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## PM TELLS PARLIAMENT COVID-19 BURIALS TO BE PERMITTED



**CAMELIA NATHANIEL and AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI**  
Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa told Parliament yesterday that permission would be granted for the bodies of COVID victims in Sri Lanka to be buried.  
The Prime Minister was speaking in response to a question raised by MP S.M. Marikkar.  
Samagi Jana Balawegaya MP S.M. Marikkar pointed out that the State Minister of Primary Health Care, Epidemics, and COVID Disease Control, (Dr.) Sudarshani Fernandopulle had informed Parliament on Tuesday that COVID-19 does not spread through water.

**PAKISTANI PM WELCOMES ASSURANCE**  
Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan yesterday welcomed Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa's assurance allowing Muslims to bury those who died of COVID-19. "We welcome Sri Lankan PM Mahinda Rajapaksa's assurance given in the Sri Lankan Parliament today allowing Muslims to bury those who died from COVID-19", the Pakistani Prime Minister tweeted.  
The Pakistani Prime Minister is scheduled to arrive in Sri Lanka on a two day official visit on February 22. He is the first Head of State to visit the country this year.  
Therefore, MP Marikkar questioned the Government as to why it was not allowing the burial of the remains of Muslim COVID-19 victims in keeping with their religious practices and beliefs. **TO PAGE 02**

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**Sri Lanka Telecom posts Rs. 7.9 bn PAT for 2020** **PAGE 13**



A group of 34 foreign tourists visited the Sigiriya Fortress after the Government opened cultural sites to foreign tourists in compliance with Health Ministry guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

## Ranjan cannot attend Parliament due to legal processes - Speaker



**CAMELIA NATHANIEL and AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI**  
Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena announced in Parliament yesterday that Opposition MP Ranjan Ramanayake would not be allowed to attend Parliament due to ongoing legal processes.  
Making a Special Statement in Parliament yesterday, the Speaker said that he had been notified by Court to maintain the status quo and said MP Ramanayake would not be invited to attend Parliament until a verdict is given regarding his petition filed in the Supreme Court. **TO PAGE 02**

## No political prisoners in Sri Lanka - Justice Minister



**CAMELIA NATHANIEL and AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI**  
Justice Minister Ali Sabry, PC told Parliament yesterday that there are no political prisoners in Sri Lanka.  
Responding to a question raised by Tamil National Alliance (TNA) Parliamentarian Shanakiyan Rajaputhiran Rasamanickam who questioned the Government over the failure to release Tamil political prisoners, he said there are no political prisoners but there are those detained under the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA). **TO PAGE 02**

## Sumanthiran's security detail withdrawn due to Court order violation - Public Security Minister



**CAMELIA NATHANIEL and AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI**  
Public Security Minister Rear Admiral Dr. Sarath Weerasekera said in Parliament yesterday that he had withdrawn MP M.A. Sumanthiran's security detail as the MP had not heeded warnings regarding his safety and had defied a Court and Police order and participated in a protest. **TO PAGE 02**

## Measures to vaccinate 57% of Sri Lanka's population by March - Prasanna

Measures will be taken to vaccinate 57% of the total population against COVID-19 by March, said Tourism Minister Prasanna Ranatunga.  
The Minister was speaking at the Consultative Committee on Tourism which met yesterday (10).  
"Strategic planning should be carried out in order to prevent the COVID-19 virus from entering society through tourists who visit the country whilst ensuring that the virus is not transmitted to tourists from the community," the Minister said. **TO PAGE 02**

## India-Sri Lanka flights to resume soon

**IRANGIKA RANGE**  
Flights between India and Sri Lanka will resume soon in accordance with strict health guidelines, Tourism Minister Prasanna Ranatunga said. He said that attention has been paid to implement flight operations between two countries on an air bubble concept. **TO PAGE 02**

## Maha Sangha wrap robe around *Crudia zeylanica* tree

A group of members of the Maha Sangha along with several laymen yesterday wrapped a *Crudia zeylanica* (Panu Karanda) tree with a robe as the species is thought to be on the verge of extinction.  
The members of the Maha Sangha said that they 'ordained' the critically endangered endemic tree with the objective of protecting it from being destroyed for the construction of the Kadawatha - Mirigama Expressway. **TO PAGE 02**

## Clinical Study reports of three more COVID-19 vaccines awaited - State Minister



**ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA**  
Clinical Study reports of three more COVID-19 vaccines are yet to be received and if those vaccines are found to be safe, the authorities will take necessary measures to import those vaccines, State Minister of Production, Supply and Regulation of Pharmaceuticals Prof. Channa Jayasumana stated.  
Prof Jayasumana made this observation at the launch of the new website of the State Ministry of Primary Health Care, Epidemics and COVID Disease Control held yesterday at the State Ministry.  
The State Minister further said that certain groups questioned the reason for not granting permissions to import other COVID 19 vaccines. There are some countries, especially some African countries which do not possess a strict regulatory mechanism, that grant approval for the vaccines soon after receiving an email. **TO PAGE 02**

## Zahran's wife further remanded

**SUBHASHINI SENANAYKE AND SHAVINI MADHARA**  
Abdul Carder Fathima Sadia, the wife of the mastermind of the 2019 Easter Sunday Attacks Zahran Hasim and five others have been further remanded till March 3 by Colombo Fort Magistrate Priyantha Liyanage yesterday. **TO PAGE 02**

## Sri Lanka Cricket summoned before COPE today

Sri Lanka Cricket has been summoned before the Committee on Public Enterprises (COPE) today (11), its Chairman Prof. Charitha Herath said. The Auditor General's report on the Financial Years 2017 and 2018 of Sri Lanka Cricket and its performance will be reviewed. The Committee is scheduled to meet in Parliament at 2 p.m. today.

## New election law to be amended to avert lapses - NEC Chairman

**ASELA KURULUWANSA**  
Chairman of the National Elections Commission (EC) Nimal G. Punchihewa yesterday said that the Commission has already identified the lapses that lie in the way to ensure free and fair election and the new election law will be amended to avert these lapses.  
Punchihewa added that a large number of employees are denied their right to franchise on Election Day and doctors, nurses and media persons are among them. **TO PAGE 02**

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PM at Progress Review Meeting with Central Bank

# Remove acquiring surcharges from borrowers closing their loans before time

CHAMIKARA WEERASINGHE

Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa directed the Central Bank yesterday to remove the practice that financial institutions acquire a surcharge on loans that their customers close before the repayment period.

Prime Minister Rajapaksa asked the officials to ensure that all financial institutions function according in this respect and refrain from

charging any levy or surcharge on their borrowers, who would settle their bank and vehicle loan installments in full with their respective banks and finance companies before the scheduled loan repayment period.

The Prime Minister directed Central Bank officials to take necessary steps toward this at a Progress Review Meeting held at the Ministry of Finance. The discussion

revealed that the financial institutions charge a 3 percent surcharge on the unpaid balance of their borrower's loan. They sometimes refrain from charging that amount from him only upon a request made on his part.

The Prime Minister said that a general policy should prevail over acquiring such charges from the public.

"The individual financial institu-

tions cannot have these functions executed and controlled by them at their discretion," he said.

Prime Minister Rajapaksa instructed the Central Bank officials to remove the surcharge and added that all financial institutions should operate and consolidate their functions under the Central Bank's oversight.

State Minister of Money, Capital Market and State Enterprise

Reforms Ajith Nivard Cabraal said that acquiring this surcharge and placing it at the discretion of lending institutions could not be justified.

"It needs removing," he said.

State Minister Shehan Semasinghe, Treasury Secretary S.R. Attygalle, Secretary to Prime Minister Gamini Senarath, and Central Bank Governor Prof. W.D. Lakshman participated in the meeting.

## Plans to vaccinate journalists

NUWAN KODIKARA

Media Minister Dr. Keheliya Rambukwella has requested the Presidential Task Force on COVID-19 to make arrangements to vaccinate journalists soon.



The Minister has made this request at the COVID-19 Prevention Committee meeting which was held under the patronage President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, Media Ministry sources said on Tuesday.

The Minister has opined that the media persons have been discharging a great service in disseminating information on the COVID-19, since the virus was detected from the country and the media persons deserve to be vaccinated on a priority basis. According to Information Department statistics, the country has nearly 6,000 journalists and around 1,150 of them are provincial journalists.

## Badulla MC's functions temporarily suspended

PRASANNA PADMASIRI,

Uva Provincial Corr.

Uva Province Governor A.J.M. Muzzammil on Tuesday evening issued a special Gazette notification bringing the Badulla Municipal Council under a Special Commissioner temporarily.

The Governor arrived at decision as the Badulla Municipal Council has become virtually defunct with the Mayor failing to

garner the support of the majority of the Councillors. The SLPP jointly with SLPF managed to win the confidence of the majority of the members of the Council.

The Governor through an Extraordinary Gazette Notification appointed Administrative Service Officer Jeevantha Herath as the Special Commissioner to implement and perform the functions of the Badulla Municipal Council.



**SRI LANKA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION IN LAOS:** Sri Lanka's 73rd Independence Day Celebration was organised by the Honorary Consulate for Sri Lanka to the Lao PDR under the guidance and the leadership of Madame Manilay Thiphalansy who is the first-ever Honorary Consul for Sri Lanka to the Lao PDR, and head of Chancery Damith Aluge. The Sri Lankan community in Laos, Laotians, business owners, foreign nationals and other Honorary Consuls participated in the event. The event was held at the office of Honorary Consulate, located at Sawang village, Chanthabouly district, Vientiane Capital. The celebration began with the hoisting of the National Flag to the sounds of 'Magul Bera'. This was followed by the singing of the National Anthem of Sri Lanka. Two minutes silence was also observed to commemorate War Heroes who sacrificed their lives for the Motherland.

## COVID-19 burials... From page 01



The Prime Minister responded by saying permission will be granted for the burial of the bodies of COVID-19 victims. The Muslim community claimed that cremation was against their religious beliefs and called on the Government to halt forced cremation and permit burials in line with World Health organization guidelines with regard to COVID-19 as practiced in other countries.

## Ranjan cannot... From page 01



The Opposition, however, requested the Speaker to request the prison authorities to bring Ramanayake to Parliament, in the same manner that several others were allowed. Ramanayake is currently serving a sentence on charges of Contempt of Court. The Supreme Court sentenced him to four years of rigorous imprisonment.

Subsequent to Ramanayake's conviction, Attorney General (AG) Dappula de Livera had informed the Secretary-General of Parliament that the MP's seat in Parliament has become vacant.

However, the Court of Appeal today instructed the Parliament Secretary-General to refrain from taking steps to fill Ramanayake's vacant seat until February 12, 2021.

The Court issued the directive after Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena informed Parliament in January that he would seek legal opinion on MP Ranjan Ramanayake's Parliamentary Seat.

The Opposition MPs accused the Speaker of discrimination stating that MP Premalal Jayasekara, who had been convicted on murder charges had been allowed to attend Parliament while denying Ramanayake that opportunity. However, the Speaker stood his ground and rejected the SJB MPs' requests stating that he will not invite Ramanayake to Parliament due to Court proceedings.

## Maha Sangha wrap... From page 01

Meanwhile, the Central Environmental Authority (CEA) in a statement yesterday said that the Authority has written to the Road Development Authority (RDA) last month requesting a detailed report on the proposed action on the Crudia zeylanica plant, which is threatened with extinction, located at Daraluwa in Gampaha. This is one of the only two such trees in the country.

The release said the CEA has acted correctly within its ambit on the issue of the tree. The release undersigned by CEA Chairman S. Amarasinghe said the information of the plant surfaced only in November 2019, but the CEA had approved the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the section from Kadawatha to Meerigama of the Central Expressway in September 2016 based on the report provided by the undertakers of the Project.

"Once the tree was identified while the construction was going on, the CEA conducted a field study at the location together with the Wildlife Conservation Department, the RDA and the National Botanical Gardens Department on December 31, 2019. Thereafter, the CEA was informed that the Wildlife Department instructed the RDA to relocate this tree at another suitable location. The RDA had also informed us of several other locations where this plant exists. The CEA wrote to the RDA on January 5, 2021 requesting to inform its proposed action on this particular tree in Daraluwa," the CEA stated in the release.

## Clinical Study reports... From page 01

But as a country which maintains a high quality primary healthcare service, we cannot grant permission to import a vaccine in such a manner. Sri Lanka possesses a strict medical regulatory mechanism, he said.

State Minister of Indigenous Medicine Promotion, Rural and Ayurveda Hospitals Development



and Community Health Sisira Jayakody, Secretary to the Ministry of Health Major General Sanjeeva Munasinghe, Secretary to the Ministry of Health

Primary Health Care, Epidemics and Covid Disease Control Dr. Amal Harsha de Silva, Director General of Health Services Dr. Asela Gunawardena were also present.

## Sumanthiran's security... From page 01

Tamil National Alliance (TNA) legislator, M.A Sumanthiran told Parliament yesterday that the Government had withdrawn the special security assigned to him and that his life was in danger as a result.

He said that he was given special security by the Government on the basis that there was a threat to his life and he had not made a request. He said that Law and Order Minister Rear Admiral Sarath Weerasekara had notified him one month ago that there was still a threat to his life.

Therefore, he warned Minister Weerasekara that if anything happens to his life now, Minister Sarath Weerasekara would have to take responsibility for it.

He said that Weerasekara had ordered the withdrawal of his security for attending a protest in the North last week.

The Law and Order Minister defended the decision saying he is not prepared to allow the Security Forces to be used to give special security to an MP who violates a Court order and attends a protest despite there being a threat to his life.

Weerasekara noted that despite being warned, Sumanthiran had attended the protest which goes to show that there was no threat to him. He said, "I am the one who withdrew Sumanthiran's security in my capacity as the Public Security Minister. Sumanthiran had participated in the protest defying Police and Court orders. Therefore, Police protection cannot be given to such a person. If he has threats to his life, then he should not go to such crowded places and the fact that he went for the protest where thousands of protestors were present, proves that there is no threat to his life. That is why his special security detail was taken away."

He said that he had warned Sumanthiran earlier regarding a possible threat to his life, adding that Sumanthiran should have taken precautions and heeded the warnings. However, as he had not followed the advice of the Public Security Minister, the Special Task Force cannot take responsibility for his safety now. "It would be a joke to provide security to someone who defies police orders," he said.

Sumanthiran, however, said that the court order did not have his name on the document, claiming that therefore, he had not violated any court order. Several Opposition members, including Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa and some members of the Government urged the Speaker to ensure that special security is reassigned to Sumanthiran.

## No political prisoners... From page 01

"Immediately after the LTTE was defeated in 2009 there were around 12,843 LTTE suspects who surrendered to the Government. The Government rehabilitated them and integrated them with the society. As a policy, all of them were reintegrated into society, given skills training and they are now living with the rest of the society, including 600 child soldiers."

MP Rasamanickam citing several cases said that some of these persons are still being detained without any charges being filed. He noted that one of the main demands made during the recent protest march from Pottuvil to Point Pedro was the release of these political prisoners.

He requested the Prime Minister to take action with regard to this matter and ensure that these cases are expedited. "This was an election promise that was put forward. We have 100% faith in you. This is not just the request of the TNA, but nearly 100,000 people joined the march from and this was their demand. Even in the case



of the Easter attacks, there are people who have been detained for nearly two years without any cases being filed against them. My question is are they going to be released? What is happening?"

