binder Repairs
- Banners, Screen Printing (Cloth), Digital Printing
- All kinds of printing (ID Cards, etc.)

**Group 05 - Signboards**

- Display Boards (Plastic) e.g. FD rates & loan rates display
- Hoardings
- Illuminated Signboards (Plastic) / Name Boards

**Group 06 - Textile & Leather Products**

- Carpets
- Curtain Materials
- Flags (National & Other Types)
- Neck Ties
- Bags, Raincoats, Leather Covers
- Caps, T-Shirts, etc.
- Socks, Shoes, Trousers, Uniforms

**Group 07 - Requirements for Motor Vehicles & Repairs (Petrol & Diesel)**

- Servicing of Vehicles
- Spare parts for all kinds of Motor Vehicles
- Auto A/C repairs & services
- Vehicle Cushion Works
- Motor Vehicle repairs (Petrol & Diesel)
  - Mechanical Repairs
  - Electrical Work

**Group 08 - Services & Repairs**

- Courier Services
- Pest Control Services

3. Transport Services

- Upholstering & Rattaning
- Water Dispensers with bottles services & repairs
- Air-conditioner repairs & services
- Communication equipment repairs
- Electronic equipment repairs
- Office furniture repairing & polishing (Pressured gas, modification)
- Plant & machinery repairs (equipment, office machines including typewriters)
- Safe repairs & servicing
- Security equipment repairs
- Office / Household Machinery
- Generator Repairs
- Typewriter, Fax, Photocopier Services & Repairs
- Printer Services
- Postal Services
- All types of repairs

**Group 09 - Constructions**

- Aluminium Partitions
- Constructions / Repairing
- Painting
- Designing
- All types of construction

**Group 10 - Sundries**

- All office & general stationery
- Canvas Products
- Ceramic items

4. Complimentary & Business Promotional items

- Cash tills
- Umbrellas, Toys
- Toys - including Soft Toys
- Brass & Silverware
- Electronic Gifts
- Other complimentary items
- Flower Decorations, Gold Coins
- Paper rolls
- Photocopy Papers
- Plastic Covers for Credit Cards, Pass Books, etc.
- Rubber Stamps tokens & wax seals
- Mask, Sanitizer, Gloves, Thermometer, Foot Sanitizer Carpet
- Canopy Tent
- Sports Goods, Trophies, Shields, etc.
- Polythene Bags

**Group 11 - Advertising**

- Electronic, Printing advertising
- Graphic Designing and creative
- Banners, Posters, hand bills, fixing nameboards
- TV commercial productions
- Mobile Live promotions
- 2D, 3D Designing
- Designing Stalls
- Street Promotions
- Business Researches handling
- Creative Business Ideas
- Customer Satisfaction Survey Device

**Terms & Conditions :**

Applications should conform to the following conditions :

- Those who wish to register themselves should obtain application forms from CM (Human Resources & Logistics) on payment of a non-refundable fee of **Rs. 2000/= per each category.**
- Application forms which do not accompany the copy of the Business Registration Certificate, Financial Statements for 03 years and VAT Registration Certificate, etc. will be rejected without notification and will not be registered.
- If the spouse or children of employees of the bank are applicants / proprietors / partners / directors of the companies, such applicants are not eligible to apply for registration.
- The bank reserves the full right to register only the applicants whose credentials are found to be satisfactory on evaluation of each application at the sole discretion of the Bank Authority.
- Application forms will be issued from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. on weekdays till 15th November 2020 at SMIB Head Office and other Branches. Completed applications should be forwarded under registered post or handed over to Chief Manager (HR & L), Administration & Supplies Division, 4th Floor, State Mortgage & Investment Bank, 269, Galle Road, Colombo 03 at or before **3.00 p.m. on 21.11.2020.** Please mark **"Registration of Suppliers - 2021"** on the top left-hand corner of the envelope contain the applications.
- Suppliers already registered with us should also re-apply for registration.

**For any further clarification, please contact -**

**011-7722879, 011-7722784 Chief Manager (Human Resources & Logistics)**

**General Manager,  
 State Mortgage & Investment Bank,  
 269, Galle Road, Colombo 03.**



## TENDER NOTICE

The State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka, Colombo 01 invites quotations from registered and previous sources for following items for open market sales and tenders will be closed at 1.15 p.m. on the dates given below. (E.mail / Fax offers as well as FOB offers are not acceptable).

Item	Quantity	Tender No.	Closing on
Item Code No.: 010104G34 Thiopental Sodium for Injection BP/USP 500mg	7,000 Vials	RES/28/10/A/2020	28.10.2020
Item Code No.: 310123V99 Absorbent Cotton Gauze Type 13 BP 88 OR Absorbent Cotton Gauze SLS 395 : 1985 (Add 87) (1987) Finished Width 36 inches or 91cm unstretched Length 100 yards or 92.3m. Each roll packed in moisture proof and dust proof packs.	3,600 Rolls	RES/28/10/B/2020	28.10.2020
Item Code No.: 120308C99 Carvedilol Tablets 6.25mg In 10 x 10 Tablets (Blister)	30,000 Packs	RES/04/11/A/2020	04.11.2020
Item Code No : 180503C20 Sitagliptin Tablets 50mg In 30 Tablets (Blister)	420,000 Packs	RES/04/11/B/2020	04.11.2020
Item Code No : 010301G62 Atropine Injection BP 600mcg/ml OR Atropine Sulphate Injection USP 600mcg/ml	6,000 Ampoules	RES/04/11/C/2020	04.11.2020

These tenders are administered by the provisions of the "Public Contracts Act No. 3 of 1987" and therefore, in the event bidder is to retain an Agent, Sub-Agent, Representative, Nominee for and on behalf of tenderer shall register himself and such Public Contract in accordance with Section 10 of the Public Contracts Act and produce such valid Certificate of Registration in the course of any transaction relating to the tender or Act at any stage in the duration of the tender.

Tenders will be closed at the office of the State Pharmaceuticals Corporation at 1.15 p.m. on the dates indicated against each tender and will be opened immediately thereafter. Tenderers or their authorized representatives will be permitted to be present at the time of opening of Tender.

The Chairman – Procurement Committee  
**State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka**  
75, Sir Baron Jayathilake Mawatha,  
Colombo 01.  
Phone : 00 94 11 2 230 356 – 9



## Registration of Suppliers & Contractors - 2021

The Lanka Hospitals Corporation PLC (PQ 180) wishes to invite applications from those who wish to register as suppliers/contractors for the following goods and services for the 1<sup>st</sup> six months of 2021.

Categories	Description
Medical	Medical Equipment & services/Medical Equipment spare parts /Medical Instruments/ Medical consumables/Dental consumables/Pharmaceuticals / Cosmetics and other
Food & Beverages	Sea foods /Vegetables & fruits/Meats and Meat related products/Grocery items/Dairy Products/Processed Food
Engineering	Hardware Items/Plumbing related fittings & instruments/Bathware & sanitary/Air Conditioners & relevant spare parts/ Power tools /Lights/ Medical related engineering works & items / Power related items / Other service equipment
Construction	Civil Work / Electrical Work / Plumbing Work & Sewage related work/ Carpeting and Flooring /Aluminium & partition work / Painting and Interior work
Furniture	Office Furniture / Hospital Furniture / Plastic Furniture / Domestic Furniture
IT , Communication Equipment and related services	Computer hardware / Computer software applications / Communication related equipment / Computer consumables & services / Communication consumables & services.
Automobile	Vehicle & Spare Parts (Tyres, Batteries, Oil & Lubricants) / Servicing, Repairing and Maintenance of vehicles, Mechanical repairs, Painting, Periodic service, Internal modifications (especially for ambulances)
Housekeeping	Chemical items / Carpets / Cleaning instruments / Housekeeping related Items
Printing & Advertising	Printing /Advertising & Branding / Related services
Stationery	Stationery related items and instruments (Binding Machines/ Laminating Machines), etc
Textile & Footwear	Uniforms / Linen / Footwear
Fire & Safety	Safety equipment / Other consumables / Fire extinguishers and related services
Electrical and Electronic Appliances/Kitchen Machinery & Equipment	Electrical and Electronic Appliances & related services & repair / Kitchen Machinery & Equipment / Crockery, Cutlery & Glassware
Plastic & Paper Products	Plastic & disposable Product / Paper Products
Support Services	Wheel chair services, Transportation services, Security services, Janitorial Services, Pest control services, Flower arrangement, Renting services
Other Services / disposable & Supplies	Parking corns, Wing corns etc Items not stated above (Please specify .....)

Please forward a request letter with documentary evidence (Business Registration & Article of Association) for the category which you are capable to cater in order to obtain the Registration forms.Registration forms are issued from 19th October 2020 to 20th November 2020 (Working days) at the Procurement Department on the 4th Floor of Administration Building of Lanka Hospitals from 09.30hrs to 02.30hrs by paying a non-refundable fee of,

✓ Rs.1, 500/= (for above each category) as registration/renewal from all vendors for 2021.

**Vendors who are registered for the year 2020 are requested to submit a confirmation with request letter, stating that the company profile & contact details are remaining unchanged; otherwise it should be specified.**

**Duly filled Forms** should be handed over to The Manager Procurement, Lanka Hospitals, Administration Building, No. 598, Elvitigala Mawatha, Colombo 05, to reach him on or before 20th November 2020. Please state "Suppliers Registration – 2021 for 1st six months of the year" on the top left hand corner of the envelope. A copy of the receipt of your registration fee and a copy of business registration document should be attached with the Registration Form. Suppliers/contractors are required to fill and submit all details requested in the Registration Form.

The Lanka Hospitals Corporation PLC reserves the right to call upon non-registered suppliers & contractors as and when necessary.

**Manager – Procurement,  
Lanka Hospitals Administration Building,  
No. 598, Elvitigala Mawatha,  
Colombo 05.  
www.lankahospitals.com**

**Procurement Department  
Tel: 0115 430 000 Ext: (8577/8578)**

## NOTICE TO PUBLIC



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இலங்கை மத்திய வங்கி  
CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

### REGISTERED FINANCE LEASING ESTABLISHMENTS (RFLEs) UNDER FINANCE LEASING ACT NO. 56 OF 2000 AS AT 30.09.2020

- The following financial institutions are registered under Central Bank of Sri Lanka to carry on "finance leasing business" as per the Finance Leasing Act No. 56 of 2000 (FLA).
- As per the provisions of FLA, carrying out finance leasing business without obtaining registration is an offence.

#### (A) LICENSED COMMERCIAL BANKS

- Amana Bank PLC
- Bank of Ceylon
- Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC
- DFCC Bank PLC
- Hatton National Bank PLC
- MCB Bank Ltd.
- National Development Bank PLC
- Nations Trust Bank PLC
- Pan Asia Banking Corporation PLC
- Sampath Bank PLC
- Seylan Bank PLC
- Union Bank of Colombo PLC

#### (B) LICENSED SPECIALISED BANKS

- Housing Development Finance Corporation Bank of Sri Lanka
- Pradeshya Sanwardana Bank
- Sri Lanka Savings Bank Ltd.
- Sanasa Development Bank PLC

#### (C) SPECIALISED LEASING COMPANIES

- Assetline Leasing Co. Ltd.
- Co-operative Leasing Co. Ltd.
- SMB Leasing PLC

#### (D) LICENSED FINANCE COMPANIES

- Abans Finance PLC
- Alliance Finance Co. PLC
- AMW Capital Leasing and Finance PLC
- Arpico Finance Co. PLC
- Asia Asset Finance PLC
- Associated Motor Finance Co. PLC
- Bimputh Finance PLC
- Central Finance Co. PLC
- Citizens Development Business Finance PLC
- Commercial Credit and Finance PLC
- Commercial Leasing & Finance PLC
- Dialog Finance PLC
- Fintrex Finance Ltd.
- HNB Finance PLC
- Ideal Finance Ltd.
- Kanrich Finance Ltd.\*
- Lanka Credit and Business Finance Ltd.
- L B Finance PLC
- LOLC Development Finance PLC
- LOLC Finance PLC
- Mercantile Investments and Finance PLC
- Merchant Bank of Sri Lanka & Finance PLC
- Multi Finance PLC
- Nation Lanka Finance PLC
- Orient Finance PLC
- People's Leasing & Finance PLC
- People's Merchant Finance PLC
- Prime Finance PLC
- Richard Peiris Finance Ltd
- Sarvodaya Development Finance Ltd.
- Senkadagala Finance PLC
- Serendib Finance Ltd.
- Sinhaputra Finance PLC\*
- Singer Finance (Lanka) PLC
- Siyapatha Finance PLC
- Softlogic Finance PLC
- Trade Finance & Investments PLC
- U B Finance Co. Ltd.
- Vallibel Finance PLC

\* Restrictions have been imposed by the Monetary Board on conducting new leasing business.