Responding on behalf of the Prime Minister, Minister Ali Sabry, PC, said that discussions were held with the Attorney General and the Chief Justice on steps to be taken to expedite the pending cases.

He also tabled a document with the names of those being detained.

The Justice Minister said that the charges against those being detained are serious in nature and the Attorney General had been instructed to look into these cases individually and file cases against those who should be charged.

## New election law... From page 01

The Commission Chairman expressed these views after receiving the blessings of the Mahanayake Theras of the Asgiriya and Malwatte Chapters in Kandy yesterday.

He said that amendments will be brought to the voting process enabling the employees of various categories to cast their vote in advance.

"The Commission expects to implement this mechanism by the end of this year," he added.

He said that the Commission is in the process of formulating a mechanism aiming at controlling wasteful expenditure during elections.

A Bill allowing youths who have just completed 18 years of age to exercise their franchise is to be adopted in Parliament.

He added that the Elections Commission has short term and long term plans and the Commission has requested Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa to appoint a Parliamentary Select Commit-



tee for the implementation of these plans.

"The Prime Minister has already agreed to our request. All Provincial Councils are functioning as usual. The funds are being allocated to the provincial ministries also," he said.

However, Punchihewa said that the functioning of a Provincial Council without a people's representative is against the democratic norms and practices and the Commission is of the view that the Provincial Council election should be held soon.

"It is up to the Government to take a decision with regard to the abolition of Provincial Councils," he said.

## Measures to vaccinate 57%... From page 01

Accordingly, the Minister stated that health regulations should always be followed and steps should be taken to vaccinate the people as a practical measure against this concern.

The Minister emphasised the above taking into consideration the time-consuming factor faced by tourists having to undergo PCR tests and a long quarantine period upon arrival.

Member of Parliament Waruna Liyanage brought to light the issue related to the Dahaiyagala Elephant Pass in Udawalawe located between the Udawalawe National Park and the Bogapitiya proposed Forest Reserve, identified as a place of importance as it is a decisive route for elephants. The MP pointed out that as a result, elephants in the forest reserve are under threat due to the illicit clearing of these areas.

In consideration of the above, Minister Ranatunga emphasized that elephants are a resource for the country's tourism industry and that forests and the wildlife should be protected which are major tourist attractions.

Parliamentarian Udayana Kirindigoda, said that tourists often obtain information about the country through various websites regarding hotels and lodgings in particular, associated with various tourist destinations. However, the MP stated that information provided on these sites are not updated and below the level of satisfaction. The MP was of the view that although quality information and photographs of hotels and lodges have been published on websites, in practice this is not the case and as a result the reputation of the country is being tarnished.

Agreeing with the aforesaid,

## Zahran's wife... From page 01

This was when the relevant case was taken up before the Colombo Fort Magistrate's court via Skype technology.

Accordingly, the remanded suspects were identified as Abdul Cader Fathima Hadiya,

Parliamentarians Geetha Kumarasinghe and Diana Gamage stated that the tourism sector can be developed further by issuing a license or certificate after reviewing the publications on the sites regarding hotels and lodges with its practical status.

MPs Chandima Weerakkody, Geetha Kumarasinghe and Manusha Nanayakkara expressed their views on tourism development in the Galle District. Minister Ranatunga instructed Tourism Development Authority officials to call upon a separate meeting to discuss the development of tourism in the Southern Province including Galle.

When inquired by the Minister of Tourism regarding the progress related to the development of tourism in the Batticaloa District, State Secretary Madhava Devasurendra said that the development process has already been implemented in consultation with the relevant parties.

The Annual Report of the Tourism Development Authority for the year 2018, the Annual Report of the Tourism Development Fund for the year 2018 and the Annual Report of the Sri Lanka Convention Bureau for the year 2018 were presented at the meeting.

The Consultative Committee on Tourism was chaired by Minister of Tourism Prasanna Ranatunga. State Minister D. V. Chanaka, Members of Parliament Geetha Kumarasinghe, Manusha Nanayakkara, Udayana Kirindigoda, Jayantha Ketagoda, Dr. Upul Galappaththi, M. Udayakumar, Diana Gamage, Gunathilake Rajapaksa, Weerasumana Weerasinghe, Sampath Athukorala, Sivagnanam Sriharan and Government officials were present.

## India-Sri Lanka flights... From page 01

Accordingly, the Indian High Commission in Sri Lanka has submitted the relevant proposals to the Tourism Ministry as well as the Foreign Ministry in Sri Lanka.

Minister Ranatunga said the two countries have paid attention to recommending flight operations adhering to health guidelines imposed by Sri Lankan health authorities and the Indian Home Affairs Ministry.

"The Indian Home Affairs Ministry has formulated the guidelines on the air passengers who come to India and leave India and if Sri Lanka's

proposals tally with these guidelines, the Indian Government is ready to facilitate air travel between the two countries," Indian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka has informed the Sri Lankan Government.

Minister Ranatunga expects to discuss this matter with the health authorities and members of the National Action Committee on Preventing the spread of COVID-19.

Around 1,682 tourists have visited Sri Lanka in January and most of them are from Ukraine, Belarus and China.

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## Obituaries

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**KANAKARATNAM - MARJORIE WINIFRED (nee SOLOMONS)** May 19, 1930 to February 5, 2021 Safe in the Arms of Jesus. Mother of Ranjan, Tania, Kumar, Mahen and Maya, grandmother of Christopher, Jay, Jacintha, Josh, Marcus and Kathleen and sister to surviving siblings - Lois, Esther and Daphne and sister-in-law to Bertha. Funeral on 10th February at **Kane-Jerret Parlour, Thornhill, Ontario Canada.** 010547

# Mahanayake, Anunayake Theras thank India for COVISHIELD vaccine donations

**ASELA KURUWANSHA**

Kaushendra Kumar, Counsellor in Charge of Consular Affairs at the High Commission of India in Colombo, accompanied by Raakesh Natraj, Assistant High Commissioner of India in Kandy called on the Most Venerable Thibbatuwawe Sri Siddhartha Sumangalabhidhana Mahanayake Thera of the Malwatte Chapter of the Syamopali Maha Nikaya at the Malwathu Viharaya on January 9 to seek his blessings.

Mr. Kumar and Mr. Natraj called on the Anunayake of the Asgiriya

Chapter, Ven. Vedaruwe Upali Thera at his abode in the Asgiri Temple.

The Venerable Mahanayake Thera while welcoming Mr. Kumar thanked India for the consignment of 500,000 doses of COVISHIELD vaccines that arrived in Colombo on the auspicious Duruthu Poya day last month. The Venerable Anunayake Thera too conveyed the gratitude of Sri Lankan people to the Indian Government for the gesture of providing the vaccines during the country's time of need, adding that the two countries were bound by

common cultural, historic and religious heritage stretching back for thousands of years.

Natraj briefed the Most Venerable Mahanayake Thera as well as the Venerable Anunayake Thera in detail about the Indian Government's USD 15 million grant for the enhancement of Buddhist ties between the two counties as well as the status of completion of the Kandyan Dance Academy at the Sri Lanka International Buddhist Academy (SIBA), Pallekele which is being constructed with a grant assistance from India.



Counsellor in Charge of Consular Affairs at the High Commission of India in Colombo Kaushendra Kumar called on the Most Venerable Thibbatuwawe Sri Siddhartha Sumangalabhidhana Mahanayake Thera of the Malwatte Chapter of the Syamopali Maha Nikaya at the Malwathu Viharaya on Tuesday.

## No one can sabotage National Unity - Justice Minister

If the country is to make progress, we should all work together. We must build a sense of brotherhood, said Justice Minister Ali Sabry, PC.

He further said that we should not allow National Unity in the country to be sabotaged by an individual or a group.

He was participating at the opening of the new Dhatu Mandiraya and Deva Mandiraya of Katukurunda Athagama Sri Sumanarama Vihara in Kalutara on last Tuesday (09).

The Justice Minister said that Buddhist teachings have guided people to live in peace,

harmony and coexistence, irrespective of racial and religious differences.

The event had been organised by Vihara Dayaka Sabha under the patronage of the Katukurunda Athagama Sumanaramadhipathi, Kalutara Thotamune Chief Adhikarana Sanganayaka Katukurunde Subhuthi Nayaka Thera.

"As a country, there are many victories to be achieved. In order to achieve these victories, we have to set aside differences. It is required to respect each other's religions and cultures," the Minister added.

The Justice Minister further added that late



Prime Minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike, being the President of the Non Alignment Movement, had intervened to solve many global issues since she was tempered by Buddhist teachings. She was able to defuse tensions between Asian neighbours after following the path of friendliness, kindness, compassion and non-alignment.

## Wayamba Ela project construction work accelerated

**IRANGIKA RANGE**

Construction work of the Wayamba Ela project providing a solution to the water shortage problems that occur during the Yala and Maha Seasons in the Wayamba Province has been accelerated," Highways Minister Johnstone Fernando said.

Under this project, there will be 90 kms of new and upgraded canals including two underground tunnels and two new earth gravity dams together with the construction of the Maha Kithula and Mahakirula reservoirs.

"The water will transfer to seven large tanks and 326 rural small tanks located in the Galewela, Polpithigama, Mahawa, and



Highways Minister Johnstone Fernando inspection tour of the Mahakithula, Mahakirula and Mahadambe areas.

Ahatuwewa areas to facilitate the irrigation of 12,500 farmlands. This project will provide direct and indirect benefits to nearly 40,000 farmer families," the Minister added.

The estimated cost for the project is Rs.51,729 million. The Wayamba Ela project was commenced

under the Mahaweli Water Security Investment Programme diverting Mahaweli water to the Northern part of the North Western Province of Sri Lanka. The project is to feed the upper Mee-Oya catchment and Hakwatuna-Oya by conveying 130 million cubic metres (MCM) of water

annually. The main aim of the project is to provide sufficient water for the target irrigable area in the province. The project will also provide the people in the Province with safe drinking water that can help minimise the occurrence of Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD).

Minister Fernando said it has been planned to plant 60,000 saplings in the Wayamba Province in parallel with this programme.

Minister Fernando was speaking during the inspection tour of the Maha Kithula, Mahakirula, and Mahadambe construction sites which are also ancient archeological sites. Members of the Maha Sangha were also present.

## Sinha Regiment's 'Elsa' celebrates third birthday

The Sri Lanka Sinha Regiment (SLSR) at Ambepussa celebrated the third birthday of its dearly loved mascot 'Elsa', the lioness cub at its Regimental Headquarters on January 22.

SLSR Centre Commandant, Brigadier Dammika Dissanayake, Officers and Other Ranks including its caretakers were present at

the event. An artificially-designed 'meat' cake of about two feet in height, stuffed with pieces of meat, instead of icing sugar and wheat flour, added the symbolic 'birthday party' atmosphere. The Centre Commandant fed the lioness cub with the first piece of meat to the singing of "Happy Birthday."



'Elsa' keeps a close eye over her birthday cake.

## EU support to mitigate Climate Change impact on Sri Lanka

EU Ambassador to Sri Lanka and Maldives Denis Chaibi and Minister Counsellor - Head of Cooperation Frank Hess called on Environment Minister Mahinda Amaraweera at the latter's Ministry yesterday morning.

The main focus of this discussion was on the introduction of new technologies for agriculture, such as drought, water

scarcity, and drought, which is a major factor affecting the people of the dry zone of Sri Lanka.

Discussions also focused on rural development such as transportation, electricity and programmes to be implemented to maintain social justice.

Secretary to the Ministry of Environment Dr. Anil Jasinghe pointed out that the Government has

launched a sustainable environmental programme to regulate plastics and polythene in Sri Lanka.

He also said that a green city project has been launched and requested the EU to support the ongoing environmental development programme in our country.

Ambassador Dennis Chaibi said that the new technology used by Euro-

pean countries for emissions as well as the new technology will address the problems faced by the people due to climate change. The two sides exchanged views on issues such as the people of our country, the attainment of economic prosperity, the enforcement of peace and law. He thanked the European Union for its support so far.

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<sup>1</sup> Samsung has been rated the number1 Smartphone brand by StatCounter on the basis of market share for April 2018 - Jan 2021. <sup>2</sup> Check for the Authorized code on the box and the dealer outlet. | Third party logos shown belong to the respective parties.



# Institute of Supply and Materials Management

(Incorporated by Act of Parliament No. 3 of 1981)

## 28th Convocation

**Graduate Diploma in Purchasing and Supply Chain Management, 11th February 2021 @ BMICH**

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF GUEST



It gives me immense pleasure to send this message on the occasion of the Annual Convocation of the Institute of Supply and Materials Management (ISMM). I also modestly consider that it is a distinct honour bestowed upon me, to be a part of this occasion where the Institute is recognizing the achievements of 2016 - 2019 Batch of students by confirming them with appropriate Diplomas to practice their vocation as qualified professionals in the field of Supply Chain Management.

The experience of economic independence in Sri Lanka has coincided with the 30-year long civil strife in the nation's North and East. Aftermath of the conflict the economic growth recovered remarkably well, mainly due to fair commodity prices. During the recent decade after the war, Sri Lanka has recorded a significant economic growth according to the international standards. After the return of peace, the Government has geared its policies to reignite the country's growth. However, the task has proven challenging with respect to the current global economic uncertainties.

Whilst congratulating the graduates of the ISMM on this significant occasion, I wish the members of the Institute and their families a very bright and prosperous future whilst thanking them profoundly for the excellent services they all have rendered to the country for nearly five decades.

**General Kamal Gunaratne (Rtd)** - WWV RWP RSP USP ndcpsc MPhil  
SECRETARY MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

### MESSAGE FROM THE GUEST OF HONOUR



I am honoured to pen a few words on this very important occasion of the Institute of Supply and Materials Management.

The country's economic development requires professionals qualified in Purchasing and Materials Management. Domestic and International Trade which are essential for a country's economic development needs expertise in these areas. Therefore, I believe, Purchasing and Materials Management plays a strategic role in the progressive development of the country.

The mission of the Institute of Supply and Materials Management is to create world class professionals through continuous upgrading of the skills, knowledge and attitudes and be the forum to interact professionals in the field of Logistics and Supply Chain Management.

On this prestigious occasion, I am glad to witness the passing out ceremony of 48 Diplomates of professionals in the field of Purchasing and Supply Chain Management and wish all the Diplomates the very best in their future endeavors

**Dr. Ravi Liyanage**  
BSc.sp(Sri J), MBA(Col), Ph.D mgt.(USA) Dip.Mktg (SL), CGEM (Mor), FSLIM, MGA, MAAT  
CHAIRMAN/CEO THE KINGDOM OF RAIGAM GROUP

### MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT OF ISMM



Graduation is a momentous occasion, representing the crowning moment of all grandaunts' hard work and the many sacrifices that they and their loved ones made to reach this milestone. For ISMM, graduation is the highlight of the year.

Having successfully completed a three year intensive course of academic and practical training in the field of Supply Chain Management (SCM), our graduates are now fully equipped with the necessary knowledge and professional skills to drive the Supply Chain Management function forward to make a significant contribution to the development of their organizations.

It is our wish that all our students will leave here today as proud ISMM graduates who will continue to champion best practices of SCM, the good governance, and social justice, and be change agents and business executives in leading successful organizations towards a better world.

We salute and applaud their achievement and wish them all the best in their future endeavors. Our graduates' success is our success, and as ISMM Alumni, we look forward to watching their story unfold.

Congratulations!

**I G Perera**  
FISMM, MBA (Uni of W.Sydney), MSc (SCM), MSc (Project Mgt), Int'l Diploma in SCM (ITC - Geneva)  
PRESIDENT, ISMM

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN PD&TC



It is with immense pleasure I forward this message on the Convocation of 28th Batch of the Institute of Supply and Materials Management.

ISMM has served the industry over four decades and produced over 20,000 Supply Chain professionals who are engaged in Private and Public sectors. Being the National body to train the supply chain professionals, ISMM expanded its training wing including Kurunagala, Rathnapura and Jaffna. Apart from the Consultancies, Seminars, and Workshops, ISMM increasing number of Courses to the program portfolio understanding the industry requirement whenever necessary. We have offered tailor made programs based on industry demand and ready to offer solutions with expertise knowledge irrespective of sectors through our professionals. ISMM is playing a vital role, engaging in training, and developing and the contribution made by Supply Chain professionals to the power of economy is immense.

Our mission is focused on creating world class professionals through continuous upgrading of skills, Knowledge and attitudes that makes a wholesome professional in Purchasing and Supply Chain Management. While congratulating those who have obtained the GDPSCM qualification today, I earnestly request all of them to obtain the ISMM membership and actively join the growing professional network. I wish every success in their future endeavors.

**Sarath Gamage** FISMM, MBA - VICE PRESIDENT-ISMM/ OPA  
Chairman - Professional Development & Training Committee of ISMM

### MESSAGE FROM THE COURSE DIRECTOR



Congratulations on your achievement.

As an ISMM graduate, you have demonstrated the commitment, creativity, and talent you need to succeed in your chosen career.

Graduation is a significant step in your education and the entire Supply Chain Community wishes you the very best on this important occasion. I encourage you to make the most of your academic qualification through your contribution to your chosen profession and the community.

Over the course of your program, you have developed lifelong friendships and networks. You have also become a valued member of our vibrant ISMM community. I invite you to continue your relationship with ISMM to which you have dedicated so much time, hard work and energy.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the students and wish them all the very best in their future endeavors. Also I thank the President, All Council Members, President, Professional Development & Training Committee, Course Co Director, Faculty Members and staff of ISMM for the dedicated and instructive service to produce a batch of professionals right skills, knowledge with right attitude.

**Wing Commander Malinda Wijenayake (Rtd)**,  
COURSE DIRECTOR

### MESSAGE FROM THE COURSE CO-DIRECTOR



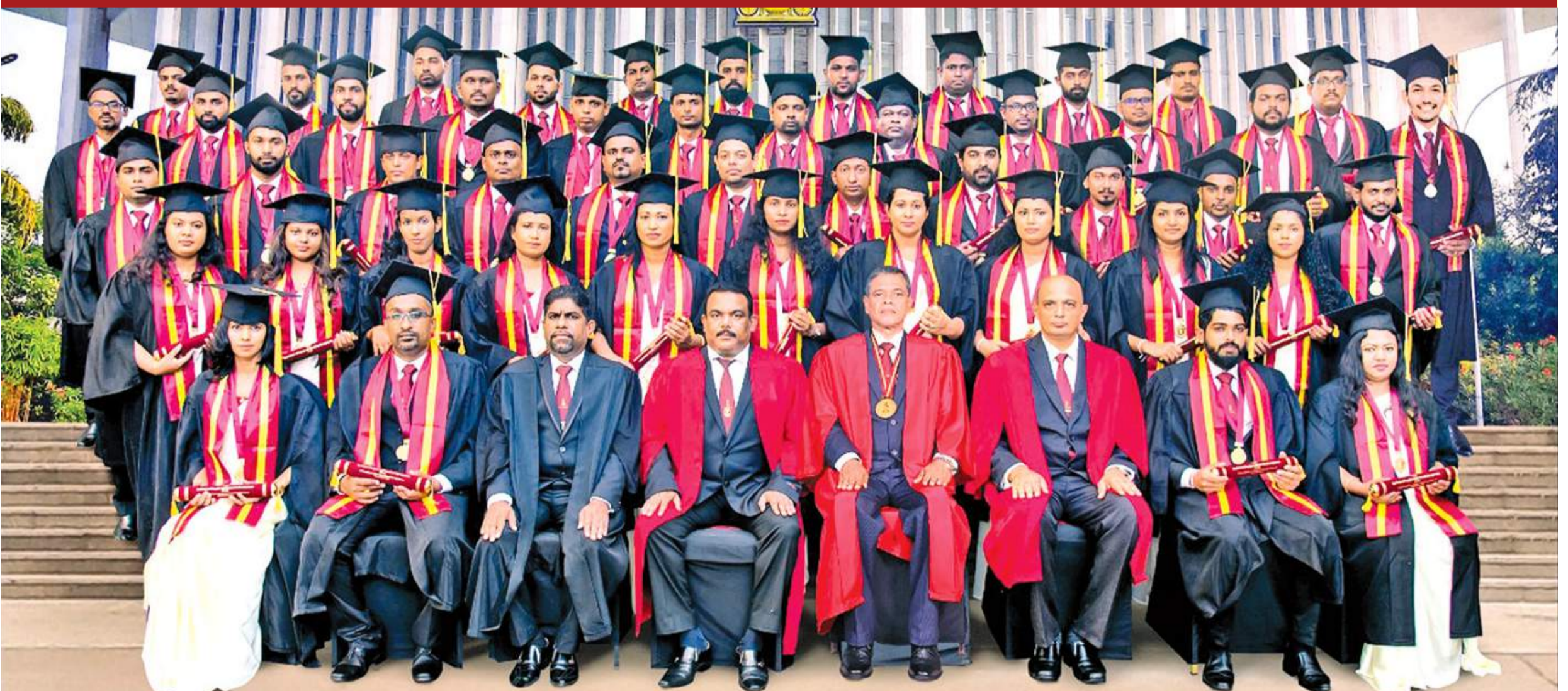
It is a matter of great pride and privilege to be part of a country's esteemed organization in the field of Supply Chain Management that prepares today's students to meet the challenges of the industry. This has become possible with the untiring efforts of our teaching faculty which imparts teaching by relating it with real life scenarios and current developments in their fields of Supply Chain. The course curriculum is devised based on the ever-changing needs of industry so that students are absorbed in industry smoothly and shine as proud Alumni of ISMM in the future.

One effect of the global financial crisis due to COVID 19 impact has been to demonstrate with great clarity how interconnected the world today really is. In supply chain terms, this means Supply Chain partners can exist virtually anywhere. When you work in Supply Chain and Logistics you will provide a comprehensive view on the management of Supply Chain business processes, you will manage the area of operations and logistics of a company, you will optimize the management of the area by applying information technologies that allow an efficient response to current needs.

Finally, remember your second alma mater: I would like to kindly request all of you to join our Alumni Association so that you will continue to be valued members of our ISMM community; wherever life may take you, I hope you will always remember the ISMM.

**Gamini Madurarachchi** MISMM  
COURSE CO-DIRECTOR

## 28TH BATCH OF GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN PURCHASING AND SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT 2016-2019



Left to Right: 1st Row: Ms. S. Anoma Damayanthi, Mr. Nalin Jayasundara, Mr. Gamini Madurarachchi, Mr. Sarath Gamage, I G Perera, Wing Commander Malinda Wijenayake (Rtd), Mr. S.P.K. Marasinghe, Ms. B.G.T.D. Gunawardena  
2nd Row: Ms. Dilani Pathirage, Ms. Uthpala Liyanage, Ms. Vindra Mudalige, Ms. R.M.D.K. Rathnayake, Ms. Osanga Jayasinghe, Ms. Thushari Indika, Ms. R.M.D.G. Rathnasekara, Ms. Kasuni Hettiarachchi, Ms. Koshila Jayalath, Ms. A.L. Badra Wijenayake  
3rd Row: Mr. Supun Madhusanka, Mr. G.E. Chathuranga, Mr. Dilan Dhanushka Perera, Mr. Rajinda Anuradha, Mr. Dimuthu Perera, Mr. S.D Upawansa, Mr. D.T. Rajapakse, Mr. P.A.D.L. Chanaka, Mr. Rasara Sankalpa, Mr. Dinidu Vindana, Mr. W.L.B. Felix  
4th Row: Mr. F.X. Prasanna, Mr. T.M.C. Udaya Kumara, Mr. Nipuna Tejan, Mr. Anjana Jayaweera, Mr. R.D.S.P. Gimhana, Mr. S.M. Wasantha Kumara, Mr. R.D.N. Rajapaksha, Mr. D.L.S. Rodney Perera, Mr. M.S.P. Priyadarshana, Mr. Krishantha Kumar, Mr. Kavindu Dilshan  
5th Row: Mr. Dilipa Miyushan, Mr. M.M.M. Minhaj, Mr. Mohammed Inzam, Mr. M.M.A. Arshad, Mr. A.B. Bambarandage, Mr. I.M. Saliya Bandara, Mr. M.N. Dharmika Perera, Mr. D.R.D. Jayasuriya, Mr. Sahitha Prasad Hewage, Mr. K.P.T. Sachith Pathirana, Mr. I.R.L. Theswa

# REINVENTING SRI LANKA: Tourism industry ponders its future

ZINARA RATNAYAKE

A year ago, Dinesh Perera and his friends owned and operated the only two LGBTQ-friendly accommodations in Colombo: Mahasen by Fozzoo and Mahasen Terrace by Fozzoo. Both hotels sat opposite each other on Mahasen Mawatha, a quiet road in a residential neighbourhood in Colombo.

Foreign and domestic visitors flocked to them, drawn to their cooking sessions and rooftop drinks, places where the clinking of the morning coffee cups, chit-chat and laughter filled the air, providing an escape from the busy metropolis.

But those days are long gone. "Our chapter in Mahasen Mawatha has come to an end," Perera tells CNN Travel, referring to their decision to shutter both their Colombo properties in December.

They are not alone. Since the beginning of the pandemic, many tourist service providers around the island have had to close. However, for some Sri Lanka establishments, their troubles began well before Covid-19 forced the world's borders to close.

## FROM ONE CRISIS TO ANOTHER

As the global crisis began to unfold, Sri Lanka was only just starting to recover from a completely different tragedy. Tourism in the country was hard-hit by the Easter bombings of April 2019, reducing tourist arrivals to just over 37,000 in May 2019 – a 70 percent drop from the previous year.

"We were only beginning to get our usual bookings in November and December (of 2019) after the Easter attacks," Perera says, referring to their months-long recovery.

Unlike other hotels that did not fare so well, both Fozzoo properties continued to have guests during the first wave of Covid-19.

"We had bookings during the first lockdown. Most foreigners stranded in the country decided to make Fozzoo their long-staying home," Perera says.

On March 19, 2020, Sri Lanka closed its borders to international tourists while imposing a police-mandated curfew to control the spread of Covid-19, which lasted for more than two months.

As the restrictions eased after the first wave, Perera continued to receive domestic tourists.

"It was just enough to keep our business afloat," he says.

Then came the second wave in October. Since then, Covid-19 numbers continued to rise. As of February 8, the country has recorded more than 68,000 cases and 351 deaths, according to the latest figures from Johns Hopkins University.

"I remember we had bookings for October, but with the news of the second wave, all of them got cancelled. We did not receive any guests after that. It was not sustainable to keep running on losses. So we had to take the hard decision to close," Perera says.

As part of the reopening, the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority (SLTDA) implemented a plan to allow international travellers to return following a pilot project that invited 1,500 Ukrainian tourists to arrive in clusters and travel in a "biosafety bubble."

The plan comes with several restrictions. Tourists must stay in 'Level-1' accommodations for 14 days. Guests are allowed to use facilities such as pools, gyms, salons and restaurants and also leave the hotel during quarantine to go sightseeing, provided they travel with registered tour guides and drivers.

They must pay for up to three PCR tests and have proof of a negative PCR test 96-hours before their arrival in Sri Lanka.

Those who accompany the tourists, including guides and drivers, must quarantine for 14 days.

Though it is a step in the right direction, many feel it does not go far enough to assist the small businesses that are hardest hit. "I do not think it can work," says Sean Mohammad, owner of now-shuttered White Peacock Hostel in Dickwella in the south of the country.

"It is hardly going to benefit those who actually need tourism. For most mid-range and small-scale accommodations, it is a rigorous process to get registered by the SLTDA and get the Level-1 standards."

For Level 1 recognition, hotels that are registered under the SLTDA have to acquire a "safe and secure" certification, a process that involves a lengthy audit. Several operators CNN spoke with complained of delays and misplaced applications.

Once a hotel is certified, they can opt to be added to the list of Level-1 accommoda-



A tree house at Back of Beyond

tions. These hotels are only permitted to accept foreign guests and cannot host functions.

For those unable to get certified, the future remains bleak.

Though some tourism businesses have made temporary arrangements to pay their employees, others are not so lucky. Many Sri Lankans involved in tourism are now working as daily wage labourers after losing their jobs. Others have stepped into new ventures.

Perera and his team, for instance, are pinning their hopes on Fozzoo Kitchen, their vegan food delivery business.

Others feel the pandemic and Easter bombings have shown that Sri Lanka has been too dependent on foreign tourists.

"The SLTDA always only focuses on a small niche market of seasonal, high-end travellers without any regard to what travellers look for," says Mohammad.

Instead, he says, more needs to be done to promote tourism to domestic travellers.

"There is huge potential. Most Sri Lankans do not know what their country has to offer them. They often go abroad looking for places, sights and experiences that are widely abundant in Sri Lanka," says the former hotel owner, who has travelled extensively in the country.

In line with global travel trends, a large number of foreign and domestic travellers in Sri Lanka now look for experiences that go beyond hotel and resort stays and include a mix of traditional cuisine, wellness, outdoor and cultural activities.

"We are working on it," says SLTDA Director General Dhammika Wijesinghe, referring to the organization's sustainable tourism model and efforts to promote the country's attractions to domestic tourists.

As part of this, they plan to create long-term opportunities for local communities.

"We have conducted workshops to educate people about sustainable practices," says Wijesinghe, referring to two sessions in Kandy and Sigiriya in recent months. "We followed a market-oriented approach. We focused on creating tourist markets in different countries, be it India, China, Germany or the UK."

The Director General says Covid-19 has prompted a new direction.

"We are finally thinking of creating a service or product-driven approach," she says. "I think most travellers now look for wellness and adventure experiences."

## POSITIVE MODELS

Professor Athula Gnanapala, an academic at the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, who holds a PhD in tourism management, says any plans to develop the country as a destination need to take into account the country's grassroots communities.

"Most of our tourist sites and establishments are located in rural regions, so people living in these areas should have the maximum benefit. Sustainability should focus on integrating local communities, but it does not happen in Sri Lanka," he says.

About 90 percent of the tourism establishments, Gnanapala says, are run by small-scale and medium-scale entrepreneurs.

He says the SLTDA needs to pay greater attention to the issues faced by these operators instead of focusing on promoting only popular landmarks and wildlife safaris to tourists.