Director - Department of Supervision of Non Bank Financial Institutions  
Central Bank of Sri Lanka, No. 30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo 01

☎ 0112477504 ☎ 0112477738 @ dsnbf@cbsl.lk

## AMENDMENT FOR THE INVITATION FOR BIDS

### MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

#### CAPITAL OVERHAUL, PROGRAMMED DEPOT MAINTENANCE (PDM), MAJOR OVERHAUL AND SERVICE LIFE EXTENSION OF AIRCRAFT AND HELICOPTERS OF THE SRI LANKA AIR FORCE

- This is with reference to the Procurement Notice published in Silumina ,Varamanjari and Sunday Observer Newspaper on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2020, Dinamina, Daily Newspaper and Thinakaran on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020, the closing date of the following bids have been amended as follows :

Procurement Identification Number	Description	Date and time of Bid closing / opening	
		Delete	Insert
AHQ/19/FR/M17/1015	Capital Overhaul of SMH-4419 MI-171E Helicopter	23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2020 at 1400Hrs	23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2020 at 1400Hrs
AHQ/19/FR/M17/1016	Capital Overhaul of SMH-4429 MI-171E Helicopter	22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2020 at 1400Hrs	23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2020 at 1100Hrs
AHQ/18/FR/HRC/1009	Programmed Depot Maintenance (PDM) of SCH-880 C-130 Aircraft	23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2020 at 1100Hrs	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2020 at 1400Hrs
AHQ/17/FR/ANT/1008	Major Overhaul and Service Life Extension of SCM-868 AN-32B Aircraft	22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2020 at 1100Hrs	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2020 at 1100Hrs

- The period for the site inspection of helicopters and aircrafts and helicopters is extended till 09<sup>th</sup> November 2020 and 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020 respectively between 0900hrs to 1500hrs on every working day.
- Last date of issuing of bids will be 21<sup>st</sup> November 2020 for helicopters and 30<sup>th</sup> December 2020 for aircrafts.
- All bidders shall be extended the bid validity periods up to 30. 06. 2021 and validity the bid security up to 31. 07. 2021
- All other matters in the notice will remain unchanged.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Chief Procurement Officer (Tel. 011-2325468) or Procurement Officer Tenders (Tel. 011-2441553 or 011-2441044 Extension 23569 Fax: 011- 2441553 and 011-2347694).

**Air Force Headquarters,  
P.O. Box 1592  
Colombo 02**

**COMMANDER OF THE AIR FORCE**

**www.wadz.lk**  
it's what you want

## MINISTRY OF PLANTATION



## SRI LANKA TEA BOARD

Appointing a Contractor for Packing & Supplying of Tea Packs of Sri Lanka Tea Board for the period of 03 Years (2021/2022/2023)

**Bid No.: PROC/SOLE/PACK/20**

The Chairman, Procurement Committee of Sri Lanka Tea Board, 574, Galle Road, Colombo 03 will receive sealed bids for the Appointing a Contractor for Packing & Supplying of Tea Packs of Sri Lanka Tea Board for a period of 03 years (2021, 2022 & 2023) from reputed companies up to 2.00 p.m. on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

**Qualifications required by the Bidder:**

1. The bidder must have registered as a Ceylon Tea exporting company for last 10 years under SLTB.
2. The bidder must have state-of-the-art packing machineries, equipment and facilities to fulfill the packing requirements of SLTB (not applicable to contract packers)
3. The bidder must have modern warehousing/storage facilities to fulfill the storage requirement of both packing material and finished goods of SLTB
4. Bidder should have performance over 5 years as a value added exporter
5. Bidder must have GNIP and HACCP certification and must follow adequate health & hygiene practices in the production facility.
6. The location of the packing plant of bidder must have easy accessibility to Colombo suburb.
7. Entities that have won recognition/awards will be given preference.

Bidders could purchase Bid Documents on application made on their official letterhead along with the deposit slip from Procurement Section, Sri Lanka Tea Board, 574, Galle Rd, Colombo 3 from 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020 on payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 2,000/= per set of documents. All payments should be made at Account No. 1633709 (Account Holder Sri Lanka Tea Board) at Bank of Ceylon 2<sup>nd</sup> Branch Kollupitiya, till 6<sup>th</sup> November 2020 and furnish the deposit slip to issue the bid document. Bids should be submitted only on documents purchased from the Sri Lanka Tea Board. Bid Documents may be inspected at the Sri Lanka Tea Board Procurement Section situated at the above address free of charge.

Pre-Bid Meeting will be conducted at 10.00 a.m. on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at Auditorium of Sri Lanka Tea Board.

Bids may be sent by registered cover in duplicate with Bid Security of Rs.750,000/= obtained from a reputed Bank which is registered under the Central Bank of Sri Lanka for the Procuring, Packing and Supplying of Range of Tea Packs of Tea Board valid for 148 days from the date of opening of the bids as required in the Bid Document, addressed to the Chairman, Procurement Committee, Sri Lanka Tea Board, 574, Galle Rd, Colombo 3.

Bids will be opened at the Procurement Section, Sri Lanka Tea Board, 574, Galle Rd, Colombo 3 immediately after the closing time. Bidders or their Authorized Representatives are allowed to be present at the opening of bids.

All clarifications shall be sought from Mr. Tharanga Abeysekera, Assistant Director(Promotion), Sri Lanka Tea Board, 574, Galle Road, Colombo 03 (Tel: 011-2587814).

**Chairman  
Procurement Committee  
Sri Lanka Tea Board,  
574, Galle Rd,  
Colombo 3.**

## PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT PLC

## INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

**SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING, COMMISSIONING AND MAINTENANCE OF 120kVA UPS SYSTEM, 8x35 kW ROW COOLING TYPE AIR-CONDITIONING SYSTEM AND POWER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR THE PROPOSED DATA CENTRE ON FLOOR 05 OF THE BANK OF CEYLON HEADQUARTERS BUILDING**

**Bid No. PDL/SP/2020/04**

1. The Chief Executive Officer, Property Development PLC, Floor 19, Bank of Ceylon Headquarters Building, "BOC Square", No. 01, Bank of Ceylon Mawatha, Colombo 01, now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning & Maintenance of 120 kVA UPS System, 8 x 35 kW Row Cooling Type Air Conditioning System and Power Distribution System for the proposed Data Centre on Floor 05 of the Bank of Ceylon Headquarters Building as described below and the estimated cost of Rs. 85 Million excluding VAT.

The Works consist of Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning & Maintenance of 120 kVA UPS System, 8 x 35 kW Row Cooling Type Air Conditioning System and Power Distribution System for the proposed Data Centre on Floor 05 of the Bank of Ceylon Headquarters Building at Colombo 01.

The time for completion for the whole of works shall be 210 Calendar Days.

2. Bidding will be conducted through **National Competitive Bidding procedure.**
3. To be eligible for contract award, the bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall be registered with **CIDA-EM1 Grade**, under the field of Specialty of Mechanical Ventilation and Air Conditioning (MVAC) or Electrical Installations (Low Voltage) or Extra Low Voltage Installations. **A valid registration should be available at the time of closing the bid. Failure to submit a valid registration with the bid will result in rejection of the bid.**
4. Qualification requirements to qualify for award of the Contract include (the relevant documentary evidence must be submitted with the Bid in order to prove that the Bidder meets all of the following qualification requirements, **failing which the relevant Bid will be liable for rejection**):
  - (a) An accredited local agent/authorized distributor should be available in Sri Lanka for the make of UPS system being proposed. (Documentary evidence must be submitted with the Bid).
  - (b) The accredited local agent/authorized distributor of UPS system being proposed must have at least 7 years' experience in the supply, installation and maintenance of UPS Systems (Documentary evidence with full details must be submitted with the Bid) and must have successfully supplied and installed at least 2 Nos. 100 kVA UPS System or higher capacities UPSs of the proposed make within the past 5 years from the closing date of the Bid (Documentary evidence with full details must be submitted with the Bid).
  - (c) The accredited local agent/authorized distributor of UPS system being proposed must have at least One Engineer/Technical Officer in their permanent cadre who have been factory trained for UPS System being offered (Documentary evidence must be submitted with the Bid).
  - (d) An accredited local agent/an authorized distributor should be available in Sri Lanka for the make of Row Cooling Type Air Conditioning System being proposed (Documentary evidence with full details must be submitted with the Bid). The local agent/authorized distributor must have at least one Engineer/Technical Officer in their permanent cadre who have been factory trained for Row Cooling Type Air Conditioning System being offered (Documentary evidence must be submitted with the Bid).
  - (e) A minimum of Two (02) Row Cooling Type Air Conditioning Installations with the make being proposed must have been successfully supplied and installed in Sri Lanka within the past 5 years from the date of closing of the Bid by the local agent/authorized distributor (Documentary evidence with full details must be submitted with the Bid).

or

A minimum of four (04) Row Cooling Type Air Conditioning installations with the make being proposed must have been successfully supplied and installed in South Asian region within the past 5 years from the date of closing of the Bid (Documentary evidence with full details must be submitted with the Bid),

- (f) The Bidder must have an average annual turnover of not less than LKR 220 Million for the past 3 financial years from the date of closing of the Bid (Documentary evidence in terms of audited accounts must be submitted with the Bid)
  - (g) The Bidder must have experience in successful completion of at least one similar or higher nature & complexity contract within the past 5 years from the closing date of the bid (Documentary evidences for name of the contract, employer, contract amount, contract period, date of completion etc. shall be submitted with the Bid).
  - (h) The minimum amount of liquid assets and/or credit facilities net of other contractual commitments and exclusive of any advance payments which may be made under the contract shall be not less than Rupees Thirty Six Million (36 Million).
5. Bidding documents may be inspected free of charge at the office of the **Maintenance Manager, Property Development PLC, Floor 19, Bank of Ceylon Headquarters Building, "BOC Square", No. 01, Bank of Ceylon Mawatha, Colombo 01**, from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs on working days from **19 October 2020** until **28 October 2020**.
  6. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested prospective bidders on submission of a written application in their company letterhead to the **Maintenance Manager, Property Development PLC, Floor 19, Bank of Ceylon Headquarters Building, "BOC Square", No. 01, Bank of Ceylon Mawatha, Colombo 01**, on any working day from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs: from **19 October 2020** until **16 November 2020**, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Rs. 7,500.00** per set of documents only. The method of payment will be in cash.
  7. Sealed bids shall be deposited in the tender box available at the office of **Property Development PLC, Floor 19, Bank of Ceylon Headquarters Building, "BOC Square", No. 01, Bank of Ceylon Mawatha, Colombo 01**, or sent by registered post addressed to **The Chief Executive Officer, Property Development PLC, Floor 19, Bank of Ceylon Headquarters Building, "BOC Square", No. 01, Bank of Ceylon Mawatha, Colombo 01** at the above address to reach him at or before **1500 hrs on 17 November 2020**. Late bids will not be accepted. Bids will be opened immediately after closing. Bidders or their representatives may attend the bid opening.
  8. Bid shall be valid up to **16 February 2021 (91 Days from the date of closing the bids)**.
  9. Bid shall be accompanied by a bid security for **Rupees One Million Only (Rs.1,000,000.00)** by a Bank Guarantee or an official cheque issued by a licensed commercial bank, which shall be valid up to **16 March 2021 (119 Days from the date of closing the bids)**.
  10. The pre-bid meeting will be held on **28 October 2020 at 1500 hrs** at the office of the Property Development PLC on Floor 19, Bank of Ceylon Headquarters Building, "BoC Square", No. 01, Bank of Ceylon Mawatha, Colombo -01.
  11. For further details, please contact the **Maintenance Manager, Property Development PLC, Floor 19, Bank of Ceylon Headquarters Building, "BoC Square", No. 01, Bank of Ceylon Mawatha, Colombo 01** on Telephone No. **011-2544328 / 2380949**.

**The Maintenance Manager,  
Property Development PLC,  
Floor 19, Bank of Ceylon Headquarters Building,  
"BOC Square", No. 01,  
Bank of Ceylon Mawatha,  
Colombo 01.**

## INVITATION FOR BIDS

## CEFAP/PRT/04/2020 - SUPPLY OF 15,000 KGS OF RED PHOSPHORUS

1. The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee (DPC) on behalf of the Ministry of Defence (Commercial Explosive Firearms and Ammunition Procurement (CEFAP) Unit of Sri Lanka Navy) now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for supply of **15,000 Kgs. of Red Phosphorus** for the CEPAP Unit of Sri Lanka Navy.
2. Eligible bidders are: Manufacturers / Import and supply basis dealers / Foreign principals through Local Agents.
3. Packing and packaging: Red Phosphorus shall be packed in seaworthy polyliner iron drums with desiccant bags/seaworthy strong non porous plastic bags with desiccant bags. The iron drums/plastic bag should be securely closed. The entire consignment to be in 20 foot Containers. Should indicate date of manufacture and shelf life/date of Expiry on each drum/plastic bag.
4. Bidding will be conducted through: International Competitive Bidding.
5. Documents to be furnished: Financial statement, Past Performances Report for last 3 years, Receipt for the payment made to purchase Bid document, Authorized standard certificate for Power of Attorney.
6. Bid validity period: The bid shall be valid up to 05th March 2021.
7. Bid guarantee period: The validity date of the bid security shall be up to 05th April 2021.
8. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from:
 

The Director,  
Commercial Explosive Firearms and Ammunition Procurement (CEFAP) Unit,  
C/O The Commander of the Navy,  
Government Explosive Stores,  
Welisara, Ragama,  
Sri Lanka.  
Telephone: 011 2 955 514 / 011 2 958 227  
Facsimile number: 011 2 955 515  
Electronic mail address: [cefap@navy.lk](mailto:cefap@navy.lk)
9. Qualification requirements: Bidder shall complete/supply at least 15,000 Kgs Red Phosphorus during the past 2 years.
10. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below;
 

The Director,  
Commercial Explosive Firearms and Ammunition Procurement (CEFAP) Unit,  
C/O The Commander of the Navy,  
Government Explosive Stores,  
Welisara, Ragama,  
Sri Lanka.

...and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Rs. 3,500.00 or in USD 20.00**. The method of payment will be by cash to above mentioned office or credited to Account: The commander of the Navy, Account No. 7041344.

11. Bids must be delivered to to address below:

Chairman,  
Department Procurement Committee,  
Naval Headquarters,  
P.O. Box 593,  
Colombo 01.

on or before **03rd December 2020, 1400 hrs**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person. All bids must be accompanied by a "Bid-Security," of Rs. 400,000.00 (or 2,200 USDs).

**Chairman DPC**

## United Nations Development Programme

## Call for Proposals from NGOs



“Livelihood Support to Resettled Communities –  
Jaffna, Mullaitivu, Kilinochchi, Batticaloa and Trincomalee”

under the

## “Joint Programme for Peace (JPP)”

UNDP partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in 177 countries and territories, we offer global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations.

This Call for Proposal (CFP) is specifically related to the Joint Programme for Peace (JPP) focusing on support returned and resettled families with sustainable livelihood assistance and to improve capacity of resettled communities to engage in productive measures including community collective-engagement and re-integration, small business development, value addition for local resources, establishing market linkages, employment generation, enhance access to government services delivery and make returned and resettled communities to be socially accountable for their grievances and to make them take-part in the durable solutions for conflict-affected displacement.

In this context, the United Nations Development Programme in Sri Lanka invites eligible National and/or international Non-Government Organizations to submit their Information and proposals to partner with UNDP for the implementation of the ‘Sustainable Livelihoods and Cross Cutting Areas projects in Jaffna, Mullaitivu, Kilinochchi, Batticaloa and Trincomalee.

Proposal Reference	Location
CFP/JPP/2020/91	Jaffna (Tellipalai, Sandilipay, Uduvil )
CFP/JPP/2020/92	Jaffna (Chankanai, Karainagar, Kayts )
CFP/JPP/2020/93	Kilinochchi (Pachchilaipalli, Poonakary, Kandawalai)
CFP/JPP/2020/94	Mullaithivu (Meritimepatru, Oddusuddan, Thunukkai, Manthai East)
CFP/JPP/2020/95	Bataloa (Koralaipattu North, Koralaipattu, Koralaipattu South, Koralaipattu Central, Manmunai west, Eravurpattu )
CFP/JPP/2020/96	Trincomalee (Kuchavely, Town & Gravets, Thampalakamam, Morawewa, Muthur, Kinniya, Seruvilla, Kanthalai, Eachilampattu)

A virtual Pre-proposal meeting will be conducted via zoom on 22 October 2020 at 10.00 am to 11:00am (Sri Lanka Time). Proposers' participation is highly recommended.

This procurement process is being conducted through Online Tendering System of UNDP and all related information together with detailed instructions can be accessed from [www.lk.undp.org](http://www.lk.undp.org) >procurement > procurement notices

Deadline for submission of proposals is 26 October 2020 at 2.00 pm Sri Lanka time.

NOTE: Bid Submission deadline appearing on e-Tendering portal will be FINAL and prevail on the ones appearing on all places.

Proposals submitted via email or by hard copies will not be accepted.

Head of Procurement  
United Nations Development Programme  
202-204, Baudhaloka Mawatha  
Colombo 07, Sri Lanka

UNDP reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal. The procurement process will be governed by the rules and regulations of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

## PROCUREMENT NOTICE

## FIRST CLASS WEB OFFSET NEWSPRINT

IMP/ADV/2020/17

The Chairman, Procurement Committee, The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited (ANCL) hereby invites sealed bids from Manufacturers, Representatives or their Accredited Agents in Sri Lanka for the supply of First Class Web Offset Newsprint conforming to the undermentioned basic specifications.

ITEM	: FIRST CLASS WEB OFFSET NEWSPRINT
SUBSTANCE & QUANTITY	: 48.8 GSM - 250 MT 45 GSM - 1,250 MT 42 GSM - 1,500 MT
REEL DIAMETER	: 48.8 GSM - 1016 — 1066 mm (MAXIMUM) 45 GSM - 1016 — 1066 mm (MAXIMUM) 42 GSM - 1016 — 1270 mm (MAXIMUM)
REEL WIDTH	: 350 mm, 700 mm
CORE INNER	: 76 mm
Expected Time of Arrival (ETA)	: From January 2021 onwards

- Bids should be submitted on Bid Documents available at Procurement Department of the Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Ltd, with a payment of a non-refundable tender fee of Rs. 5,000/- in cash. Bid documents will be issued during office hours until 06th November 2020.
- Bid Documents are also available at the website [www.lakehouse.lk/tenders](http://www.lakehouse.lk/tenders) and could also be used with a non-refundable payment of Rs. 5,000/-.
- Per MT price to be quoted in acceptable currency preferably in US\$ giving both FOB and CIF quotes on LC at sight basis and 90 days usance basis. Freight and insurance charges of CIF offers are to be indicated separately. **ANCL reserves the right to place the order on FOB or on CIF terms.**
- Bids should accompany a Bid Bond valuing Rs. 300,000/- issued by a reputed bank in Sri Lanka with a validity of 120 days from the opening date of the tender.
- Performance Bond equivalent to 10% of the total value of the order, issued by a reputed bank in Sri Lanka with a validity period of 180 days should be submitted by every successful bidder before establishment of the L/C.
- Separate bid documents should be used for each bid.
- New suppliers will be considered only after testing the quality of the samples.
- Complete bidding documents enclosed in a sealed envelope marked "Bids for First Class Web Offset Newsprint" on the top left hand corner should be sent to reach the below address by registered post on or before 14.00 hrs on 09<sup>th</sup> November 2020 or deposited in the tender box provided in the Procurement Department. **Late bids will be rejected.** Bids will be opened soon after closing the bid, in the presence or bidders or their authorized representatives.
- Further information could be obtained from the Procurement Department of ANCL on 011-2429422 or 011-2429451.
- The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason whatsoever.



Chairman - Procurement Committee

The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Ltd.  
"Lake House", No. 35, D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha, Colombo 10.

For details: 2429422, 2429452



SGP The GEF  
Small Grants  
Programme



## Call for Proposals

Knowledge Management for the Mannar Landscape  
GEF/SGP OP-6 Programme

UNDP is UN's global development network, on the ground in 178 countries. The Global Environment Facility/Small Grants Programme (GEF/SGP) implemented by UNDP is a financial mechanism that offers grant assistance to initiatives of Non-Governmental Organizations and Community Based Organizations that contribute to the environment.

During SGP's Sixth Operational Phase (OP-6), SGP Upgrading Country Programmes (UCPs) offer an opportunity to refine and broadly apply a community-based landscape approach, taking advantage of SGP experience in certain sectors and geographic regions and the well-developed civil society and market networks.

The objective of the landscape project is to enable community-based organizations to take collective action for adaptive landscape management for socio-ecological resilience through design, implementation, and evaluation of grant projects for global environmental benefits and sustainable development in three ecologically sensitive landscapes: **the Knuckles Conservation Forest and its buffer zone, the coastal region from Mannar Island to Jaffna, and the Colombo Wetlands.**

This is a call for expressions of interest from relevant agencies and registered Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to develop and implement Knowledge Management for the Mannar Landscape. The selected partners will undertake the following tasks:

- Knowledge management, capacity building of communities and enhancing linkages among stakeholders and projects, in part by bringing technical expertise from universities, government and private sector institutes in the Mannar Landscape.
- Create knowledge management platforms to facilitate links among communities, promote information sharing, and provide access to knowledge resources that are relevant to their individual projects in the Mannar Landscape.
- Develop case studies and impact assessments at the end of each grant project's implementation to highlight outcomes, lessons learned, future efforts to strengthen landscape planning and management processes and opportunities for upscaling in the Mannar Landscape

**One awardee**, will be selected to undertake the above work for a period of approximately 1½ years from the date of commencement. Proposals should be submitted by post or e mail : [gefsgp.lk@undp.org](mailto:gefsgp.lk@undp.org) on or before 2nd November 2020 to reach GEF/SGP UNDP, 202-204, Baudhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 07. For further information, please contact the GEF/SGP Office Tel: 011 2580692 Ext. 1421 or 1422. **The Project Proposal Format, Evaluation Criteria and the Terms of Reference and Conditions can be downloaded from the GEF SGP Sri Lanka website at [www.gefsgpsl.org/](http://www.gefsgpsl.org/)**

Please note only shortlisted candidates will be contacted by the GEF/SGP office for further evaluation and recommendation by the National Steering Committee.



SGP The GEF  
Small Grants  
Programme



## Call for Proposals

Capacity Building of NGO partners of the  
GEF/SGP OP-6 Programme

UNDP is UN's global development network, on the ground in 178 countries. The Global Environment Facility/Small Grants Programme (GEF/SGP) implemented by UNDP is a financial mechanism that offers grant assistance to initiatives of Non-Governmental Organizations and Community Based Organizations that contribute to the environment.

During SGP's Sixth Operational Phase (OP-6), SGP Upgrading Country Programmes (UCPs) offer an opportunity to refine and broadly apply a community-based landscape approach, taking advantage of SGP experience in certain sectors and geographic regions and the well-developed civil society and market networks.