"We have a lot of attractions. We can create different experiences focusing on wellness, birdwatching, waterfalls and, of course, our cuisine," he says. "Why do not we develop rural tourism? It helps us incorporate grassroots communities so they benefit from it."

Several independent establishments across the island have indeed been successful in creating such concepts. These include Back of Beyond, which offers stays and experiences for travellers in remote locations.

"Our first property began in 2007, targeting domestic travellers," says Mandi Daluwatte, Back of Beyond's Communications and Social Media Manager.

"We wanted to offer them a travel experience closer to nature while keeping our prices affordable. Over the years, the concept became so successful that not only locals, but foreigners visited us in large numbers."

She says the company offers travellers beautiful locations close to nature, fresh local food prepared by village chefs and outdoor activities.

Its most-visited property sits close to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Sigiriya, bordering a serene stream running through the jungle, and hosts tree houses and eco-friendly cottages perched on boulders.

Meanwhile, in the south of Sri Lanka near Yala National Park, Back of Beyond offers a glamping experience overlooking sprawling sand dunes and natural pools.

"Our concept is definitely sustainable. That is why we are operating for this long," Daluwatte says, referring to the bookings Back of Beyond continued to receive during the pandemic.

"Because of that, we could also pay our staff. They come from the community."

Like Back of Beyond, Viraj Dias has created a campsite in the mountains in Haputale, 205 kilometres from Colombo. His business, Eco Lodge Haputale, hosts low-budget travellers looking for outdoor activities such as guided hikes, privacy and seclusion in a scenic location.

Dias also operated a homestay before the pandemic. Foreigners loved staying with his family, he says, but it offers little charm to domestic visitors.

"Our homestay did not receive many domestic travellers, so it is temporarily closed now," says Dias. "But we receive many groups in our campsite. People from Colombo come here for the weekend."

Dhanula Jayasinghe, who works as a ranger at Leopard Trails, a bespoke wildlife experience provider, says that his company too is thankful for domestic travellers.

"It was not profitable, but it kept us afloat," he says.

"We offered a discounted rate during the pandemic, and our programme became successful."

Unlike traditional jeep safaris, Leopard Trails provides a luxury glamping experience with local cuisine, bonfires and a guided safari with information on wildlife behaviour, habitats and identification of individual leopards in the national parks.

"We also organised junior ranger programmes for children. Families with young kids loved it," says Jayasinghe.

For those outside of Sri Lanka, Jayasinghe created a virtual safari on Airbnb with the support of his industry colleagues in April 2020 as a response to the pandemic.

His leopard safari is the only virtual experience on Airbnb from Sri Lanka and has exceeded 250 bookings. While 10 people can join the tour, priced at \$14 per person, users can opt for private bookings with up to 100 people.

The virtual tour is a combination of pictures, videos and stories from the wild; one that soon gained popularity with over 250 five-star reviews.

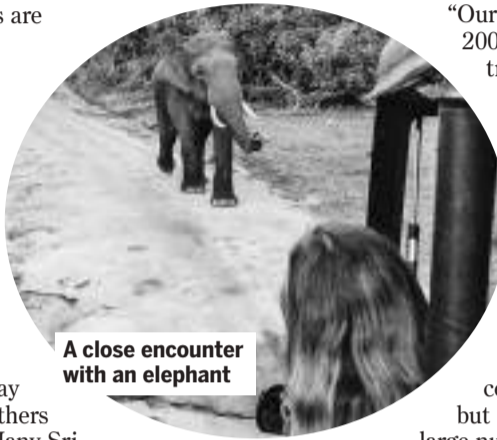
"We get a mix of requests," Jayasinghe says. "Sometimes it was families from across the world. They cannot travel to meet each other. Sometimes we had work-from-home office buddies who needed something fun and interactive. We also had university groups. Our tour was their classroom lesson for the day."

Jayasinghe is happy that the virtual tour also promotes Sri Lanka as a tourist destination while creating a new market for Leopard Trails.

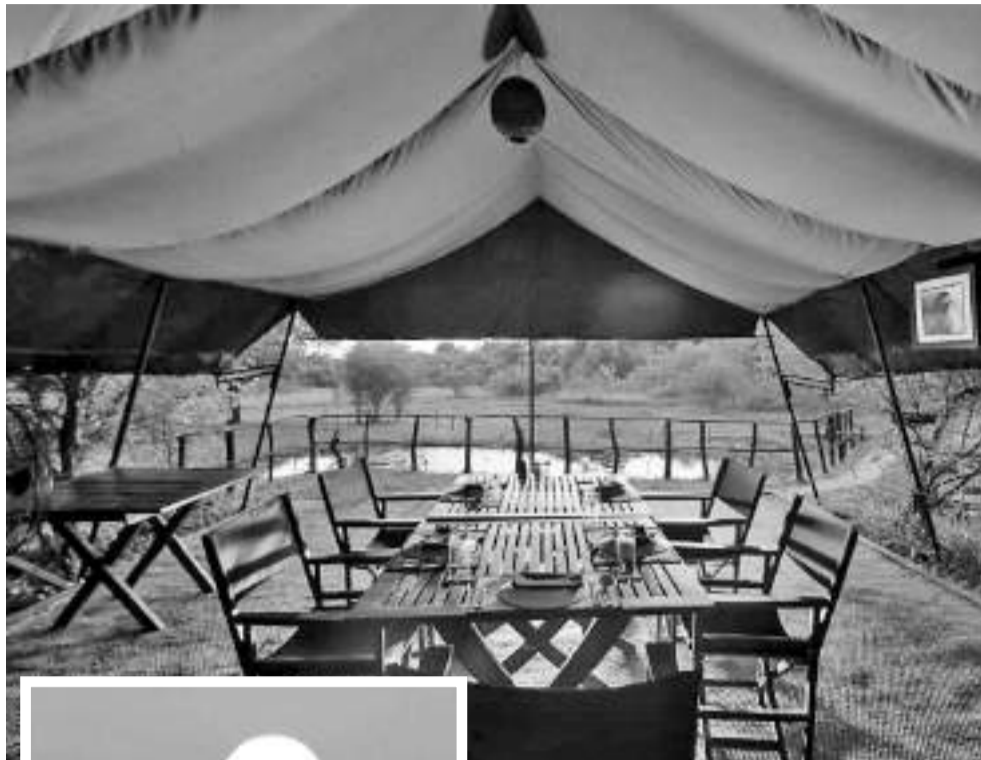
"I am bringing a wildlife experience to people who have never visited Sri Lanka, who live thousands of miles away from the country. They are inspired to visit us when the restrictions are relaxed."

"I think I'm a tourism ambassador," he adds with a chuckle. (CNN)

(This article is part of CNN Travel's "Unlocking the World" Series) Unless indicated otherwise all pictures courtesy CNN and the respective hotels



A close encounter with an elephant



Dining at Leopard Trails



A sailboat rides into the sunset at Galle Face (Picture by Sulochana Gamage)



A tourist at the health counter at the MRIA in Hambantota (Picture by Sulochana Gamage)

ADA KOTIPATHI - Thursday  
 Draw No.: 1191 Colour: Dark Blue  
 Date: 11.02.2021  
**Today's Jackpot**  
**Rs. 106,856,945/-**  
 Winning tickets are valid for 6 months.  
 Development Lotteries Board  
 398, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Plaza, Colombo 02  
 Tel: 0112 333 546-47  
 Fax: 2 333 546-47  
 Hotline - 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778

ඌසාදා Lagna  
**SUPER JACKPOT**  
**Rs. 3,775,705/-**  
 Date: 09-02-2021  
 Draw Number: 3070  
 Colour: Red  
 The winning ticket will be valid for 6 months.  
**Winning Numbers**  
**31 38 44 47**  
**Gemini**  
**TOTAL VALUE OF PRIZES**  
**Rs. 10,943,340/-**  
 Development Lotteries Board  
 398, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Plaza, Colombo 02  
 Tel: 0112 333 546-47  
 Fax: 2 333 546-47  
 Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919  
 SMS: 5LD-824824-01-824824 & send to 999  
 For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 011 824 824

**SUPER BALL**  
 Draw Number: 1363 Colour: Light Blue  
 Draw Date: 09.02.2021 Date: Tuesday  
**Winning English Letter and Numbers**  
**1 03 05 10 59**  
**Total Value of Prizes**  
**Rs. 4,576,520/-**  
 The winning tickets will be valid for 6 months.  
 Development Lotteries Board  
 398, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Plaza, Colombo 02  
 Tel: 0112 333 546-47  
 Fax: 2 333 546-47  
 Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919  
 SMS: 5LD-824824-01-824824 & send to 999  
 For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 011 824 824

**ශනිදා Shanida**  
**TUESDAY**  
 Date: 09.02.2021 Draw No.: 3519  
 Colour: LIGHT BLUE  
**Total Value of Prizes**  
**Rs. 4,454,700/-**  
**Winning Numbers**  
**03 30 34 48**  
**English Letter**  
**V**  
 Winning tickets are valid only for six months  
 Development Lotteries Board  
 398, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Plaza, Colombo 02  
 Tel: 0112 333 546-47  
 Fax: 2 333 546-47  
 Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919  
 SMS: 5LD-824824-01-824824 & send to 999  
 For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 011 824 824

**ADA KOTIPATHI**  
**TUESDAY**  
 Date: 09.02.2021 Total Value of Prizes  
 Draw No.: 1189 **Rs. 4,736,780/-**  
 Colour: LIGHT BLUE  
**Winning Numbers**  
**10 25 30 64**  
**English Letter**  
**L**  
 Winning tickets are valid only for six months  
 Development Lotteries Board  
 398, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Plaza, Colombo 02  
 Tel: 0112 333 546-47  
 Fax: 2 333 546-47  
 Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919  
 SMS: 5LD-824824-01-824824 & send to 999  
 For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 011 824 824

**English Letter & Winning Numbers**  
**P 38 50 52 64**  
 Draw No.: 688 Colour: PINK  
 Date: 09 Feb. 2021  
**Total Value of Prizes**  
**Rs. 3,219,120/-**  
**Next Super Jackpot**  
**Rs. 75,208,420/-**  
 Yellow, Pink and Green coloured tickets are valid on Sundays, Tuesdays and Fridays respectively. Winning tickets are valid for 6 months.  
 Development Lotteries Board  
 398, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Plaza, Colombo 02  
 Tel: 0112 333 546-47  
 Fax: 2 333 546-47  
 Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919  
 SMS: 5LD-824824-01-824824 & send to 999  
 For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 011 824 824

# Daily News



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Thursday, February 11, 2021

## Women and girls in science

Sri Lanka is one of the few countries in this region where girls are not discriminated against in terms of education. Equal opportunities are available here for both males and females to pursue secondary and higher education. But even then, we need more girls to learn STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) subjects at both school and university level.

This is one issue that we have to ponder on as we celebrate the International Day of Women and Girls in Science which falls today (11). STEM specialists are increasingly in demand in the worldwide job market and if we do not encourage more females to take up these subjects, we will lose out. In fact, the Government aims to realign school curricula and university courses with a prime focus on STEM to tap into this market, in order to make "unemployed graduates" a thing of the past.

This year's Women and Girls in Science Day will be celebrated under the theme "Women Scientists at the forefront of the fight against COVID-19". The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic has clearly demonstrated the critical role of women researchers in different stages of the fight against COVID-19, from advancing the knowledge on the virus, to developing techniques for testing, and finally to creating vaccines against the virus. The ongoing pandemic is proof that our future will be marked by scientific and technological progress that can only be achieved when women and girls are creators, owners and leaders of science, technology and innovation.

In our journey towards response and recovery, Sri Lankan female researchers working here and abroad have been among those pioneering the COVID-19 treatments and vaccines. Women played an important role in science even before the pandemic, accounting for nearly half of undergraduate enrolments in science, technology, economics and mathematics (STEM).

At the same time, the COVID-19 pandemic also had a significant negative impact on women scientists, particularly affecting those at the early stages of their career, and thus contributing to widening the existing gender gap in science, and revealing the gender disparities in the scientific system, which need to be addressed by new policies, initiatives and mechanisms to support women and girls in science in all countries.

Today, the 6th International Day of Women and Girls in Science Assembly will be held at the United Nations Headquarters virtually. With great momentum and interest to accelerate progress in achieving the 2030 Development Agenda and its 17 Global Goals, the 6th International Day of Women and Girls in Science Assembly theme will be 'Beyond the Borders: Equality in Science for Society', with a special focus on the value of the social aspects and cultural dimensions in Science, Technology and Innovation to enhance sustainable development programmes.

Science and gender equality are both vital for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Over the past 15 years, the global community and countries such as Sri Lanka have made a lot of effort in inspiring and engaging women and girls in science. Yet women and girls continue to be excluded from participating fully in science globally.

According to UNESCO's, Girls' and Women's Education in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) report (2017), female students represent only 35% of all students enrolled in STEM-related fields of study at higher education level globally. The report notes that gender differences in STEM education participation at the expense of girls begin as early as in Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) in Science- and Math-related play and are more visible at higher levels of education.

At present, less than 30 per cent of researchers worldwide are women. According to UNESCO data (2014 - 2016), only around 30 per cent of all female students select STEM-related fields in higher education. Globally, female students' enrolment is particularly low in ICT (3 per cent), natural science, mathematics and statistics (5 per cent) and in engineering, manufacturing and construction (8 per cent). Long-standing biases and gender stereotypes are steering girls and women away from science related fields. As in the real world, the world on-screen reflects similar biases—the 2015 Gender Bias Without Borders study by the Geena Davis Institute showed that of the onscreen characters with an identifiable STEM job, only 12 per cent were women.

Women who have made significant progress in STEM fields in their respective countries should be duly recognized and rewarded. This will be an example and inspiration to young girls who would like to choose a career in a STEM discipline. Schools and universities must popularise STEM subjects among girls. The Government should help by providing STEM subject teachers especially to schools in rural areas, where the focus on STEM is minimal. The Government's recent move to provide laptops to all undergraduate students on concessionary terms will also help female university students following STEM courses to achieve better results.

COVID has given us an ideal opportunity to recognize the role played by women in the advancement of science. They should be given all opportunities to rise and shine in this vital field.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

We will always have STEM with us. There will always be science, engineering, and technology. And there will always, always be mathematics. - Katherine Johnson

# Govt. ready to take on Geneva challenge



UNP Leader **Ranil Wickremesinghe**



Dr. **Neville Fernando**



Minister **Wimal Weerawansa**



MP **Sagara Kariyawasam**

## Hindsight

LAKDEV LIYANAGAMA

The Government was last week preparing to counter a resolution against Sri Lanka at the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) while the country celebrated its seventy third anniversary of independence on a sombre note with President Gotabaya Rajapaksa pledging to take action against those responsible for the Easter Sunday terror attacks in 2019 and the Central Bank bond scam.

The Government has been kept busy on the diplomatic front recently with differences of opinion with neighbouring India over the leasing of the East Container Terminal (ECT) of the Colombo Port. Colombo has however been firm in its decision although New Delhi has voiced its displeasure.

Leaders in Colombo were optimistic that relations with New Delhi can be restored despite the recent dispute. Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa said that such issues are dealt through discussion. "India is our closest friend. We can resolve any dispute with them after talking with each other," he said.