The objective of the landscape project is to enable community-based organizations to take collective action for adaptive landscape management for socio-ecological resilience through design, implementation, and evaluation of grant projects for global environmental benefits and sustainable development in three ecologically sensitive landscapes: **the Knuckles Conservation Forest and its buffer zone, the coastal region from Mannar Island to Jaffna, and the Colombo Wetlands.**

This is a call for expressions of interest from relevant agencies and registered Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to develop and implement Capacity Building of NGO partners implementing landscape management projects in the three above landscapes. The selected partners will undertake the following tasks:

- Capacity Building on environment issues in the focal areas of Bio Diversity/ Land Degradation, Climate Change/ Product Development and Proposal Writing in the above three landscapes of Colombo, Mannar and Knuckles

**One awardee**, will be selected to undertake the above work for a period of approximately 1½ years from the date of commencement. Proposals should be submitted by post or e mail : [gefsgp.lk@undp.org](mailto:gefsgp.lk@undp.org) on or before 2nd November 2020 to reach GEF/SGP UNDP, 202-204, Baudhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 07. For further information, please contact the GEF/SGP Office Tel: 011 2580692 Ext. 1421 or 1422. **The Project Proposal Format, Evaluation Criteria and the Terms of Reference and Conditions can be downloaded from the GEF SGP Sri Lanka website at [www.gefsgpsl.org/](http://www.gefsgpsl.org/)**

Please note only shortlisted candidates will be contacted by the GEF/SGP office for further evaluation and recommendation by the National Steering Committee.



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 BOC Acc.No. 00000377



About academically professionally well-employed slim tall 5'8" daughter from Australia, educated mostly overseas whilst living with parents. Graduated from prestigious university information technology 1983 born dual citizen. Worked in Sri Lanka and overseas, Buddhist Govigama educated well-settled parents from Colombo suburbs seek professionally qualified well-employed partner. Daughter inherits substantial assets. Reply with family details and horoscope. Email: parinamaya@gmail.com OB152759

About us: Govigama Buddhist parents from Colombo seek a partner for only daughter 1991 August, 5'7", slim, fair and pretty, BSc. (Gold Medalist 1st Class) CIMA, CGMA, ACMA and CIM qualified. Senior Executive in a conglomerate in Colombo, inherits to substantial assets. Kanya, Kuja 1st house. Reply with family details and horoscope. E-mail: nheb1991@gmail.com (THE EMAIL ADDRESS PUBLISHED LAST WEEK IS INCORRECT). OB152530

Academically and professionally qualified caring well-mannered son from a respectable family sought by Dureawa Govi Buddhist parents from Southern Province for their younger daughter. She is 5'8" tall, attractive, well-mannered and caring. She was brought-up with Sri Lankan Buddhist values and was educated from a leading girls' school in Matara and she has completed a BSc (Hons) Biotechnology degree in Northumbria University UK. Inherits substantial wealth including properties in Colombo suburbs and financial assets. Only sister is married to a leading export businessman and her father is a leading Lawyer. A suitable partner in Sri Lanka or abroad is welcome. Please reply with full family details, horoscope and contact number. E-mail: nimaldesilva111@gmail.com OB152672

Academically and professionally qualified caring well-mannered son sought for our daughter living with us in USA. We are Sinhala Bodu Govi and she is 5'1", born in February 1993. Doctor in specialty program. Similar profession with currently living in USA or Canada are preferred. Caste immaterial. Please reply mksjsa4@gmail.com OB152586

Academically and professionally qualified employed well-mannered caring T/T NS son is sought by G/B mother for their pretty slim well accomplished aged 30 and 5'5" height, MBBS Doctor daughter. Preferably a Doctor or an Engineer of same age or maximum, three years older. Please reply with a copy of horoscope and social media account. OB152660

Academically and professionally qualified groom below 40 years sought by Sinhala Buddhist parents for their daughter born in October 1983. She is MEng. Degree holder and works as an Engineering Project Manager in Canada. She is 5'5", fair, pretty and well-mannered. Prefer those who are overseas educated and willing to relocate. trat89@hotmail.com OB152677

Academically and professionally qualified smart caring son from respectable family is sought by Sinhala Bodu Vishva parents for their well accomplished graduated pretty daughter 5'8", 29 years Quantity Surveyor, working in reputed Engineering Company in Colombo as Cost Engineer. Please reply with family details and horoscope to: naotunna@gmail.com OB152674

Academically and professionally qualified son is sought by B/G retired parents for their younger daughter 30 years, 5'7" Moratuwa Engineer, working in public sector studied at Musaeus College. Please reply with family details and horoscope. Email - 20proposal@gmail.com OB152577

Academically and professionally qualified son is sought by G/B parents of a respectable family for their only daughter 26 yrs. 5'2" slim very pretty well-mannered Attorney-at-Law. She inherits substantial assets around Colombo. Divorced after a brief marriage without encumbrances. Reply with family details and horoscope. marriageproposal8880@gmail.com OB152617

Academically and professionally qualified son is sought by Kandy G/B parents for their divorced graduated government servant 43, 5'3". proposalnp2020@gmail.com OB152569

Academically and professionally qualified son is sought by Sinhala G/K Buddhist parents in Southern Province for educated daughter 22 years, very young looking, 5'7", slim and pretty kind-hearted with a charming personality currently holding a managerial position in a multinational company. Inherits substantial assets. Those who live in any country are also welcome. Please send family details and horoscope to: ppri mrosier@gmail.com OB152463

Academically and professionally qualified suitable partner sought by Bodu Govi retired parents from Colombo suburbs for daughter 1992/07, 5'9" BSc (Engineering) MSc, MBA studying currently working as an Assistant Lecturer. Reply with horoscope, family details and permanent residence. damithawic@gmail.com OB152449

Academically and professionally qualified well-mannered partner is sought by Sinhala Karawa Roman Catholic/Buddhist Medical Professional parents from Colombo suburb for professionally qualified daughter roman Catholic age 28 years fair pleasant height 5'2" educated in leading Colombo school employed as Senior Software Engineer at leading International IT Company and has completed Post Graduate Studies leading to an MBA. Only brother professionally qualified Engineer doing Post Graduate studies leading to a PhD. Please reply with family details to: proposal.ak2019@gmail.com Tel: 0112605857. OB152493

Academically and professionally qualified, well-mannered Roman Catholic / Buddhist son, employed in a good position in Sri Lanka, is sought by Gampaha respectable parents, for their well accomplished, slim and pretty daughter, born in 1990, 5'5" tall, brought up with cultural values, studied at a leading Convent in Colombo. CIMA partially qualified (Final) working as an Accountant. She will inherit a modern upstairs house in Ja-Ela, kindly reply with full family details, copy of horoscope and contact information to: jayani123@hotmail.com OB152510

Academically and professionally qualified, well-mannered son is sought by B/G parents in Australia for their eldest daughter, born in 1993 and brought up in Australia according to Sri Lankan values. She is 5'2" tall, very pretty, doctor of medicine employed at a reputed hospital and currently in specialty training. A doctor with Sri Lankan upbringing and equal family background currently living and working in Australia or New Zealand is preferred. Please send family details & horoscope by email: mnpdev89@gmail.com OB152608

Academically professionally qualified/businessman TT/NS unmarried well established son between 45-51 years is sought by B/G retired parents for their pretty slim young-looking unmarried daughter studied at leading girls school in Colombo and MSc in IT, 45, 5'3". Inherits substantial assets as an only child. Welcome to migrate also. Please reply with correct details and horoscope. Email: dprop87@gmail.com OB152742

Academically and professionally qualified, well-mannered, non-smoker, teetotaler, caring, family-oriented son is sought by respectable G/K parents from Colombo suburbs for their beautiful elder daughter, 5' 8.5" tall, 1984 born (young looking), curvy figure, smart, great personality, kind hearted, B.Sc. Computer Science, divorced, no encumbrances. Email: tt.prioposal@yahoo.com OB152731

Academically and professionally qualified/ businesswoman TT/NS unmarried well established son between 45-51 years is sought by B/G retired parents for their pretty slim young-looking unmarried daughter studied at leading girls school in Colombo and MSc in IT, 45, 5'3". Inherits substantial assets as an only child. Welcome to migrate also. Please reply with correct details and horoscope. Email: dprop87@gmail.com OB152742

Academically and professionally qualified, well-mannered, non-smoker, teetotaler, caring, family-oriented son is sought by respectable G/K parents from Colombo suburbs for their beautiful elder daughter, 5' 8.5" tall, 1984 born (young looking), curvy figure, smart, great personality, kind hearted, B.Sc. Computer Science, divorced, no encumbrances. Email: tt.prioposal@yahoo.com OB152731

Academically & professionally qualified, fair Buddhist (NS/TT) son fluent in English, overseas or in Sri Lanka sought by G/B mother for daughter 1994 born (5'4") fair, slim, pretty & simple. Done with her Degree & Masters in Melbourne Australia, presently in Sri Lanka. Reply with non-malefic horoscope, family details. Email - kurukulasuriyamorin@gmail.com OB152679

Affluent Kandyan Buddhist Radala parents seek a partner for their daughter (1989, Jan), studied at leading girls' college in Colombo 7. Graduate and MBA (UOC). ceeprop33@gmail.com OB152620

An educated partner is sought by Buddhist Govi mixed parents for their daughter 27 years, 5'3", pretty, slim employed graduate from state university, completed Masters. Inherits substantial assets. dp rop4572@gmail.com OB152635

An employed partner with sober habits is sought for a Graduate English Teacher residing in Colombo. Catholic Tamil born in 1976, 5'5" in height with a pleasant disposition. anthony197661@yahoo.com (divorcees not considered). OB152475

Australian citizen, GB mother seeks professionally qualified partner for her very attractive daughter (only child) 1984 Nov, 5'6". Having completed Engineering Degrees and Masters in Australian Universities, currently working as a Senior Project Manager in a reputed organization in Australia. Caste, religion immaterial. Please reply with full details to - Email: lotus07@optusnet.com.au OB152729

A Central Province respectable Buddhist family seeks well-mannered, academically & professionally qualified partner for their charming daughter. Born in March 1993. She is fair, height 5'3". Northumbria University degree holder who works as an Executive in reputed firm. Her father is a Consultant Doctor and brother is also a Doctor. Please reply with your family details along with horoscope to: proposal2020k@gmail.com OB152757

A kind caring well-mannered educated son is sought by Sinhala B/K parents for their young looking pretty Western Music teacher daughter. (1980, 5'1") reading for a degree. Dowry available, caste immaterial. Reply with details & horoscope. p roposal691@gmail.com OB152491

A kind caring well-mannered son with either MBBS/BSc Eng preferably living abroad is sought by Sinhala Buddhist retired parents residing in Colombo suburbs for their fair pretty well-mannered daughter 5'4" 1991 born. Dental Surgeon working in a government hospital. Reply with details and horoscope. marriageproposal248@gmail.com OB152776

A suitable partner is sought by parents from Nugegoda, Colombo for their educationally and professionally accomplished daughter. A 38-year-old pretty, charming and well-mannered. Currently, she works in a well-known Sri Lankan organisation as a Senior Executive. Please reply to anj.wije82@gmail.com OB152733

A suitable partner is sought by Sinhala Catholic parents living in Gampaha suburb for their daughter 1985, 5'5" qualified and currently employed in a private bank in managerial grade who inherits assets. proposal3280@gmail.com 031-2235016. OB152596

A wealthy, respectable Sinhala family from Colombo wishes to find a qualified, tall (minimum 5'10"), handsome and decent son from respectable family for marriage to 5'7" tall, very pretty, elder daughter (1992). She is a consultant lawyer to a PLC and a directress in the well-established family business. Educated at leading school in Colombo. She has CIMA and MBA from Jayawardanepura University. She inherits substantial assets. Email all relevant information to infoprop2019@gmail.com OB152658

A suitable well employed partner is sought by mother for her daughter Sinhala, Buddhist Durawa / Govi 46 years, 5'5" Accountant / Manager in a leading company drawing six figure salary. Owns a house and a new car. Reply with family details. hwgproposals@gmail.com OB152712

GB mother from Colombo suburb seeks well employed or established business, son for her daughter 1975 born 5'3" younger looking, fair, well-mannered, caring, employed in well established mercantile company as Accounts Executive, partly qualified accountancy. Marriage delayed with time, never married, non-malefic horoscope. Reply perera.kwilkank@gmail.com OB152685

Bodu Salagama parents seek an educated partner for their 39 year old 5'6" height daughter employed in New Zealand who lost one of her legs in an accident (been fixed an artificial leg). ashapdes@yahoo.com OB152631

Bodu Salagama / Govi parents living in Colombo suburb seek a suitable son for their attractive smart daughter born in 1984 December 5'4" height studied in a leading Buddhist girls school in Colombo, M.B.B.S. Doctor currently working in a government hospital. She inherits assets including upstairs house in Colombo suburb, valuable land close to Karapitiya Hospital Galle and properties. Please reply with horoscope and family details. Email: proposalsma114@gmail.com OB152691

Buddhist Bank Manager Teacher parents & Engineer, Doctor, brothers from Colombo suburbs seek academically professionally qualified son from a respectable family for their 33 year, pretty, fair, Bank Executive Graduate daughter who has almost completed Banking, CIMA & MBA. She is legally separated from a cheated proposed 2 months marriage without any encumbrances. She has valuable assets. Contact with family details & horoscope. p roposalrpn@gmail.com OB152632

Buddhist Karawa parents seek a son who is a Doctor or a suitable other profession with sober habits and height 5'8" or taller. Father is a consultant in the medical field, from Colombo district for the pleasant, fair in complexion, pretty, well-mannered only daughter 25 years, 5'4" MBBS Doctor. Completed her internship and planning to settle in United Kingdom. At the moment going through UK entrance exams. Reply with full family details, horoscope. Email: desilvas397@gmail.com OB152606

Buddhist mother seeks an educated & respectable son for daughter. Accountant, fair, 5'5", Nov. 1990. Catholics / Christians considered. Reply with family details & horoscope. propo590@gmail.com OB152512

Buddhist parents residing in Colombo suburbs seek an educated partner for fair, pretty daughter 38, 5'3" having studied CIMA, works for a semi government organization in Colombo. She inherits a two storeyed house and a vehicle and willing to relocate for the right partner. Reply with horoscope. m.proposal7512@gmail.com OB152598

Buddhist parents seek an educated well employed son from respectable family for our slim fair 1989, 5'4" only daughter professionally qualified (AMSLIM) senior executive at reputed company. Divorced as plaintiff party. Reply family details horoscope contact numbers. priyasunob2021@gmail.com OB152751

Buddhist 1990/5, 5'5" slim fair very beautiful excellent character CIMA (UK) BSc MSc in Finance Planning to pursue PhD in USA. Currently working as a Lecturer in a leading University. Only sister (PhD) married and living in USA. Parents seek suitable son devoid of all vices. Send family details, horoscope. 0113628098. OB152663

B/G business parents from respectable family seek a well-mannered, professionally qualified partner age between 43 - 51 yrs. is sought for a well-mannered daughter, upholds Sinhala Buddhist values, professionally qualified a Chartered Accountant with reasonable means. Reply with family details & copy of horoscope. proposalend1974@gmail.com OB152011

B/G parents from Kandy seek a professionally and academically qualified partner for their 33 yrs., 5'2", fair, slim, MBBS Doctor daughter, Australian citizens considered. Email: marriagepartner2020@gmail.com OB152453

Continued on page 66

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Continued from page 65



B/G parents in Colombo seek a professionally qualified employed partner for their 35 yrs, 5' pretty daughter works in a private institute. Reply with horoscope (Kuja 8) and family details. swarna.2019@yahoo.com / 0112761411. OB152488

B/G respectable parents seek well-mannered educated son for our only daughter fair pretty slim 5'4" 1988 born working NHS UK Specialised Doctor (need horoscope and T/No.). A person living or educated in the UK preferred. Email: srmanaga33@gmail.com OB152778

B/G, academically and professionally qualified son is sought by B/G family living in Dehiwala for their daughter. She is 28, 5'3", pretty went to Visakha Vidyalaya, graduated from Colombo University. Holds an IT degree. She is willing to migrate if possible. Kuja in 7th House. Please reply with family details, horoscope copy and contact details. Email - proposalsw2020@gmail.com OB152684

B/G, 35, 5'0", BBA, Banker seeking educated, employed groom. vivaha@soulmatevivaha.lk OB152647

B/K Colombo suburbs parents of a well respectable family seek a professionally qualified son with sober habits (preferably living in Australia/New Zealand) for their daughter July 1994 pretty fair 5'2" obtained postgraduate qualifications in Finance, Accounting from a leading Australian university. Please reply with family details & a copy of horoscope to: proposals2020ks@gmail.com OB152624

B/K parents seek a professionally qualified and well mannered son for our daughter 32 years 5'5" fair slim graduate and CIMA qualified, working at a multinational company in Sri Lanka as a Manager. Pls respond with the contact No. and family details along with the horoscope. OB152681

B/K well respectable family residing in Colombo suburb seeks professionally qualified well-mannered son with sober habits for their daughter MBBS qualified pretty fair 5'5" born in Aug. 1990 preferably willing to settle down in UK, USA. Please reply with full details & a copy of horoscope to: proposal2020uk@gmail.com OB152628

Caring, well-mannered TT/NS son, aged 24-26 is sought by Colombo Buddhist, Bodu Govi parents for their only daughter 5'7" attractive amiable, born in 1999. Presently studying Bio-Medicine in Australia. PR holder. Inherits substantial assets in Sri Lanka. Rahu 1, Kethu 7, Shani Mangala Yoga. We seek a son presently studying / working or planning to go to Australia, with matching horoscopes to be introduced, leading to marriage. Mention brief family details please. OB152602

Christian parents seek a born again, kind hearted son who is academically and professionally qualified for their 29 yrs., 5'6", slim, fair, pretty, well-mannered, daughter who is well qualified and employed abroad. Email : cosmoprop555@gmail.com OB152535

Close Colombo, born 1993, Buddhist, Govi, business family daughter, sought an educated partner. Height 5'2", has a Management Degree. 0114884261 swarna.pala61@gmail.com OB152573

Close Colombo, Kandyan Govi Buddhist, 29 years employed in private sector, graduate daughter, parents seek suitable partner born in 1990. Reply with horoscope copy. Specially from around Colombo. OB152579

Close Colombo, 44+, B/G, 5'2", BSc (MA), unmarried, pretty, employed, fair, owning assets, daughter, sought honest son. Email: wendsgreen6@gmail.com OB152566

Colombo B/G parents seek a professionally qualified kind son for their pretty 27 yrs. 5'6" Software Engineer daughter Kuja 7 Shani 1. Reply with horoscope & family details. 0115783781. vivaha96@gmail.com OB152622

# Marriage Proposals

Decades of Trusted Service

Colombo B/G respectable business parents seek professionally and academically qualified well mannered G/B son with sober habits for their daughter 1989, 5'3" pretty UK educated Graduate with CIMA. Currently employed overseas. Reply matching horoscopes with 2, 12 Papin with Kuja Chandra Yogaya, substantial assets. OB152709

Colombo Govi Buddhist parents seek well-mannered employed son for elder daughter 1984, 5'1" English Teacher of leading girls school with dowry. OB152650

Colombo suburbs G/B parents seek suitable partner for their daughter brought up with Sinhalese values, 1997/Jan born 5'3". Holds a degree International Business Management and presently doing Masters in Australia son living in Australia, is preferred. Reply with copy of the horoscope. OB152594

Colombo suburb BG father Attorney-at-Law mother teacher parents seek educated caring son for their employed daughter born in 1994 Oct. B.Sc. (Accounting & Finance), ACCA, Reading for Masters. OB152455

Colombo suburb respectable Sinhala Buddhist business family seeking a groom for their daughter born in October 1989 is a Management Graduate of University College Dublin Ireland, 5'4" height slim, active, pleasant looking with an outgoing personality currently employed in Dubai UAE in shipping and logistics industry looking for an educated well-grounded son with a good personality, Kuja 7, please email via. maharagama1027@gmail.com Please do not write divorcees. OB152567

Colombo, Buddhist, Karawa, 1990, 5'4", employed private firm CIMA, Management Graduate, pretty daughter, parents seek partner living overseas or willing to migrate. harischandra.fernando@gmail.com OB152626

Colombo, suburbs, Bodu/Govi, maternal aunty seeks a partner for her niece born in 1992 November. She is a Graduate, pretty, smart and height 5'3" and brought-up with Sri Lankan Buddhist values. Prefer an academically qualified son (never married) under 33 years. Please reply with family details and horoscope. kumudunisun.ethra65@gmail.com OB152547

Colombo, suburbs, Bodu/Govi, maternal aunty seeks a partner for her niece born in 1994 April. She is a Graduate, pretty, smart and height 5'4" and brought-up with Sri Lankan Buddhist values. Prefer an academically qualified son (never married) under 30 years. Please reply with family details and horoscope. kumudunisun.ethra65@gmail.com OB152545

Dehiwala, Kalubowila, Buddhist, Govi, height 5'5", pretty, fair, Chemistry graduate, government officer daughter, sought a partner below 40 years. She owns modern three storeyed house, motor car. Reply with horoscope copy and details. OB152564

Educated from International/leading school, BSc graduate working in reputed company in Colombo as Designer. Born 1994, 5'6", slim, pretty, attractive kind-hearted only daughter. She owns valuable assets including house and three storey building close to highway entrance. Academically and professionally qualified handsome son is sought by G/B parents. Reply with horoscope and full details. email: proposal9418@gmail.com OB152644

G/B business parents from Colombo seek a suitable partner below 42y for their 37y (very much younger looking) 5'2" slim pretty daughter works as a Legal Officer (LLM, LLB, Attorney-at-Law, CIMA) in a MNC with a 6 figure salary. Possess assets including a property in Colombo 03. E-mail - shanam.a2005@gmail.com OB152644

Engineering professional parents seek academically & professionally qualified well mannered son with Sinhala Buddhist values for their daughter, 1997/09 born, Bodu Govi 5'1", fair, pretty, slim with Diploma in Software Engineering, employed in leading Telecom Company. Educated in a leading girls' school in Colombo. Inherits a modern house in immediate Colombo suburb and substantial assets. Compatible with Kuja 7 horoscope, please respond with horoscope. Phone 0112867192. Email : hcdproposal197@gmail.com OB152469

Galle Buddhist Durawa retired Banker mother seeks non-smoker teetotaler well-mannered son with permanent employment in government or private sector for only daughter of family 1988, 5' obtained degree in IT field working in private firm. All details with horoscope in first letter please. proposalsgr2019@gmail.com OB152652

G/B business parents from a respectable family seek professionally qualified or educated businessman, well mannered with pleasing personality son for their very young looking daughter 42+, 5'2" professionally qualified graduated from Australian Universities with MBA. Legally separated from a very short proposed cheated marriage. Innocent party. Earns substantial monthly income and inherits properties. Please write with family details and horoscope in first letter. propdan77@gmail.com OB152005

G/B business parents from Colombo seek a suitable partner below 42y for their 37y (very much younger looking) 5'2" slim pretty daughter works as a Legal Officer (LLM, LLB, Attorney-at-Law, CIMA) in a MNC with a 6 figure salary. Possess assets including a property in Colombo 03. E-mail - shanam.a2005@gmail.com OB152644

G/B caring son with sober habits sought by parents from Colombo educated businessman/professional for slim pretty young looking daughter born in 1976 September 5'5" English trained teacher in a private institute, owns modern storeyed fully furnished house, income generating commercial complex Colombo worth over 350 million. Reply family details with horoscope/telephone number. Divorcees innocent party with no encumbrances are considered. Email: go mesbandula@gmail.com OB152619

Inviting professionally qualified established well mannered caring family oriented gentleman for 54 years 5'2" height, fair, pretty, divorced lady, foreign national with considerable assets, been brought up strictly on Sri Lankan values Sinhalese Buddhist E-Mail to chini.priya369@gmail.com OB152695

Kandyan G/B retired parents seek academically and professionally qualified handsome marriage partner for their fair pretty tall (5'8") 22 years daughter, well-educated in a leading school graduated in foreign university UK. Currently working and reading for Masters. She owns a house and other valuable property at Nawala Rd, Nugegoda. Religion immaterial. roshmahomie@gmail.com TP: 2811364. OB152479