### Human rights issues

The greater diplomatic challenge now facing the government was countering the resolution against Sri Lanka at the UNHRC. The government planned to brief envoys of the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany and Canada based in Colombo ahead of the UNHRC sessions in Geneva.

Sri Lanka has taken up the position that the allegations noted by the UNHRC are unsubstantiated. It has also noted that President Gotabaya Rajapaksa recently appointed a commission to review reports of preceding commissions investigating human rights issues and make appropriate recommendations.

The Commission is headed by Supreme Court Judge A.H.M.D. Nawaz. Its other members are Chandra Fernando, a retired Inspector-General of Police and Nimal Abeysiri, a retired District Secretary. They have been asked to submit their final report to President Rajapaksa within six months.

The main mandate of this Commission is to determine whether past Commissions of Inquiry have revealed any human rights violations, to review recommendations of past commissions of inquiry and ascertain the manner in which those recommendations have been implemented so far.

The appointment of this Commission in Colombo was followed by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) at the United Nations releasing an 'Experts Report' expressing concern at what it claimed were developments in Sri Lanka that hindered human rights.

"The UNHRC and member states should strengthen independent monitoring, analysis and reporting of the human rights situation in Sri Lanka and establish an impartial and independent international accountability mechanism by investigating, compiling, and analysing information," the report said.

### Easter Sunday attacks

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa meanwhile, in his Address to the Nation on Independence Day, made it clear that his Government would proceed with action against those found responsible for the Easter Sunday attacks and the Central Bank bond scam, both of which are still being investigated.

The President's remarks came days after the Presidential Commission of Inquiry appointed by former President Maithripala Sirisena in September 2019 handed over their report to President Raja-

paksa. The Commission had previously handed over two interim reports to President Rajapaksa last year.

"I have received the final report of the Presidential Commission appointed to inquire into the Easter Sunday attacks. I have already given instructions to implement its recommendations. We will not allow those responsible for designing and enabling this tragedy to escape justice," the President said.

President Rajapaksa also said that he had advised the Attorney General's Department to swiftly act upon matters relating to the Central Bank bond scam. "The public expects fair, unbiased and efficient service from the officials who enforce the law," President Rajapaksa said in his address to the nation.

Following these remarks, the Archbishop of Colombo, His Eminence Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith called for the report of the Commission of Inquiry into the Easter attacks to be made public. "We request the President to reveal the conclusions and recommendations of this report to the nation," Cardinal Ranjith said.

### Criminal charges

Cardinal Ranjith, who has been in the forefront of the campaign to bring the perpetrators of the Easter attacks to justice, called on the government to take prompt action. "None of us will be able to live in this nation if the report is swept under the carpet," Cardinal Ranjith said on Independence Day.

As yet unconfirmed reports say the Commission has recommended criminal charges against former President Maithripala Sirisena, then Premier Ranil Wickremesinghe, then Defence Secretary Hemasiri Fernando, then Police Chief Pujith Jayasundara and then Head of National Intelligence Sisira Mendis.

These reports say that the Commission has recommended that criminal charges be filed against those who failed to prevent the attacks, despite early warnings. The commission also reportedly recommends action against those who failed to carry out proper investigations in advance.

There were other developments on the political front last week within the ranks of both the government and the opposition. Making headlines within the ruling coalition was Minister Wimal Weerawansa, who is also the leader of the Jathika Nidahas Peramuna (JNP), a coalition partner.

Minister Weerawansa was quoted in a newspaper interview as saying that President Gotabaya Rajapaksa should head the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP). This drew a sharp response from the general secretary of the SLPP, Sagara Kariyawasam who is a SLPP National List Parliamentarian.

Kariyawasam told a news briefing on Monday that Minister Weerawansa had no right to make such statements regarding SLPP and that he should immediately withdraw his remarks and apologise. Minister Weerawansa however declined to do so, instead elaborating on his remarks.

"I didn't intend to say that Premier Mahinda Rajapaksa should be removed from the SLPP leadership and be replaced by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa," Weerawansa said. "What I meant was that a position should be created for President Rajapaksa, while Premier Rajapaksa is the leader," he said.

Although Minister Weerawansa is reputed for his controversial statements, this storm in a tea cup is likely to fizzle out as it is well known that Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa and President Gotabaya Rajapaksa work very well together on a common agenda, with hardly any differences of opinion.

In the opposition ranks, there have been moves to form a 'broad alliance' between the United National Party (UNP) and its breakaway group, the Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB). It was reported that these discussions were being held with the blessings of UNP leader Ranil Wickremesinghe.

It was reported that Wickremesinghe had delegated UNP deputy leader Ruwan Wijewardene for the task of having a dialogue with the SJB. What is

Leaders in Colombo were optimistic that relations with New Delhi can be restored despite the recent dispute. Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa said that such issues are dealt through discussion. "India is our closest friend. We can resolve any dispute with them after talking with each other," he said.

however being mooted by the UNP leader is not a merger of the two parties but working together on a common agenda, possibly on a common platform.

Amidst such issues of political significance, the government last week also intensified its efforts to contain the Coronavirus pandemic which has now seen over 70,000 infections in the country and 365 deaths. Vaccination of health care workers is complete and over 160,000 vaccines have been given.

Health officials also denied speculation that the President and the Prime Minister have been given priority in vaccination. They have been allocated to the over-60 age group and will be vaccinated when that age group is immunised, officials said, denying there was a request for priority.

Sri Lanka plans to vaccinate its entire population within three months, Secretary to State Ministry of Primary Health Care, Epidemics and COVID-19 Disease Control Dr. Amal Harsha de Silva said. Vaccines are being provided mostly by India, China and Russia for this purpose, Dr. de Silva said.

### Dr. Neville Fernando

An unfortunate victim of the Coronavirus pandemic was Dr. Neville Fernando, ex-parliamentarian for Panadura who later achieved great success as a businessman and founded the South Asian Institute of Technology and Medicine (SAITM) and the Neville Fernando Teaching Hospital in Malabe.

Dr. Fernando, who was a popular general practitioner in Panadura was elected to Parliament in the electoral landslide of the J. R. Jayewardene-led UNP in 1977, defeating the Lanka Samasamaja Party stalwart and ex-Minister of Transport Leslie Gunewardena by a comfortable margin of 11,000 votes.

Dr. Fernando was a much-loved MP who thrived on being the peoples' representative. Being in Parliament for only twelve years and not holding any ministerial office, he pioneered many schools, hospitals and industrial estates in Panadura which render yeoman service to the electorate to this day.

As a parliamentarian, Dr. Fernando also carved a niche for himself, being fearlessly critical of President Jayewardene, most notably opposing his plans to deprive Sirimavo Bandaranaike of her civic rights. Apart from ministers Gamini Dissanayake and S. Thondaman, he was the only MP to do so.

Dr. Fernando resigned as a Parliamentarian before President Jayewardene could take disciplinary action against him. He went on to achieve great success as a businessman developing several hospitals, a printing press and a porcelain exporting enterprise before setting up his medical school.

The SAITM project was not concluded to his satisfaction but Dr. Fernando had the gratification of seeing all its students graduate as doctors, either from SAITM itself or being absorbed to the Kotelawela Defence University. The teaching hospital bearing his name is his legacy to the nation.

These varied events dotted the political landscape last week.

The coming weeks will be crucial for the government as it navigates the diplomatic channels in dealing with the UNHRC and counters the substantial threat of the Coronavirus epidemic through an accelerated programme of immunisation.



A UNHRC session.

# Fair Distribution of Economic Welfare: Science against Myth

Part I

P. SAMARASIRI

The impact of Corona Pandemic so far during the past year has provoked a new round of concerns over the extent of fair distribution of economic wealth and means across the people of each country because of the brutally disproportionate effects of the pandemic on living standards of the people across various segments/social strata. The disruption of global supply chains due to lockdowns and social distancing policies adopted by the governments as the immediate response to curb the spread of the pandemic has been the major cause.

While millions of people in the world have been pushed to a new circle of poverty without much helping hand of the rich, the erosion of living standards has been disproportionate across races, age, sex, area, industry, sector, etc. Meanwhile, further accumulation of wealth to few owners/investors of information technology-based businesses due to zoom-economic structures created by markets to protect supply chains in response to pandemic is highlighted as the first-round beneficiary of the pandemic while new beneficiaries of wealth are to come in years to come in the process of the response to new waves of the pandemic and recovery. The US Fed Chairman recently stated that ultra-ease policies being flowed would make unequal recovery.

## Distributional Response from Market Economies

The Presidential Election in the US in last November and subsequent events including the assault on the Parliament complex were largely driven by thoughts of the need for distribution of fair share of income and wealth and state welfare that were never heard in large market economies like the US in the recent past. US\$ 1.9 trillion relief package (including \$ 15 hourly federal minimum wage law, additional \$ 1 trillion direct payments to families, \$ 440 bn for small business, etc.) on the top of the already implemented \$ 3.6 trillion stimulus in last 10 months was the first initiative for fair distribution declared by the US President-Elect Biden. At the inauguration speech of the new US President on January 21, 2021, he stressed the growing inequality among several national challenges that should be addressed together and issued 15 new Executive Orders mostly to

improve distribution to the US economy through global transactions.

While political leaders favour exorbitant taxes on billionaires to provide welfare for the general public, some raise concerns over the present market mechanism in line with thoughts of socialism. Pandemic hit worst the market economies of the West and government response through health, fiscal and monetary stimulus policies taken to address distributional disparities are similar in all economies.

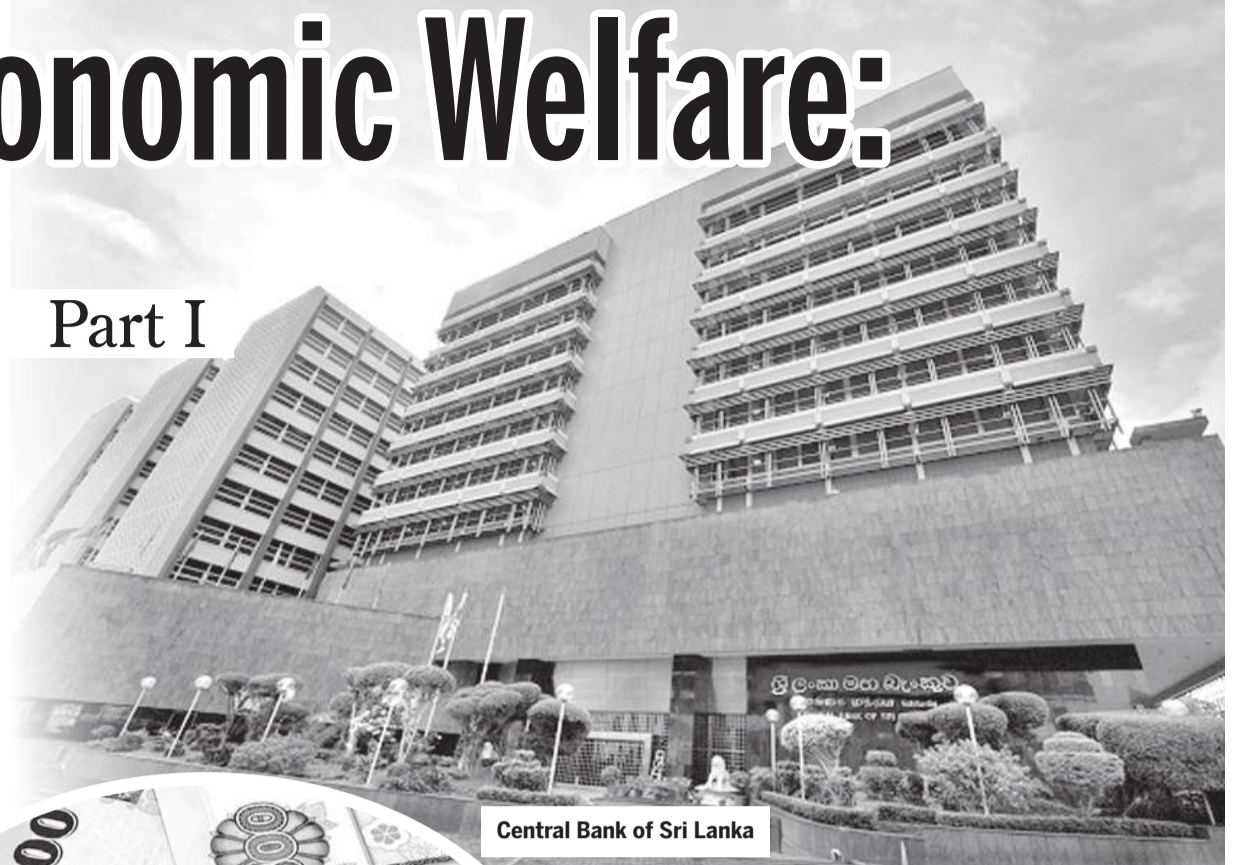
## Global Policy Trend on Economic Recovery from Corona

Therefore, in almost all countries, the state or the bureaucracy has received a new lease of life in the name of fair distribution of economic welfare among the public under the cover of the pandemic risks where the bureaucracy believes that it can control pandemic-related all risks and improve the distribution of welfare. Policy tools available are numerous although their effects intended on fair distributions are not on record. Control of imports and foreign currency outflow, price controls inclusive of tariff revisions in favour of domestic production/import substitution, types of divestiture/distribution of state property/businesses to investors in favour of foreign exchange and international business knowhow, intervention in internal trade flows to reduce trader-margins, relaxation of bureaucratic barriers and conflicts to allow more private production/business activities, offer of state employment to low income segments, historically

low interest rates and fiscal stimulus through debt are some examples for such tools.

## Communists/Socialists against Capitalism

Rising adversity of wealth distribution seems to help recover proponents of socialist governance systems which have been pushed to corners of the world since 1980s with the larger market reforms taken place in Russia, China and East European countries in place of pro-communist-socialist policies. These proponents generally follow the views of Karl Marx (writings during 1840s to 1870s – major Das Kapital published in 1867) on the large wealth disparity between the capital owners and labour class due to exploitation of labour (Skills and Time) in the production by the capital-owned entrepreneurs by paying the labour with unfair or low share of production value (Labour Theory of Value) as the wage and the surplus or profit accumulating to capital or capitalist in the environment of the UK/Europe under industrial revolution and colonization. However, profit is the margin between the cost of production and price which is determined by market factors, mostly outside the control of the entrepreneur (even causing losses and capital bankruptcies), which is not factored in Marx's philosophy. Their core solution to ensure a



Central Bank of Sri Lanka



## Facets of Distributional Disparities – Wealth, Income and Public Services

The conventionally discussed disparity is the wealth and income disparity blamed for capitalist economic activities. Although there are certain economic indicators to measure the overall increase in living standards, measurements of distributional disparities are rare. Mostly available distributional data are on disparities of household/personal income, employment, household living conditions, consumption of consumer durables and technology, education, etc., by various social groups (age, sex, race, area, etc.) gathered from sample surveys conducted in long lags. Although the disparity of distribution of wealth/property/capital is the core topic, no one has suitable data to quantify it. However, in countries with the transparency in financial markets, the distribution of financial wealth/capital is ranked by way of a list of wealthy individuals based on market prices of securities.

competition, because all in markets (labourers, land owners and capital owners) are traders where markets have own regulations leading to natural prices based on competition. Therefore, he proposed that the government allow markets to operate freely (*Laissez Faire*), other than maintaining general law and order funded through taxes to provide for orderly environment for functioning of markets. Therefore, Adam Smith seems to recognize the state as the element that disturbs the market mechanism and fair distribution. He was a philosophical writer and lecturer in political economy in his carrier and Commissioner of Customs in Scotland in 1778. Most developed countries have resorted to the capitalist model/market economies and advocate for improvement of living standards through competition, productivity and opportunities.

greater wealth/income parity is for the government to own production means and the relevant bureaucracy to determine production lines, trade, prices and remuneration to stakeholders under various central plans (Socialism/Communism). They heavily criticize the free market economic systems as capitalism that shows no mercy on distributional effects. However, Karl Marx only presented his economic philosophy and did not recognize the state intervention to correct situation. Although Karl Marx got involved in political journalism and democratic revolution in France against the monarchy to support the working-class movement in 1940s, he fled to England as a refugee and lived in great poverty while writing his philosophy on unfair capitalism without involving in any political or labour movement.

In contrast, market or capitalist economic systems are driven by private property, competition and profit motive. The father of Economics or free market hypothesis or capitalism, Adam Smith, believed (writings during the period 1750s to 1770s – major The Wealth of Nations published in 1776) that the market mechanism works on the foundation of the self-interest which accrues benefits to all stakeholders through

However, leaders of the countries have been governing them at preferred points on the path between the socialism and capitalism whereas no one can measure the degree of the blend rather than slogans on fair distribution or fare share. The hypothesis of social or socialist market economies is the new variant of market economies that believes policy intervention in market economies to ensure fair distribution of economic benefits. This is a political slogan attempting to survival of socialism after it failed in 1980s. Therefore, pro-socialists by looking at distributional outcome of pandemic-hit market economies have renewed the voice on the need for greater state intervention in markets to ensure fair distribution.

The economic growth and prosperity that are not distributed fairly among the people are not considered healthy and democratic. Therefore, governments take numerous policies on political grounds at various points between the communism and capitalism to improve the distribution through various public services. Fiscal and monetary policy measures, market regulations and law enforcement are broad facets of public policies. All are intended to promote living standards of the people through both increase in production, income, employment, skills and opportunities and improvement in their distribution across the people.

(The writer is a former Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka)  
To be continued



Trading at Pettah market, Colombo.

# Vaccine Nationalism exacerbates global faultlines

PINAK RANJAN CHAKRAVARTY

The competitive nature of international politics and the rise of 'me first' nationalism have again been starkly highlighted by developed nations as they scramble to corner COVID vaccines for their citizens in order to beat the global rampage of the pandemic. Wealthy nations have turned towards subsidizing their own pharmaceutical companies and locking in vaccine supplies for their population.

Developed countries, otherwise accustomed to using foreign aid to arm-twist governments in developing countries, are now busy managing their domestic pandemic situation. Tightening border controls and restricting travel has become the new normal. Developing countries have been forgotten.

## Global response

The global response to the pandemic and its economic impact has been incoherent, unlike the G20 response in the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis.

There appears to be a breakdown in the global effort to tackle the pandemic, hitherto never witnessed before when viruses like SARS-2 and Ebola hit. Major powers then had collaborated effectively to meet the challenge and prevented a global pandemic. In fact, in 2014, the US and China had collaborated closely to establish treatment centres and supply medication



A health worker inoculates another colleague with a COVID-19 Coronavirus vaccine.

that effectively met the Ebola challenge. Lack of an orderly response to COVID has rendered global institutions like the WHO crippled, in striking contrast to the success achieved by it earlier. This tragic situation has been characterised as a 'moral failure' by the director general of WHO. The latter cannot be absolved of culpability as he mishandled the initial response to the pandemic.

By monopolising vaccine supplies, developed countries are laying the foundation of a global humanitarian crisis. If such countries are relegated to the last in line for vaccine supply, economic recovery will be hit badly. Given the nature of global trade and interdependence of supply chains, nations will have to swim together or suffer sustained economic downturn. According to the OECD, around \$11 trillion of the \$18

trillion traded in 2019 was in intermediate goods that were part of global supply chains. Non-availability of vaccines to developing countries will add another layer of inequity to an economically stratified global community.

## Access to vaccine

Former US President Trump did nothing to address these issues and the world is now waiting for President Biden to ensure American policy is reversed. It is estimated that developing countries, if denied funds and vaccines, will take three-four years to vaccinate their population. Another unfortunate trend is the unseemly fight between pharmaceutical companies and the EU and UK over access to vaccine supplies. AstraZeneca has indicated that it will not be able to supply vaccines promised ear-

lier to the EU. The Union has promptly threatened to impose restrictions on vaccine exports, obliquely alleging that the pharma companies want to divert vaccines to more lucrative markets like the UK from manufacturing units in the EU. The UK has put in controls on export of various pharma products to lock in supplies for its own population.

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa, at the World Economic Forum, accused wealthy countries of hoarding vaccines far more than their requirement. The EU has locked in supplies for more than twice its population. It is smarting at criticism that it is trailing other wealthy countries, like the US, UK, Israel and others in its vaccination coverage of its population. Any selective application of export controls will run afoul of WTO rules

on universality of restrictions, though the regulations recognise exemption grounds of national security and health emergencies.

Has the world changed so fundamentally as a result of four years of Trumpism? The EU's Comprehensive Agreement on Investment (CAI) with China, announced on the eve of President Biden's assumption of office, was another clear signal of transatlantic discord and a blowback for Trumpism.

Developing countries dependent on foreign exchange remittances will be hit hard as the flows have fallen to 20% of \$554 billion in 2019. The pandemic will deliver a double whammy to the nations that depend on tourism and commodity exports.

## COVAX initiative

The COVAX initiative launched by the WHO to help developing countries is hugely underfunded and may not vaccinate more than 20% of the population of the developing nations unless funds are provided urgently and orders placed for vaccines. The EU's export controls will also hit vaccine supplies to many developing countries. While EU nations are prone to grandstanding on human rights issues, their recourse to vaccine nationalism exposes their double standards. India has carefully charted a course that avoids vaccine nationalism. The depth in the pharma sector has been the

foundation on which she has crafted her vaccine diplomacy. Operation Vaccine Maitri has now reached out to countries across Asia, Africa and Latin America, with vaccine supplies reaching diverse nations.

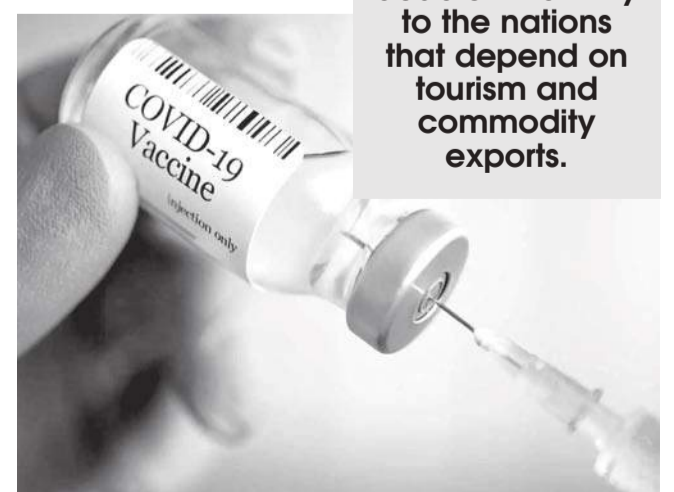
India's neighbours, barring Pakistan, and other countries in the extended neighbourhood, have received their first consignments as grants. This is despite the huge domestic demand for the vaccination campaign that India kicked off in January. Having supplied medication and medical kits earlier to combat the pandemic, the external affairs minister put it aptly by saying: "We are more nationalistic, but at the same time we don't see a tension between being nationalistic and being international." He was articulating a policy that has inspired India's vision of internationalism that began a few years after Independence, with it reaching out as a

development partner to newly independent countries in Asia and Africa emerging from years of exploitative colonial rule.

India recognises that the global system is deeply interconnected. The 'me first' approach is short-sighted and will not help the fight against the pandemic. Unlike China, which has demanded *quid pro quos*, India has scrupulously avoided that approach.

- Indian Express

**Developing countries dependent on foreign exchange remittances will be hit hard as the flows have fallen to 20% of \$554 billion in 2019. The pandemic will deliver a double whammy to the nations that depend on tourism and commodity exports.**



# National Law Conference 2021 on 'Futurism'

The Bar Association of Sri Lanka (BASL) is all set to hold the 'National Law Conference 2021' which will focus on the ways in which the legal profession can be fashioned to meet the requirements of the fast developing and oncoming future while preserving the fundamentals within the profession.

This year's conference will be held under the theme of 'Futurism' and is scheduled to be held on the 12th and 13th of February at Galadari Hotel, Colombo. In light of the pandemic, the conference has been converted to a hybrid virtual and physical conference. Launching the registrations for the Conference Mr Rajeev Amarasuriya, Secretary, BASL stated, "We are in a new normal, and we must congratulate the Chairman, Convenors and Members of the National Law Conference 2021 Committee for taking up the challenge to organise this hybrid conference in spite of and overcoming the many regulations and restrictions presently in place".

The theme 'Futurism' was inspired by the Italian artists' movement in the 1920s, which highlighted the dynamism, speed, change and restlessness of the modern life. Emphasizing this, Mr. Hiran M.C. de Alwis, Chairman of NLC, BASL stated, "Futurism is an attempt to envisage a future with a new dynamic and not a new normal and thereby to fashion and guide new developments and to make them a reality in practical means. Therefore, we envisage diverse viewpoints on how the future can be fashioned and guide the law accordingly. Whilst celebrating our long legal heritage, we must look towards fashioning a positive future".

**HYBRID CONFERENCE  
PHYSICAL + VIRTUAL**

**12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> February 2021  
@ Hotel Galadari, Colombo**



Mr. Rajeev Amarasuriya  
Secretary  
Bar Association of Sri Lanka



Mr. Hiran De Alwis  
Chairman  
National Law Conference 2021

Accordingly, the Conference will undoubtedly assist legal professionals to be more prepared towards what the future brings. In light of the above theme the Conference hopes to address and discuss a wide variety of new and dynamic topics that will arise within the next decade.

The topics for the sessions during the Conference can be listed thus.

On the 12th of February, Session I (9.30 - 11.30 a.m.) will focus on Effective Enforcement of business contracts, Ease of Business, eCommerce, Arbitration Law Enforcement and

Company Law. In a parallel session discussions on Work place best practices and Health & Safety, Health, Quarantine Law, Insurance and Labour Law will be conducted.

Session II (1.00 - 3.00 p.m.) will focus on the New SEC Act, Digitalization Initiatives, Offences under the SEC Act, CSE Disputes and R.E.I.T. The parallel session will revolve on Defamation in Digital Space and Cyber Space.

Session III (3.00 - 5.00 p.m.) will be on Banking/ Finance, Digital Banking Issues, Trust Ordinance/ Money Laundering, NBFI Issues/ Moratoriums. The parallel session will be on International Cross Border Data Flows, International Trade/ Private International Law/ eCommerce and Maritime Law.

On the 13th of February, Session I (9.30 - 11.30 a.m.) will be on Child Abuse, Mental Abuse and Harassment. The parallel session will be on Sports Law, Betting Law/ TV Rights and Sponsorships. Session II (11.30 - 1.30 p.m.) will be conducted on Criminal Law, Cyber Crimes and Money Laundering. The parallel session will be on Fundamental Freedoms and Language and Religious Rights. Session III (2.00 - 5.00 p.m.) for the day will discuss on Evidence, Electronic Transaction Act, Electronic Transmission of

Records, Digital Documentations, Ethics, Future of the Profession/ Ltd. Liability Partnerships, Digitalization of Courts.

Reputed legal practitioners and distinguished guests are planning to discuss on these topics in a manner that assists the legal profession's endeavours to promote the economic development and preserve the rule of law and the peace and prosperity of Sri Lanka. Highlighting this, Mr. Kalinga Indatissa PC, President, BASL stated, "It is amazing that the team has managed to select highly respected and learned members of the Bar and outside to be resource persons at this event".

The Logo of the Conference is significant in how it represents the country's maritime economic zone, the necessity of strategic international relations and overall the presence and preservation of rule of law to be the guiding force behind all these aspects for their fruition.

Virtual participation at the Conference is priced at Rs. 2000/= for all sessions while Physical Participation is priced at Rs. 7500/= per day. Physical Participation is accommodated on a first come first served basis. For registrations, contact Prakashan Thurasingham (BASL) at +94764408342 or email at baslpcp.lawnet@gmail.com.

## Government does not oppose debates on incidents of political revenge: Dinesh

The government has no objections for a Parliamentary debate on the report of the Presidential Commission investigating incidents of political revenge, even though the Opposition attempts to project it as such, Leader of the House Dinesh Gunawardena said yesterday. Minister Gunawardena stated so following the request of the Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa for a debate on the Commission report in the House.

Minister Gunawardena said, "We, as the ruling party, have already promised to give a debate on the Commission report during the Party Leaders' meeting held the day before yesterday.

The ruling party will not interfere with the Speaker in the submission of this Commission report or any other report to the House. This is an attempt to recanvas the same thing that happened the day before in the meeting, and the minutes of the meeting can verify it. Therefore, I would like to emphasise that the government does not oppose this debate in any way."

"I remember when I asked for a debate on the Commission report of the Central Bank Bond Scam, the then ruling party raised a Point of Order saying that there was no Tamil translation of the report. As a result, the Chair gave



an order stating that it should be submitted; and that until then, we should not take it up for debate. That is what happened a few years ago; that is how your government operated. You should keep that in mind," he added.

Speaking on the matter concerning allowing MP Ranjan Ramanayake to attend Parliament sessions,

the Leader of the House said the matter was already before the Speaker, and that the House should wait until he gives a ruling.

"The Speaker could have immediately given a ruling. However, he requested 21 days to listen to the opinions of those involved in the matter. Therefore, there is no point in arguing about it. We should wait until he gives a ruling," Gunawardena said.

Speaking on the issues related to the removal of MP M.A. Sumanthiran's security detail, he stated that the government would not jeopardise the safety of any MP, unlike

the previous government. He drew the attention of the House as to how during the previous government's rule, a decision was taken to remove the security detail of then MP Mahinda Rajapaksa.

Gunawardena said, "Prime Minister Rajapaksa was the leader who led the country to victory in the war. Now you talk about the assessment of security. We will not violate the privileges of any Parliamentarian. The Speaker is able to discuss this matter; he can summon the responsible officers to inquire about their decision to remove MP Sumanthiran's security detail."

## Programme to promote rugby in rural areas on the cards: Namal

The government has launched a new programme to promote rugby in rural areas, Minister of Youth and Sports Namal Rajapaksa said in Parliament yesterday.

Replying to a question raised by SJB MP Buddhika Pathirana during the oral questions round, Minister Rajapaksa pointed out that special attention

is being paid to the participation of other sports persons in rugby according to their fitness. He also said that it was wrong to restrict children to only one sport.

MP Pathirana inquired from the minister about the steps that would be taken to uplift cricket at the school level. In reply, Minister Rajapaksa said

that a programme to promote cricket is in progress.