G/B respectable parents from Colombo seek suitable educated handsome marriage partner for their fair pretty tall (5'8") 22 years daughter, well-educated in a leading school graduated in foreign university UK. Currently working and reading for Masters. She owns a house and other valuable property at Nawala Rd, Nugegoda. Religion immaterial. roshmahomie@gmail.com TP: 2811364. OB152479

G/B respectable parents living in Colombo suburbs seek an educated well-employed son from a good family for our elder daughter BSc, MSc graduate working in International Bank in managerial position was born in 1984 April. Height 5'5", slim, beautiful and very young looking. Reply with copy of the horoscope and contact Nos. ps25484@gmail.com OB152765

Inviting professionally employed committed Christian/Catholic son for our medical daughter 1993 born excellent character 66 ins. Substantial Colombo assets no plans for migration, parents and brother Sinhala Govi Doctors. All details confidential. E-mail: cosmicprop@gmail.com OB152451

Matara B/G retired Teacher mother seeks an educated partner with moral values for educated well mannered pleasant daughter 33, 5'3", she owns a valuable land close to Matara and other assets. Two brothers Engineer Banker settled in Canada. prposal2021ceylon@gmail.com OB152575

Matara, Buddhist, Durawa (Kuja 7) 1983, 5', good looking English Diploma Holder, a Teacher who does private elocution classes only child assets property seek an employed son. Reply with horoscope. deepthikawick.ramasingha123@gmail.com Contact 041-2225106. OB152461

MBBS Doctor daughter born in 93/4, 5'6" in height and she is attractive, currently serving in a Government Hospital, a professionally qualified, matching and caring son is sought by Sinhala, Buddhist parents. Elder daughter is settled in Australia. Please reply with family details and a copy of son's horoscope to: tjkb18934@gmail.com OB152465

Moor Malay parents seek Malay Moor groom holding stable job teetotaler with Islamic values for their daughter 30 years old 5'2" wearing Abhaya with head scarf English teacher. Please reply with CV. Email: bride30proposal@gmail.com Phone No. 0112886431. OB152212

Moor parents from a respectable family in Western Province seek religious practicing Muslim with good character and professionally qualified groom for their 26 years old (1994) daughter 5'4" in height, fair slim and pretty who is a medical student in China (4th year). She is religious kind-hearted and simple girl. 031-2237511. OB152597

Moor parents from Colombo seek marriage partner for professionally qualified daughter age 30 yrs slim pretty fair 5'5". Please send details m proposal606@gmail.com OB152690

Muslim Moor parents seeking qualified groom from Western, Europe country for V. pretty bride 27, 5'5", BSc. hafsa@soulmate.lk OB152646

Muslim parents looking for a groom who is a practicing Muslim and is professionally educated for their daughter who is 24 years old, 5 ft in height and obtained her Bachelor's degree. Preferably a groom settled overseas (daughter would like to work and study further in her field). Please respond to: moorbride2020@gmail.com OB152782

Moor Malay parents seek Malay Moor groom holding stable job teetotaler with Islamic values for their daughter 30 years old 5'2" wearing Abhaya with head scarf English teacher. Please reply with CV. Email: bride30proposal@gmail.com Phone No. 0112886431. OB152212

Moor parents from a respectable family in Western Province seek religious practicing Muslim with good character and professionally qualified groom for their 26 years old (1994) daughter 5'4" in height, fair slim and pretty who is a medical student in China (4th year). She is religious kind-hearted and simple girl. 031-2237511. OB152597

Muslim Moor parents seeking qualified groom from Western, Europe country for V. pretty bride 27, 5'5", BSc. hafsa@soulmate.lk OB152646

Muslim parents looking for a groom who is a practicing Muslim and is professionally educated for their daughter who is 24 years old, 5 ft in height and obtained her Bachelor's degree. Preferably a groom settled overseas (daughter would like to work and study further in her field). Please respond to: moorbride2020@gmail.com OB152782

Muslim Moor parents seeking qualified groom from Western, Europe country for V. pretty bride 27, 5'5", BSc. hafsa@soulmate.lk OB152646

Muslim parents looking for a groom who is a practicing Muslim and is professionally educated for their daughter who is 24 years old, 5 ft in height and obtained her Bachelor's degree. Preferably a groom settled overseas (daughter would like to work and study further in her field). Please respond to: moorbride2020@gmail.com OB152782

Negombo 1996 Roman Catholic Govi, 5'2" eldest Software Engineering daughter Business parent seek a well educated son (prefers an Engineer) she inherits valuable assets. marriagebride1996@gmail.com OB152615

Nugegoda, B/G family seeks academically and professionally qualified employed son of a respectable family for their pretty daughter studied at a leading girls' school in Colombo. 92, 5'5" BSc. (SP) Finance 1st Class (Sri J'Pura) professionally qualified in CIMA and working in a reputed private company. Reply with horoscope contact information, family details. (proposalapply@gmail.com) OB152735

Panadura B/K mother seeks an academically and professionally qualified son with good moral values & sober habits for her elder daughter Lecturer in Government University, 1986, 5'4" slim & tan in complexion. Reply with horoscope & family details. marriageproposals333@gmail.com OB152630

Parents from South seek suitable and educated son for their daughter 38 yrs, 5'5", pleasant and kind hearted. She is a graduate working for a government department and reading for Masters as well. Caste immaterial. Reply with horoscope. E-mail: subhpreposals@gmail.com OB152675

Radala, Buddhist / Catholic parents seek academically / professionally qualified son for their daughter 5'6" age 29, pretty, fair and pleasant character with outgoing personality, currently employed at a prestigious conglomerate as an Executive Secretary. Completed Dip. in IT from BCS - The Chartered Institute for IT, Higher Dip. in Secretarial in AAP. Please reply with family details to: proposal1955dec2020@gmail.com OB152514

Radala, Buddhist / Catholic parents seek academically / professionally qualified son for their daughter 5'6" age 29, pretty, fair and pleasant character with outgoing personality, currently employed at a prestigious conglomerate as an Executive Secretary. Completed Dip. in IT from BCS - The Chartered Institute for IT, Higher Dip. in Secretarial in AAP. Please reply with family details to: proposal1955dec2020@gmail.com OB152514

Respectable Govi Buddhist parents Rathnapura seek a suitable partner for pleasant looking elder daughter English Teacher leading government school Colombo, May 1976, 5'4". pathirana76@yahoo.com OB152612

Respectable G/B parents living in Colombo seek an educated son from a respectable family for their attractive daughter with a pleasing personality educated in a leading girls school in Colombo, 27 years, 5'7" in height. She is a BSc. Finance Degree Holder with a 1st Class from University of Sri Jayawardenapura. CIMA qualified, substantial dowry available. Write with a copy of horoscope and family details. pr.op.sw25@gmail.com OB152562

Respectable Moor family from Kandy District seeks for their only daughter, 33 years of age 5'2" in height, CIMA part qualified, well-mannered, homely brought up, fair, pretty, slim, kind hearted, caring, understanding girl, a partner with similar status. No divorcees. Please reply with full details to: m.a.pro833@gmail.com OB152528

Respected Bodu Radala parents from Kandy seek suitable partner for their MBBS Doctor daughter 1986.01, 5'2" fair slim attached to a government teaching hospital. Father Doctor, please reply with family details and horoscope. tissawa@gmail.com OB152605

Retired B/K parents seek a partner for their daughter age 39, height 5'5", BSc., MBA, CIMA (UK), working as a Senior Manager possessing a car and house. Email : wjayaw2009@gmail.com OB152736

R.C. Govi Sinhala mother seeks an educated suitable partner for her daughter born in October 1983, 5'3" in height. She is professionally qualified pretty working as a Head of Operation in an International Company. She is a citizen in Australia. Call me 2580397. OB152706

Sinhala Buddhist Salagama parents from Colombo suburbs are seeking an educated >5'10" tall, decent son for their youngest daughter, 33 yrs old, a bank employee, 5'6" tall medium built medium complexion kind, sociable, likeable personality. Owns a car and inherits a two storey house. Kuja 8th House. Please reply: suneethap@hotmail.com OB152502

Continued on page 67

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**Continued from page 66**



Sinhala Govi B/RC parents seek suitable decent son below 36 for daughter 1988/02, 5'7" slim fair very pretty employed (Creative Designer) owns valuable assets. Not willing to migrate. Religion immaterial. Email: rb2112@gmail.com

OB152753

Sinhala Govi Catholic parents living in Negombo area, seeking an Engineer or MBBS Doctor son, born between 1991-1995, from respectable family for our well-mannered only daughter born in 1996 and height 5'3" studying for Dental Surgery in 4th year. Please reply not less than 5'7" with family details. Email : engau8@gmail.com

OB152481

Sinhala professionals/business parents seek a suitable partner for their beautiful graduated Assistant Legal Officer (Government), 23, 5'4". luckyfortune93@gmail.com 081-7915736.

OB152668

Southern Bodu, Wahumpura family seeks suitable partner for daughter 37, Civil Engineer. Email to nimmprop@gmail.com

OB152553

Suitably qualified well-mannered partner is sought by B/G parents for their 30 years daughter living in Canada, she is pretty, 5'7", attractive, accomplished, down to earth, lover of nature and a wide range of interests. Graduated (BSc) and Post-graduated from prestigious Universities in Canada. Presently employed as a Senior Health Data Management professional at a reputed Government Institute in Toronto Canada. She inherits substantial assets. Those living in Canada or United States, please reply by giving family details and a copy of horoscope and Telephone Nos. Email : nswcan@gmail.com

OB152714

Udarata Bodu Govi, living in Colombo, respectable professional parents who held esteem positions in Government Sector, seek professionally qualified from a respectable family for their 26 year old pretty daughter, a Dental Doctor height 5'2". Educated in English medium at a leading girls' school in Colombo. Inherits valuable assets. Only brother is a Chartered Telecom Engineer well employed. Reply with all details, horoscope and contact number. Email : shr25630@gmail.com

OB152483

U.S. citizen B/G Sinhalese, retired Sri Lankan Doctor parents seek academically and professionally accomplished son for their beautiful and well-mannered daughter. She is a 33-year-old medical doctor working in a leading university hospital in the United States. Seeking someone with the same or a similar profession. Currently living and working in the United States is preferred. Please email with family details to: marriage20prop@gmail.com

OB152774

Well-mannered and educated son is sought by B/S/G parents for their well-chartered, slim, fair, pretty, Senior Lecturer (BSc, MSc, PhD) daughter (1980). Valuable assets available. Email: maproposals2020@gmail.com

OB152780

We are Kandyan B/G family living in Colombo seek a genuine kind, caring, loving partner for proposed daughter, 42 years old, slim, fair, young looking working in a reputed IT company in Colombo. Please send the horoscope & family details. thilank\_a\_diss@hotmail.com

OB152557

1982 R/C fair 5'6" convent & foreign educated leading to BSCs assets substantial monthly income owns an apartment car Colombo based respectable family john terrence2015@gmail.com

OB152666

1991 November born B/G, 5'3" daughter educated at a leading Buddhist Girls' school in Kandy, employed at a Multinational Company in Colombo, preparing for MSc. Retired parents seek a suitable partner with good moral values and commitment to personal and professional development, ideally from Colombo or Kandy. odetoautumn1904@gmail.com

OB152603



About our son, he is academically and professionally qualified Engineer with PhD from a reputed US University, pleasant looking, well-mannered, 33 years, 6'1" with decent family background, residing and well employed in USA. Academically/professionally qualified, well-mannered, pleasant daughter, preferably residing, studying or employed in USA or Canada is sought by Sinhala/B/G retired respectable parents for their son. Reply with full family details, a copy of horoscope and telephone numbers from the first letter. Email: mpdkproposal@gmail.com

OG152252

Academically and professionally qualified B/G, 5'7", 1986 born Senior Software Engineer employed in a well known IT Company with sober habits is looking for a kind-hearted bride. Father (Doctor) and mother (Teacher) deceased. Elder brother lives in Australia with his wife. Having migration plans. Email - dasun.suranjaya@gmail.com