MP Pathirana also inquired from the minister regarding the non-recovery of Rs.160 million owed to Sri Lanka Cricket, even though two months have passed since the LPL tournament was held. Minister Rajapaksa said the recovery is done in accordance with a plan. This year's

LPL tournament will be held in August, he said.

The minister added that a system to regulate all sports tournaments in the country is also to be introduced soon.

He pointed out that a number of sports tournaments, including 'kabaddi', rugby, and volleyball, will be held in the future as well.



**PARLIAMENT**

CAMELIA NATHANIEL and AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI

## Systematic solutions to solve issues in overseas missions: Nimal

A systematic and transparent programme would be prepared to resolve the issues that have arisen during the recruitment of officers for overseas missions, Labour Minister Nimal Siripala de Silva stated in Parliament yesterday.

The minister added that 32 officers attached to the Labour and Welfare Division have been appointed to official duties of Missions representing Sri Lanka by January 31.

He also informed the House that the salaries, Foreign Service allowance, hospitality allowance, and travel expenses of these officers vary from country to country, with the maximum being US\$ 600.

Prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, 119 officers served in these missions; and letters were issued to conclude the missions of 84 of them, taking into account the need for service and the financial



difficulties of the Bureau, de Silva said.

Sixty such officers have arrived in the country and 32 of them have been deployed to continue the work, he added.

As solution to A/L old, new syllabi issue

## Steps underway to increase university student intake by 540: GL

Minister of Education Professor G.L. Peiris informed the House yesterday that steps have been taken to increase the number of students admitted to universities by 540 as a solution to the problem that has arisen due to the old and new syllabi of the G.C.E. Advanced Level Examinations.

He was responding to a question raised by National People's Power Leader MP Anura Kumara Dissanayake under Standing Order 27/2.



Accordingly, 110 more students have been admitted to medical faculties, 30 students to the Faculty of Dentistry (University of Sri Jayewardenepura), 100 students to engineer-

ing faculties, 150 students to science faculties, and 150 to management faculties, he added.

Prof. Peiris stated that last year, only 30,000 students were admitted to universities. However, this year, the number has risen to 41,000.

He said the university system has obtained approval from the Treasury to implement these measures, and that financial allocations have been obtained to create 500 new posts for academic staff.

## Special attention drawn to resolve microfinance crisis: Semasinghe



The President and the Prime Minister are paying special attention to the microfinance crisis that has victimised a large number of low-income families, State Minister of Microfinance and Self-Employment Shehan Semasinghe said in Parliament yesterday.

The state minister stated that around 93% of the people caught in these debt traps are females. He pointed out that there is no efficient Act to regulate microfinance companies.

Therefore, amendments to the Microfinance Act have been forwarded to the Attorney-General, Semasinghe added.

The state minister said that with the collapse of the economy, people turned to such institutions. He added that these institutes target people in poverty.

Awareness programmes are being conducted in collaboration with the Central Bank in 'Samurdhi' Bank Zones, Semasinghe said. He added that the programme has already covered the Anuradhapura District.

All state and 'Samurdhi' banks have been instructed to prevent people from falling victim to these institutions, State Minister Semasinghe said.

## Animal feed expenses rose by Rs.29 billion in 2015/19: Bandula

Animal feed expenses rose by Rs.29 billion between 2015 and 2019 during the previous government's rule, Trade Minister Dr. Bandula Gunawardena said in Parliament yesterday. This was in reply to a question raised by MP Mohammed Muzzammil during the oral questions round.

Dr. Gunawardena said, "The total amount of animal feed imported from 2011 to 2014 was 58 kilotonnes, which cost around Rs.11.6 billion. The previous government imported 203 kilotonnes



of animal food between 2015 and 2019, which cost around Rs.35.2 billion. The expenditure increased by Rs.29 billion. However, the industry did not see an increase in production. Due to such poor

decision-making, the importation of animal food products affected local production."

The Trade Minister added that local production of animal feed would be encouraged in the future. "The Ministry of Agriculture has increased the local production of corn as it is a staple for animal feed. In the future, agricultural productions will be increased due to our policy on limiting imports. We will have sufficient products to increase our local animal feed production," he said.



## Steps underway to uplift small, medium-scale enterprises: PM

Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa said in Parliament yesterday that the government has taken steps to uplift small and medium-scale enterprises.

He was responding to a question raised by Par-

liamentarian Kokila Gunawardena during the oral questions round. Responding on behalf of the Prime Minister, State Minister Ajith Nivard Cabraal said that the government has introduced an economic

stimulus package to uplift such enterprises. He said that the government has taken steps to uplift the country's economy and reach for an economic growth rate of 5.5%.

Prime Minister Mahi-

nda Rajapaksa also said that the government has launched a programme to provide housing to needy families in all Grama Niladhari divisions.

State Minister Indika Anuruddha said 5,000

families have already been resettled under the programme, and that another housing project titled 'Siyapatha' has been launched to solve the housing problems of 1.5 million public servants.



# 12 new High Court Judges appointed

Twelve new High Court Judges were presented appointment letters by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa at the Presidential Secretariat yesterday. Seven District judges, three Additional Judges, a Chief Magistrate and a Senior State Counsel are among the appointees.

They are: District Judges N.K.D.K.I. Nanayakkara, R.L. Godawela, V. Ramakamalan, U.R.V.B. Ranatunga, D.G.N.R. Premarathna, Mahee Wijeweera, and J. Trotsky, Additional District Judges W.D. Wimalasiri, S.H.M.N. Lakmali, and I.P.D. Liyanage, Chief Magistrate M.M.M. Mihal and Senior State Counsel N.A. Suwandurugoda.



## 'Record pace of Rural development in NCP'

**NIMAL WIJESINGHE**  
Anuradhapura Additional District Group Corr.

Despite the outbreak of Covid-19, the North Central Province (NCP) has shown a record improvement in rural development activities. Provincial Rural Development Director Gayan Indika Wanninayake told the *Daily News* that there are 675 rural development societies actively engaged in development projects under President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's 'Vistas of Prosperity and Splendour' policy framework.

"When I assumed duties as the Provincial Rural Development Director, the rural development fund stood at Rs. 140 million and even during the recent lockdown period, due to untiring efforts and endeavours of the rural community, we were able to increase it to Rs. 330 million. We have been able to establish 3,000 organic home gar-



**Provincial Rural Development Director Gayan Indika Wanninayake**

dens in the province," he said. "As an example, we awarded Rs. 100,000 recently to Upulwiya Women's Rural Development Society in Parangiyawadiya in the Horowpothana Division, an underdeveloped hamlet. The Society members managed to increase it to Rs. two million," he added. The Provincial Director said this achievement is marvellous since they achieved their targets during the spread of Covid-19.

## 'Five towns in Matara to be developed soon'

**P.P.G. SUGATHADASA**  
Thihagoda Group Correspondent

Five main towns of Kamburupitiya, Devinuwara, Akuressa, Kotawila and Yatiyana in the Matara District would be developed with all infrastructural facilities under the urban town improvement project, Power Minister Dullas Alahapperuma said.

He made these observations at the monthly coordinating development committee meeting at the Thihagoda Divisional Secretariat Office auditorium.

Minister Alahapperuma noted that there are over 118,000 households in the country without electricity. Of them, 33 families are in the Thihagoda Divisional Secretariat (DS)



division. The provision of power to all of them before the end of this year is the objective of the Government.

He said 100,000 solar panels are planned to be installed on rooftops of Samurdhi beneficiary families.

Thihagoda Pradeshiya Sabha (PS) Chairman Nirmal Samarasinghe, PS member Susil Karunathilake and state officials participated.

# BINGO

Victim survivors of domestic, sexual and gender-based violence are all around us. Is your response a part of the problem or a part of the solution?

I am here to listen and help	You asked for it	Boys will be boys	What were you wearing	It's not a big deal
Why didn't you just leave	I will not let it happen again	You must have provoked him	You should have known better	Don't make a big scene about it
It took a lot of courage to tell me	You are not alone in this	What will people say	It's a private matter	Boys can't get raped
You will break up your family	It's not your fault	Go home and patch things up	I will come with you to report this	He just made a mistake
Can't you take a joke	No one will believe you	You shouldn't have trusted him	Why did you send him those pictures	I'm sorry this happened to you

**VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN IS NOT A GAME.**  
If you or anyone you know has been subjected to any form sexual or gender-based violence, make a choice to reach out.

**Women In Need Hotline: 0775 676 555**  
#InsideJusticeLK #WhatNow #ChangeCouldStartWithYou

**REGISTRATION OF SUPPLIERS FOR THE YEAR 2021/22**

Applications are invited from reputed organization and individuals to register for the supply of under mentioned goods, material, equipment and provision of services to Sri Lanka Institute of Marketing for the year 2021/22  
(Total items' bid value will be around 100 million excluding building material and construction.)

Category No.	Description
<b>(01) Office Equipment, Material and Stationary</b>	
1.1	Stationary items
1.2	Official ID card services
1.3	Computer network services
1.4	Office equipment (Fax machines, Photo copiers, Computers & accessories, Telephone & PABX systems)
1.5	Office furniture
1.6	Classroom furniture
1.7	Audio and video equipment
1.8	Date stamps and rubber stamps
1.9	Metal and plastic name boards
1.10	Fire fighting equipment
1.11	Air conditioner units
1.12	O/H projectors, multimedia projectors, speakers and sound systems
1.13	Supply of Text Books (Indian & UK Editions)
<b>(02) Construction and Building Material</b>	
2.1	All kinds of building maintenance material
2.2	Building contractors
<b>(03) Services</b>	
3.1	Architectural & valuation services
3.2	Printing, book binding, laminating and photocopying
3.3	Supply of food & beverage items for meetings, seminars and workshops
3.4	Supply of laptops and multimedia on rent basis
3.5	Drinking water bottles
3.6	Banners, flags, hoardings, exhibition stalls, display units
3.7	Mass Media & Direct Media (ATL & BTL) advertising
3.8	Supply of transport services
3.9	Supply of janitorial services
3.10	Tailoring for graduation items
3.11	Floral supplies
3.12	Carpentry work
3.13	Motor vehicles, motor bike repair & spares.
3.14	Masonry work
3.15	Plumbing work
3.16	Paint work
3.17	Partitioning work
3.18	Building maintenance
3.19	Legal service providers
3.20	Repairs and maintenance of electrical systems and equipment
3.21	Repairs and maintenance of air-conditioning system
3.22	Repairs, maintenance and service of office machines and equipment
3.23	Landscaping and interior decorating services
3.24	Laundry services
3.25	Telecommunication repairs, maintenance & telecommunication systems
3.26	Newspaper supplies
3.27	Professional video and photography services
3.28	Domestic and International Courier Service
3.29	Supply of Security Holographic Certificates

Applications can be collected from SLIM Home .

Duly filled application forms must be handed over to the under mentioned address on or before 26.04. 2021  
For further details please contact our Administration Division on: 0112 675 000/ 653 or e-mail at mahendran.a@slim.lk

SLIM Home: 0112 675 000  
No 94, Ananda Rajakaruna Mw, Colombo 10  
Web: www.slim.lk

## STUDY CANADA OPEN DAY

## STAND OUT FROM THE CROWD

13<sup>TH</sup> FEB 2021

10.00AM - 2.00PM

@ JEEWA EDUCATION BATTARAMULLA

0775993979



# Trump's second Impeachment trial deemed Constitutional

## 6 Republicans break ranks and vote with Democrats

**US:** The second impeachment of former US President Donald Trump is Constitutional, according to the United States Senate. Though a conviction over Trump's role in the violent attempted coup of January 6 is looking pretty unlikely at this point, the jurors voted 56-44 to move forward.

Fifty-six Senators voted that the trial was constitutional, while 44 voted that it was not. Six Republicans broke ranks to vote with Democrats in declaring the trial constitutional.

"The Senate shall proceed with the trial as provide under the condition of that resolution," declared Senate President pro tempore and Batman movies regular Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-VT). Today mirrored an earlier vote on the impeachment that was 55-45. The



The US Senate voted 56-44 on whether it could proceed with Donald Trump's impeachment trial on Tuesday.

addition in the impeachment column was Sen. Bill Cassidy, Republican of Louisiana. Despite his harsh words against Trump in past weeks, Minority Leader Sen.

Mitch McConnell (R-KY) voted with the Trump defense. Expected to last until Presidents' Day on January 15, 67 votes are needed to convict the now ex-Presi-

dent - which means the Impeachment managers have their work cut out for them against the GOP refusing to stand up to the MAGA moron and his hardcore base.

The six Republicans broke ranks to vote with Democrats in declaring the trial constitutional were: Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, Sen. Mitt Romney of Utah, Sen. Susan Collins of Maine, Sen. Pat Toomey of Pennsylvania, Sen. Ben Sasse of Nebraska and Sen. Bill Cassidy of Louisiana.

Polls show that a small majority of the country overall believes Trump deserves conviction. An Ipsos/ABC News poll found 56 percent back this, while a Gallup poll found 52 percent support.

Among Republicans, however, an overwhelming majority opposes convicting Trump. -YAHOO, AFP

## Don't let Long Covid 'fall through the cracks', warns WHO



New research suggests that due to Long COVID also known as Chronic COVID Syndrome (CCS) the lungs of people who smoke may have more receptors for the new coronavirus.

**SWITZERLAND:** The World Health Organization (WHO) called Tuesday for greater research, recognition and rehabilitation for Long Covid sufferers as it brought experts together to share insights into the little-understood condition.

The WHO held the first in a planned series of seminars aimed at expanding understanding of post-Covid conditions, which heard not only from scientists and doctors but also from sufferers themselves.

Little is known about why some people, after coming through the acute phase of COVID-19, struggle to recover and suffer ongoing symptoms including tiredness and brain fog as well as cardiac and neurological disorders. -AFP

Studies suggest that potentially one in 10 cases may have prolonged symptoms one month after infection - meaning millions may be suffering from ongoing illness.

WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said that with attention turning in the coronavirus pandemic towards vaccination campaigns, "Long Covid should not fall through the cracks".

He said the impact of Long Covid on society and the economy was starting to become clear, and for those reasons, "people start to listen" beyond the medical community. Though the level of research is growing, it is "still not enough", he said. -AFP



A dam along a river in Tapovan was severely damaged in the flash flood.

## Thirty-two bodies found after Indian glacier disaster

**INDIA:** Time was running out to save dozens of people trapped inside a tunnel three days after a devastating flash flood likely caused by a glacier burst in India's Himalayan north, officials said Wednesday.

More than 170 people were still missing after a barrage of water and

debris hurtled with terrifying speed and power down a valley on Sunday morning, sweeping away bridges and roads and hitting two hydroelectric plants.

Thirty-two bodies have been found so far, officials said on Wednesday. It may take days for more bodies to be recovered

under the tonnes of rocks and other debris and the thick blanket of grey mud.

The main focus of the massive rescue operation, under way day and night since Sunday, is a tunnel near a severely damaged hydroelectric plant that was under construction at Tapovan in Uttarakhand state. -AFP

## Bangladesh bans cattle painkiller to save vultures

**BANGLADESH:** Bangladesh has banned a painkiller used widely by farmers to treat cattle in an effort to save the country's vultures from extinction, the government said Tuesday.