OG152540

Academically qualified beautiful well-mannered caring daughter below 27 sought by Govi Buddhist well established business parents for their well qualified handsome son with PhD in Bio Medical Sciences, employed abroad. He is 31, 5'6" a non-smoker & teetotaler. gece87@gmail.com

OG152754

Academically qualified daughter with good family background sought by Sinhala Roman Catholic Karawa parents live in Colombo suburb for their son born in 1990 September 5'7" non-smoker currently reading an engineering degree employed in a reputed company in Qatar as a Computer Administrator. Studied in a leading international school in Colombo. Reply with family details. s even808@outlook.com

OG152261

Academically qualified pleasant kind-hearted daughter is sought by B/G parents for their son born in 1973 March, slim 6 ft. Assistant Professor in USA, young-looking non-smoker and teetotaler. He is legally separated after brief incompatible marriage (no encumbrances). Reply with family details contact number and horoscope. bouldercreek321@gmail.com

OG151802

An educated or willing to continue her education and very humble 20 or less than 20 years old daughter sought from respectable family for our son born in January 1997, 5'7" living with us USA. He is an academic advisor for prestigious university in USA. We are Sinhala Bodu Govi. Caste immaterial. Who lives in Sri Lanka preferred. Please reply mksjsa4@gmail.com

OG152590

An educated well-mannered daughter is sought by Galle B/G parents for their son working as a senior Business System Analyst for a private firm earning a six-figure salary monthly. 1982, 5'6" good looking and completed Masters Degree in IT. Teetotaler and non-smoker. Email - md aminda@gmail.com

OG152756

A Govi/Buddhist respectable business family residing in Kurunegala District, seek an academically qualified, pretty, well-mannered and kind-hearted daughter with Buddhist values below 29 years of similar caste & religion for their elder son. He is 31 years 5'6", handsome, well-mannered, studied in Colombo leading College, NS/TT, educationally qualified with Master's from leading state university. He owns a coconut-based products manufacturing factory and affiliated with the university as guest speaker and a resource person. He owns a luxury modern car and new house is under construction. He inherits substantial family assets. Only brother is an Engineer. Please reply with full family details & horoscope. Email : marrprope rera@outlook.com

OG152737

A G/B family in Colombo seeks a pretty bride for handsome son born mid 1981, 5'5" with foreign education, engaged in family owned enterprise. propmakara2016@gmail.com

OG152618

A kind pretty partner below 60 yrs. preferably a business lady/teacher etc. (widows/divorcee without family problems also considered) is sought by Bodu/Govi middle age gent, overseas employed, presently attached to a reputed company. Race/religion and other differences immaterial. Self replies essential. (Please forward replies only through this e-mail). ervolg2020@gmail.com

OG152129

A reputed business family seeks an extremely pretty, educated, well-mannered daughter between 22 and 28 years, for handsome, educated son, Govi, 33, 5'11", studied at a leading Colombo school and running well-established business. Caste, creed, dowry immaterial. Interested parties may respond to sl.cocoproducts1@gmail.com

OG152689

A suitable partner is sought by Sri Lankan medical professional parents in the UK for their son fair, handsome good looking, tall 5ft 10 in height, maintains a healthy lifestyle, never married slim, very young looking, 40 yrs, practicing Buddhist, non smoker, Senior Professional level in finance with prestigious academic qualifications, owns property in London. We are seeking a pretty, slim, academically and professionally qualified daughter below 38 yrs. Reply only by email and with the horoscope in the first instance to ukproposals272@gmail.com

OG152788

Bodu Govi professional parents in Colombo suburb seek marriage proposals for their son (only child), 1992 (Sept.) 5'8", NS/TT. He is a final year PhD (Economics) student and has completed his BSc/MSc (Mathematics/Economics) in prestigious Universities in the USA. He inherits substantial wealth in Sri Lanka and prefers a simple and educated girl for his future partner. Email: ja6612@yahoo.com

OG152720

Bodu Govi well-respected affluent family. Father, a University Professor and mother, a Teacher in a leading girls' school, seek a well-mannered, caring and honest daughter for their educated, handsome, well-mannered son. Born in December 1993, height 5'9", he is working as an Executive in a reputed firm. Early education in a leading school in Colombo and is a graduate in Business Management. Only sister is married to an affluent educated family. Proposed son inherits properties and assets exceeding 250 Million located in Colombo and Galle Districts. Please contact with horoscope and complete family details of similar caste and stature. proposal\_s\_2020@yahoo.com

OG152763

Buddhist Govigama mother & Sri Lankan father of North Indian origin (both from business families) residing in Colombo 07 seek an academically & professionally qualified, fair, slim & pretty daughter, who is fluent in English & from a respectable family, for their son (only child) born in Oct. 1982, 5'7", who looks much younger than his age. Completed both his undergraduate & postgraduate degrees in the UK, now an entrepreneur. Inherits residential & commercial properties in prime areas of Colombo. Non-malefic horoscope. Please reply with family details & horoscope to s erendib1982@gmail.com

OG152471

Buddhist G/D parents are looking for a kind, fair, slim daughter residing in Australia for Australian dual citizen son, born in April 1990, 5'5" tall & fair, works as a finance professional with postgraduate qualifications. Please email the horoscope to: su baguna7@gmail.com (Email replies only).

OG152457

Buddhist Karawa well-to-do parents in Colombo suburbs sought an educated pretty slim daughter from a respectable family for their handsome smart son with good personality 32 5'8" NS/TT PhD (Australia) Lecturer at a Government University Sri Lanka. Inherits substantial assets. Brother Doctor. Caste immaterial. Email: marriage2019@yahoo.com

OG152687

Buddhist parents seek an educated daughter born or brought up in UK for their UK born son, fair, handsome, 35, 5'10". Global Director in one of the worlds largest ICT Companies. Owns property. Assets in UK, Sri Lanka. Replies from UK only. stand525@hotmail.com

OG152484

Buddhist parents seek a pretty, slim, kind-hearted and religious daughter who is willing to migrate to Australia for their son aged 27-6, height 5'11", having a successful own business and dual citizen Sri Lanka / Australia. Saturn in 7th house. Please reply with horoscope. Email - Ja yapridul@gmail.com

OG152701

B/Durawa, 34, 5'10", employed in UAE, financially stable, handsome seeking pretty bride from Australia. 0777880303 viaha@soulmateviva.a.lk

OG152649

B/G mother from respectable upper middle-class family in Colombo looking for a bride for her 38 year old doctor son who is currently working in Western Europe. 5'10" in height, handsome with sober habits. Never married. Moving to the UK in the next year to pursue specialisation. Please reply to: proposal010118@yahoo.com

OG152508

B/G mother seeking qualified daughter (most preferably a daughter who is pursuing higher studies in USA who has visa to go to USA), for her 35 years old, 5'4", Old Anandian, eldest son who is currently in USA reading for Ph.D. 0382296058. t harinduro8@yahoo.com

OG152561

B/G mother teacher Nugegoda seeks educated daughter below 36 for UK graduated son 5'5" 38 years. Middle management employer of an international company. 2020marriageproposal@gmail.com

OG152578

B/G mother teacher, father Bank Manager from Gampaha District seek a suitable partner for 31 years, 5'6" handsome son. He is a Royalist BSc Graduate from Moratuwa University and works in a reputed company as an Engineer. Reply with horoscope. mpr op8810@gmail.com

OG152611

B/G parents seek an academically and professionally qualified pretty/slim daughter for their son currently living in Singapore. 1991/4, 5'6" well brought up with Buddhist values working as a Senior Software Engineer in an MNC. Should be willing to reside outside Sri Lanka permanently. Please reply with horoscope and details to: propositome29@gmail.com

OG152504

B/G parents seek an academically qualified slim fair pleasant simple kind-hearted daughter for their only son BSc (Hon), MSc (Australia) CIM passed finalist, 5'7", NS/TT working in global company (Colombo) as an Assistant Manager. Shani 7 Kuja 8. proposalg86@gmail.com

OG152696

B/G parents seek for their MBBS Doctor son 1988 born 5'6" TT/NS, only an MBBS Doctor daughter. Please send details with the horoscope. Email: tibiatalus@gmail.com

OG152500

B/G professional parents Colombo suburbs seek professionally qualified partner preferably vegetarian for their son 29 5'7" TT/NS smart pleasant religious vegetarian BSc (Colombo) BCS (UK) qualified employed as a QA Engineer in reputed IT company Colombo. Reply with horoscope and family details propson91@gmail.com

OG152669

B/G respectable 33, 5'10 1/2" Royalist Associate Degree (USA) NS/TT (business) Land Proprietor mother seeks daughter willing to migrate to USA after marriage. 034-2256226. OG152373

B/G, Kandyan, born in Sept 1989, NS/TT, 5'9", smart all-rounder, religious, well employed Graduate Senior Software Engineer son with considerable assets and a non-malefic horoscope. Parents living in a Colombo suburb seek a professionally qualified slim, pretty, fair, kind-hearted daughter with a non-malefic horoscope. Please write with complete family and contact details in the first letter itself. E-mail : kodymang@gmail.com

OG152705

Christian mother seeks a suitable partner for her son working in a leading bank and a hockey player studied at S. Thomas' College Mount Lavinia, 41 years, 5'8" Legally divorced after a short period of marriage. dp947479@gmail.com

OG152761

Colombo MBBS Doctor Bodu Vishwa 39 years son only child working in Government hospital legally separated from brief marriage, no encumbrances. hildath@yandex.com

OG152459

Durawa / Govi Buddhist mother, retired teacher, seeks a suitable partner for her 39 year old handsome, well-educated only son, studying for Higher Diploma N.I.B.M. Reply with horoscope (Kuja 07), inherits house and property at Ambalan-tota. Presently living in Galle. Email : proposalrjay@gmail.com

OG152716

Durawa/Govi Buddhist mother retired teacher seeks a suitable partner for her 39 year old handsome well-educated only son, studying for higher diploma N.I.B.M. Reply with horoscope (Kuja 07). Inherits house and property at Ambalan-tota. Presently living in Galle. E-mail: proposalrjay@gmail.com

OG152661

Educated, well-mannered, pretty daughter sought by BG mother for her 1990 born 6'2" smart, good looking handsome Engineer son currently lives in Australia, completed his higher studies. Owns valuable properties in Sri Lanka. Only sister Ayurvedic Medical student. Please reply with full family details with a contact number and a copy of horoscope. (Proposals from Australia preferred). marriagepro90@gmail.com

OG152600

Expat professional 53" 6'1" in height with a pleasing personality. Devout Buddhist non-smoker / non drinker from a distinguished family in Sri Lanka. No divorces. nordmendespectra@gmail.com

OG152786

Gampaha G/B respectable family mother seeks caste daughter for elder son born in 1989, 5'11" educated at leading school in Colombo. BBA Degree Holder. Working at insurance company. He is a businessman warehouse owner, he has coconut estate, a house and assets. Send family details and horoscope. shant harajapaksha312@gmail.com

OG152489

G/B parents living in Sydney (Australian citizens) seek a simple down-to-earth and kind-hearted daughter preferably living in Australia also will be considered), for our NS/TT, 29, 5'11" son graduated from UTS and currently working in IT field. He has been brought up with Sinhalese / Buddhist values and is a caring and compassionate young gentleman with an impeccable character. Reply with horoscope / family details. aasm proposal2020@gmail.com

OG152767

Handsome, tall & slim, never married, in mid 40's looking around 30's as well looked after himself with balance lifestyle, well travelled and from English speaking background, Sinhalese and Catholic separated from brief marriage, no encumbrances. hildath@yandex.com

OG152459

Parents seek well-mannered pretty daughter for their son born in 1989 who works in Tokyo, Japan. He is 5'11", handsome and holds a BSc (Hons) degree in Business Management. His only younger sister is a MBBS Doctor. If you are interested, please reply with all the details to: mgproposal28@gmail.com

OG152772

Parents seek well-mannered pretty daughter for their son born in 1989 who works in Tokyo, Japan. He is 5'11", handsome and holds a BSc (Hons) degree in Business Management. His only younger sister is a MBBS Doctor. If you are interested, please reply with all the details to: mgproposal28@gmail.com

OG152745

Respectable Buddhist parents from Colombo seek an educated, kind and pretty daughter for only son 27 years, 5'6" who is kind and well brought up with academics at an international school and a UK Masters Degree. Presently a PR Holder in Canada working as an Electrical Engineer in a well reputed company. Preferred a partner who is residing in Canada / willing to settle in Canada. Please reply with horoscope/family details and contact number to tg fprops93@gmail.com

OG152537

Kalutara Roman Catholic height 6' son born in 1991 currently studying in Australia parents looking for a daughter has Sri Lankan values, living in Australia or Sri Lanka. 0342227190.

OG152551

Kandyan Govi/Walaw Buddhist son (25 yrs) born in 1995, dual citizen from Sydney, Cherrybrook, 5'4", fair, slim, handsome, prestigious Kandy (Primary) School, brought up in Australia, IT Graduate, employed, decent well-connected family background (only two sons), properties in Kandy, Colombo and Sydney. Parents looking for an educated, pretty, fair, slim daughter, Min. 5 yrs. younger, height, wealth immaterial. Email - laksh manbbw@gmail.com

OG152559

Kandy Moor retired medical professional parents seek educated & professional bride for their only son student of a well reputed school and educated professional private Bank Officer having substantial assets age 29+ yrs. height 5'6". Reply by Email: farook1956@gmail.com

OG152761

Respectable B/G family from Colombo with well-mannered 2 sons NS/TT. (born and brought up overseas) Elder son 1989 / 5'8" completed his MBA and Bachelors from UK universities, consulting on Data Science, locally and internationally, and prefers to reside in Sri Lanka. Younger son 1990/5'9" Bachelors and Masters from UK universities working abroad as an Automotive Engineer. We are looking for pleasant well-mannered kind caring educated daughters below 28 yrs from B/G family with Sinhala Buddhist values. Kindly Email with family details, contact numbers & horoscope. nat h5perera@gmail.com

OG152682

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## Sunday Observer

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**Continued on page 68**

Continued from page 67



Respectable Sinhala Catholic parents in the USA seek a partner in marriage for their son born in 1991 August, good character, 5'8" fair and good looking citizen of USA, employed as an Accountant (BSc) taking MBA classes, inherits valuable assets in Sri Lanka. We are seeking a fair beautiful educated daughter from a respectable family with a good character, willing to migrate or someone from the USA. Christians or Catholics preferred. Please reply with family details and Telephone number to: a nbc1217@gmail.com OG152595

Retired government employees father mother Buddhist family Kurunegala our son 1983 September 5'10" with good physique T/T N/S and virtuous. He holds BSc MSc NBA and completed his MSc Health Management Australia. He holds management post in health sector Darwin. He is on covid visa as nomination is not yet given. Parents seek a pretty daughter with good qualities and education. Preferably Doctor or registered Nurse with PR in Australia. Only younger sister is English Instructor at Peradeniya University. Email - capri corncan@gmail.com OG152671

Roman Catholic parents are seeking a well mannered Christian bride for their professionally qualified (BSc, MSc.) only son. He is a British citizen and working as a HR Coordinator in a reputed UK company. DOB 1980, height 5 feet 6". Email : wt7lowe@gmail.com OG152473

Roman Catholic Sinhalese parents from Colombo suburbs seek a pretty and educated daughter from a respectable family for their son born 1986, Manager at a reputed company. He is both academically and professionally qualified. Please respond with details. E-mail: tdajs123@gmail.com OG152121

Tamil RC parents seeking a professionally qualified, attractive, slim and well-mannered daughter for their handsome son 34, 5'6" in height. Currently working in Saudi Arabia as an IT professional. Divorced after a brief marriage has no encumbrance, innocent party. Local / abroad, Hindus welcome to reply. shrn333@gmail.com OG152784

The father from a respectable family of Roman Catholic background is seeking a daughter from a Catholic Canadian family from Sri Lankan descend. Son is 31 years of age, 6'4" tall, religious, a 03rd year student of York University (Computer Science), he is looking to settle down in Canada as his sister is married to a dual citizen. Email with family details shash isilva11@gmail.com OG152703

(Sinhala, Bodu, Govi) parents seek for their son Chartered Accountant holding a good position in private sector, 33 years, 5'10", owning a land and property, a partner preferably from similar background. Email - isdawn18@outlook.com OG152532

**BRIDE**

Professional/well established mixed-culture (Tamil/Sinhala), business parents seek educated, mannered, pleasant, kind-hearted son between 30-34 years for their Buddhist elder daughter. Professional / established business family of similar background with Shani Mangala Yoga horoscope is welcome. Caste, Race, Religion immaterial. Email: proposalmarriage2021@gmail.com

**GROOM**  
Retired professional parents Colombo suburbs, only son (G/B) born 1987, Royalist, 5'11" Electrical Engineer / ACMA / MBA, well employed in a strong listed company, non-malefic horoscope. Parents seek a pretty, educated daughter with good character and family background. Non-malefic horoscopes preferred. Reply with family details, horoscope, FB and Telephone Number.  
hkpprop@gmail.com +94-11-2910629 (Available after 7.30 p.m.)  
Box No. 0 152585 C/o Sunday Observer, Lake House, Colombo.



**GROOM**  
Respectable B/G parents (father Senior Lawyer) seek for their only son 35 years, 5'10" a G/Manager in an International Group of Companies also a prestigious scholarship holder in MBBS, only sister is Lawyer working in a reputed Law Firm in Colombo who is married to educated businessman running a Garments Buying Office, seeking an educated, fair, pretty, partner. Please respond with details.  
Tel: 011-2776011  
Email: mpm5188@mail.com  
C/o SOB O-152495, D.R. Wijayawardena Mw., Colombo-10

**INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**  
**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**  
**DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA**  
**SUPPLY OF 1,755 METRIC TONNES OF ORDINARY PORTLAND CEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX AT AKUREGODA**  
DHQC/PROC/2020/YARD/67

- The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC) on behalf of the Ministry of Defence now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for **Supply of 1,755 Metric Tonnes of Ordinary Portland Cement for Defence Headquarters Complex at Akuregoda.**
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** and inspect the Bidding Documents at the above address from **1000 hrs on 18th October 2020 to 1000 hrs. on 09th November 2020** on any working day. Tel: 0094-011-4209885, Fax: 0094-011-4209885, E-mail: pmudhqc@gmail.com.
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) Procedure under Standard Bidding Document of NPA/Goods/SBD 01 and Government Procurement Guidelines.
- To be eligible for Contract award;
  - Bidder shall be a registered business entity in Sri Lanka at least for a period of five (5) years and shall have supplied Ordinary Portland Cement successfully as a manufacturer or authorized supplier at least for a period of five (5) years up to now and shall have a track record at least for three (3) years for supply of Ordinary Portland Cement successfully for projects of this scale and shall be capable of demonstrating through submitted documentation. **Bidders who do not comply with this mandatory qualification criterion shall be considered as non-responsive.**
  - Bid shall accompany a valid certificate issued by the Registrar of Companies as per the 8th paragraph of Public Contracts Act No 03 of 1987 for every Bid which exceeds tenderable amount of Rs. 5.0 million.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address: **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Sri Lankan Rupees Seven Thousand Five Hundred (LKR 7,500.00)**. The method of payment shall be by cash.
- A pre bid meeting will be held at **1100 hrs on 26th October 2020** at Defence Headquarters Complex site at Akuregoda, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
- Duly completed Bids shall be delivered to: **The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla** on or before **1000 hrs on 09th November 2020**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person at **Project Management Unit, Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla**.
- All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid-Security of **Sri Lankan Rupees Three Hundred Fifteen Thousand (LKR 315,000.00)** obtained from a reputed commercial bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. This Bid Security shall be in the form of unconditional and on demand guarantee acceptable to Purchaser, which shall be valid up to **08th March 2021** (119 days after the closing of Bid).
- Bidders are strongly advised to present the registration certificate under the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987 (when relevant), before purchasing the Bidding Document from The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
- Bidders are advised to inform in writing, to The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla, the name and the NIC/ Passport Number of the individual who is participating at the bid opening at least prior to three (03) working days of the bid opening.

**The Chairman, Project Procurement Committee (PPC), Defence Headquarters Complex Project, Akuregoda Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla.**  
Tel: 0094-011-4209885  
Fax: 0094-011-4209885  
E-mail: pmudhqc@gmail.com

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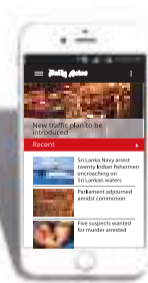
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**Registration of Vehicle Repairers, Suppliers of Spare Parts, Vehicle Servicing Institutions/ Individuals and Suppliers of Vehicles on Hire Basis - 2021**

Applications are invited from reputed, qualified individuals and institutions who wish to register for repairing of vehicles, supplying of spare parts and for servicing of vehicles of the University of Moratuwa.

- Ability to perform the following works when repairing vehicles should be separately mentioned and will be registered separately for each item.
  - Mechanical repairs to vehicles.
  - Repairing and servicing air-conditioning system in all motor vehicles.
  - Repairing of vehicle electrical systems.
  - Tinkering and painting of vehicles.
  - Supply of spring blades, shaping of spring blades and repairing of blades in light and heavy vehicles.
  - Wheel alignment/ balancing.
  - Repairing, installation of seats, cushioning and fixing seat covers of vehicles.
  - Supplying and servicing of tyres and tubes.
  - Repairing of radiators.
  - Repairing of silencers.
  - Repairing of motor cycles, three-wheelers.
  - Tinting of vehicle glasses.
  - Repairing buses of Indian make.
  - Repairing buses of Japanese make.
  - Repairing all vehicle door & window beadings.
  - Sticking stickers to all vehicles.
  - Supplying new Batteries.
  - Vehicle key Cutting.
  - Repairing hand tractors.
- Supplying of vehicle spare parts.
- Servicing of vehicles.
- Supply of vehicles on hire basis
  - Hiring lorry and full body lorries.
  - Supply of cabs, vans, three-wheelers, backhoe machines, hand tractors, tipper trucks, mobile hoists.

Self-prepared applications, as per the specimen given below, should be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of Rs.200/= per each item in the form of a Money Order drawn in favour of Bursar, University of Moratuwa, payable at Post Office, Moratuwa. All applications should be sent by Registered post addressed to "Deputy Registrar/General Administration (Services), University of Moratuwa" marking "Registration for vehicles and related services for year 2021" on left-hand top corner of the envelope, to receive on or before 08.11.2020.

Conditions :  
1. Generally, Tenders/Quotations are invited from registered suppliers / contractors to obtain services, but the University reserves the right to invite Tenders/ Quotations from outside sources.  
2. Priority will be given to Garages and Workshops which are specialized in providing services and Spare parts to above mentioned repairs.  
3. Application should be submitted with a copy of the Business registration certificate and details of Banks where Accounts are maintained and of the institutions with whom business relations are maintained.  
4. Registration of registered individuals / institutions who/ that had failed to perform the entrusted contract/ service in a satisfactory manner, will be cancelled.  
5. Suppliers who seek registration for the abovementioned works should agree to provide service on a 30 day credit basis.

**Specimen Application Form**  
(Should be submitted in duplicate)

- Name and Address of Applicant/Business Institution:.....
- Telephone No:..... Fax:.....
- Nature of Business (whether Government Institution, Sole Proprietorship, Partnership, Limited, Liability Company, etc.)
- Business Registration No. and Nature of Business:.....
- Bank/s at which Accounts are maintained and the Account Nos:.....
- VAT Registration No. if any:.....
- Name and Address of few Government institutions to which presently supplies / services are provided by you/ your Institution .....
- Details of item/items for which registration is sought.....
  - Eg: (Mechanical Repairs to vehicles)
  - .....
  - .....

I/We hereby declare that I/we wish to supply Repairs/Services to vehicles of the University of Moratuwa, agreeing to the conditions published in this newspaper notice.  
Date :.....  
Signature of Applicant and Official Seal

Registrar  
University of Moratuwa  
07.10.2020

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