Like elsewhere in South Asia, vulture numbers have plummeted in Bangladesh, with the population now estimated at just 260 compared to 50,000 in the 1970s.

The meat of dead cows that have been given Ketoprofen is highly toxic when consumed by the scavenging birds, leading to rapid kidney failure.

In 2017 Bangladesh outlawed the non-steroid anti-inflammatory painkiller in two Vulture Safe Zones (VSZs), areas designated as protected areas for the birds.

But the new ban on the sale and production of the medicine approved on Monday applies nationwide, Environment Minister Shahab Uddin told AFP. -AFP



The vultures get exposed to diclofenac when they feed on carcasses of animals which die within 72 hours of being administered the drug.

## Suu Kyi's party offices raided



Protesters in Yangon hold signs with portraits demanding the release of detained Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi

**MYANMAR:** Myanmar's military raided the Yangon headquarters of ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi's party late Tuesday, officials said, as the United States joined the UN in "strongly" condemning violence against protesters demanding a return to democracy.

The latest assault on Myanmar's civilian leadership came as anger at last week's coup and the detention of Suu Kyi by the generals has driven hundreds of thousands of people into the streets, defying a junta ban on rallies.

"The military dictator raided and destroyed NLD headquarters at around 9:30pm," the National League for Democracy announced on its Facebook page.

The party's short statement gave no further details.

The raid came after demonstrations erupted for a fourth straight day Tuesday, with police using water cannons in several cities, firing rubber bullets at protesters in the capital Naypyidaw and deploying tear gas in Mandalay.

The rallies came despite a warning from the junta that it would take action against demonstrations that threatened "stability", and a new ban on gatherings of more than five people.

In Naypyidaw, the remote capital purpose-built by the previous military regime, witnesses said police fired projectiles at protesters after earlier blasting them with water cannon.

In Mandalay, the country's second-biggest city, police fired tear gas to disperse protesters. -AFP

**09.02.2021- TOTAL PRIZE WINNERS PRODUCED BY NATIONAL LOTTERIES BOARD 733,662**  
**TOTAL PRIZE MONEY DISTRIBUTED AMONG WINNERS 28,804,340.00**  
**Rs. 2,000,000.00 PRIZES 01    Rs.1,000,000.00 PRIZES 01    Rs. 100 000 00 PRIZES 26**

**DHANA NIDHANAYA Official Results**  
 Date: 2021/02/09  
 Draw Number - 430  
 English Letter: X  
 Winning Number: 18 21 36 49  

COMBINATION	PRIZE	NO. OF WINNERS
1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	If all 4 numbers are correct	Rs. 1,000,000.00 01
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	If English Letter and 1 number is correct	Rs. 100,000.00 04
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	If any 2 numbers are correct	Rs. 3,000.00 89
4 <sup>th</sup> Prize	If English Letter and 2 numbers are correct	Rs. 1,000.00 210
5 <sup>th</sup> Prize	If any 3 numbers are correct	Rs. 100.00 5,507
6 <sup>th</sup> Prize	If English Letter and 1 number is correct	Rs. 60.00 3,819
7 <sup>th</sup> Prize	If 1 number is correct	Rs. 20.00 93,954
8 <sup>th</sup> Prize	If any English Letter is correct	Rs. 20.00 17,556

 Total prize money won in this draw Rs. 4,887,040.00  
 Number of Prize Winners in this draw 121,140  
 Next Draw Super Prize Rs. 80,719,571.60

**Govisetha OFFICIAL RESULTS**  
 DRAW NUMBER 2688 DRAW DATE 09/02/2021  
 ENGLISH LETTER Q WINNING NUMBERS 18 27 36 50  

COMBINATION	PRICE	NO. OF WINNERS
1 PRIZE IF ALL 4 NUMBERS CORRECT	Rs. 1,000,000.00	-
2 PRIZE IF LETTER & ANY 3 NUMBERS CORRECT	Rs. 100,000.00	06
3 PRIZE IF ANY 3 NUMBERS CORRECT	Rs. 2,000.00	185
4 PRIZE IF LETTER & ANY 2 NUMBERS CORRECT	Rs. 1,000.00	397
5 PRIZE IF ANY 2 NUMBERS CORRECT	Rs. 100.00	10,189
6 PRIZE IF LETTER & ANY NUMBER CORRECT	Rs. 40.00	6,715
7 PRIZE IF ANY NUMBER CORRECT	Rs. 20.00	166,532
8 PRIZE IF ONLY THE LETTER IS CORRECT	Rs. 20.00	30,444

 TOTAL WINNERS OF THIS DRAW 214,468  
 TOTAL PRIZE MONEY WON IN THIS DRAW Rs. 6,594,020.00  
 SUPER PRIZE FOR THE NEXT DRAW Rs. 61,755,455.20  
 Winning tickets are valid for a period of six months from the date of the draw. Prizes over Rs. 500,000/- are liable to government taxes. To obtain prizes, Presenting National Identity card is a must.

**MAHAJANA SAMPATHA**  
 DATE: 09-02-2021  
 DRAW NUMBER: 4393 OFFICIAL RESULTS  
 WINNING LETTER L WINNING NUMBERS 5 0 7 0 6 7  
 Prize structure - from right to left  

Prize	Number of winners
1st Prize	5 0 7 0 6 7 Rs. 2,000,000/- 01
2nd Prize	0 7 0 6 7 Rs. 100,000/- 14
3rd Prize	7 0 6 7 Rs. 10,000/- 131
4th Prize	0 6 7 Rs. 1,000/- 1,285
5th Prize	6 7 Rs. 100/- 12,744
6th Prize	7 Rs. 20/- 126,559

 Prize structure - from left to right  

Prize	Number of winners
7th Prize	5 0 7 0 6 Rs. 10,000/- 13
8th Prize	5 0 7 0 Rs. 1,000/- 124
9th Prize	5 0 7 Rs. 100/- 1,265
10th Prize	5 0 Rs. 50/- 12,638
11th Prize	L Rs. 20/- 50,707

 Value of prizes won in this draw - Rs.11,827,120.00  
 The Super Prize of next draw Rs.12,929,066.00  
 National Lotteries Board

**MEGA POWER OFFICIAL RESULTS**  
 DRAW NUMBER 760 DATE: 2021.02.09  

Prize	Prize Money	All of winners
1st Prize	If all 4 Numbers are correct	Rs. 1,000,000.00 01
2nd Prize	If any 3 Numbers with English Letter is correct	Rs. 100,000.00 02
3rd Prize	If all 3 Numbers are correct	Rs. 1,000.00 03
4th Prize	If any 2 Numbers with English Letter is correct	Rs. 100.00 05
5th Prize	If any 2 Numbers are correct	Rs. 100.00 4,511
6th Prize	If any 1 Number with English Letter is correct	Rs. 40.00 3,229
7th Prize	If any 1 Number are correct	Rs. 20.00 81,025
8th Prize	Only English Letter are correct	Rs. 20.00 14,735

 NEXT MEGA SUPER PRIZE Rs. 65,635,663.20  
 NEXT POWER SUPER PRIZE Rs. 20,435,651.60  
 NEXT GRAND SUPER PRIZE Rs. 32,367,224.40  
 Total Prizes Won in This Draw Rs. 2,913,660.00

**OFFICIAL RESULTS**  
 DRAW DATE: 09/02/2021 DRAW NUMBER: 1573  

Prize	Prize Money	All of winners
1st Prize	ALL 01 NUMBERS CORRECT	Rs. 500,000.00 -
2nd Prize	SUPER NUMBER & 03 NUMBERS CORRECT	Rs. 15,000.00 05
3rd Prize	03 NUMBERS CORRECT	Rs. 1,000.00 112
4th Prize	SUPER NUMBER & 02 NUMBERS CORRECT	Rs. 200.00 336
5th Prize	02 NUMBERS CORRECT	Rs. 100.00 4,896
6th Prize	SUPER NUMBER & 01 NUMBER CORRECT	Rs. 60.00 4,472
7th Prize	01 NUMBER CORRECT	Rs. 20.00 62,794
8th Prize	ONLY THE SUPER NUMBER IS CORRECT	Rs. 20.00 15,725

 TOTAL PRIZES WON IN THIS DRAW Rs. 2,582,500.00  
 Winning tickets are valid for a period of six months from the date of the draw. Prizes over Rs. 500,000/- are liable to government taxes. To obtain prizes, Presenting National Identity card is a must.  
 SUPER PRIZE OF THE NEXT DRAW Rs. 2,800,593.60



# ONE TEAM ONE NATION

## THE JOURNEY OF SRI LANKA CRICKET FROM 2016-2020

### 'A' TEAM, DEVELOPMENT, EMERGING AND U19

FROM 2016 TO 2020 SRI LANKA CRICKET HAS CONDUCTED A SERIES OF CRICKET TOURS BOTH IN SRI LANKA AND OVERSEAS TO PROVIDE INTERNATIONAL EXPOSURE TO PLAYERS IN THE 'A' TEAM, EMERGING, DEVELOPMENT AND ALSO UNDER 19 TEAMS TO PROVIDE THEM AN OPPORTUNITY TO GAIN INTERNATIONAL EXPOSURE AND LAY THE GROUND WORK TO LAUNCH THEIR INTERNATIONAL CAREERS WITH THE NATIONAL TEAM.

IN TOTAL, SRI LANKA CRICKET CONDUCTED 10 'A' TEAM TOURS, 08 DEVELOPMENT AND EMERGING TEAM TOURS, AND 16 UNDER

19 TOURS DURING THE 2016 - 2020 PERIOD TO ENSURE SRI LANKA CRICKET HAD AN EXCELLENT FEEDER SYSTEM WITH PLAYERS READY TO ENTER THE NATIONAL TEAM.

### WOMEN'S CRICKET

FROM 2016 TO 2020 SRI LANKA CRICKET CONDUCTED 19 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CRICKET TOURS, BOTH IN SRI LANKA AND OVERSEAS, COVERING ALL SEGMENTS OF THE WOMEN'S GAME, SUCH AS DEVELOPMENT, EMERGING, AND NATIONAL TOURS, THUS LAYING OUT A SOLID PLATFORM TO BUILD THE GAME FROM IT'S GRASSROOTS.

### DOMESTIC CRICKET

SRI LANKA CRICKET'S 'DOMESTIC CRICKET CALENDAR' IS FOCUSED ON BUILDING YOUNG AND TALENTED CRICKETERS FROM THE UNDER 15 LEVEL AND GROOMING THEM TO BECOME COMPETENT FIRST-CLASS CRICKETERS READY TO ENTER THE NATIONAL FRAY.

## SRI LANKA 'A' TEAM



2016

TOUR OF ENGLAND FOR A TRI SERIES INCLUDING PAKISTAN  
**4 ONE-DAY GAMES**

VS PAKISTAN  
**4 DAY-02 GAMES**

WEST INDIES 'A' TOUR OF SRI LANKA  
**4 DAY-03 GAMES**  
**3 ONE-DAY GAMES**

2017

ENGLAND 'A' TEAM TOUR OF SRI LANKA  
**4 DAY-02 GAMES**  
**5 ONE-DAY GAMES**

TOUR OF WEST INDIES  
**4 DAY-03 GAMES**  
**3 ONE-DAY GAMES**

2018

TOUR OF BANGLADESH  
**4 DAY-03 GAMES**  
**3 ONE-DAY GAMES**

2019

SOUTH ASIAN GAMES MEN'S U23 PLAYED IN NEPAL  
**05 T20s**

IRELAND 'A' TEAM TOUR OF SRI LANKA  
**4 DAY-02 GAMES**  
**5 ONE-DAY GAMES**

SRI LANKA 'A' TEAM TOUR OF INDIA  
**4 DAY-02 GAMES**  
**5 ONE-DAY GAMES**

BANGLADESH 'A' TEAM TOUR OF SRI LANKA  
**4 DAY-02 GAMES**  
**3 ONE-DAY GAMES**

## SRI LANKA DEVELOPMENT & EMERGING TEAM

2016

TOUR OF SOUTH AFRICA  
**4 DAY-02 GAMES**  
TRIANGULAR WITH SOUTH AFRICA UNIVERSITY TEAMS  
**6 ONE-DAY GAMES**

TOUR OF ZIMBABWE  
**4 DAY-01 GAME**  
**3 ONE-DAY GAMES**

2017

ACC EMERGING TEAMS CUP IN BANGLADESH  
**5 ONE-DAY GAMES**

2018

SOUTH AFRICA DEVELOPMENT TEAM TOUR OF SRI LANKA  
**4 DAY-02 GAMES**  
**3 ONE-DAY GAMES**

ACC EMERGING CUP IN PAKISTAN  
**5 ONE-DAY GAMES**

2019

TOUR OF SOUTH AFRICA (EMERGING)  
**4 DAY-02 GAMES**

TRIANGULAR SERIES WITH SOUTH AFRICA UNIVERSITY TEAMS  
**7 ONE-DAY GAMES**

TOUR OF BANGLADESH (EMERGING)  
**4 DAY-02 GAMES**  
**3 ONE-DAY GAMES**

ACC EMERGING TEAMS ASIA CUP IN BANGLADESH  
**3 ONE-DAY GAMES**

## SRI LANKA UNDER 19



2016

SOUTH AFRICA U19 TOUR OF SRI LANKA  
**3 DAY-03 GAMES**  
**3 ONE-DAY GAMES**

U19 TOUR OF ENGLAND  
**4 DAY-02 GAMES**  
**3 ONE-DAY GAMES**

U19 ASIA CUP IN SRI LANKA  
**5 ONE-DAY GAMES**

2017

TOUR OF SOUTH AFRICA  
**3 ONE-DAY GAMES**  
VS SOUTH AFRICA

TRI-NATION WITH ZIMBABWE AND SOUTH AFRICA  
**7 ONE-DAY GAMES**

TOUR OF AUSTRALIA  
**3 DAY-01 GAME**  
**5 ONE-DAY GAMES**

ACC U19 ASIA CUP IN MALAYSIA  
**3 ONE-DAY GAMES**

2018

UNDER 19 WORLD CUP IN NEW ZEALAND  
**6 ONE-DAY GAMES**

INDIA U19 TOUR OF SRI LANKA  
**4 DAY-02 GAMES**

U19 ASIA CUP IN BANGLADESH  
**5 ONE-DAY GAMES**

BANGLADESH U19 TOUR OF SRI LANKA  
**4 DAY-02 GAMES**  
**5 ONE-DAY GAMES**

2019

AUSTRALIA U19 TOUR OF SRI LANKA  
**3 DAY-01 GAME**  
**3 ONE-DAY GAMES**

PAKISTAN U19 TOUR OF SRI LANKA  
**5 ONE-DAY GAMES**

ACC U19 ASIA CUP PLAYED IN SRI LANKA  
**4 ONE-DAY GAMES**

TOUR OF BANGLADESH  
**4 DAY-02 GAMES**  
**5 ONE-DAY GAMES**

TOUR OF WEST INDIES  
TRI-NATION INCLUDING ENGLAND AND WEST INDIES  
**7 ONE-DAY GAMES**

2020

UNDER 19 WORLD CUP IN SOUTH AFRICA  
**6 ONE-DAY GAMES**

## SRI LANKA WOMEN'S CRICKET

2016

TOUR OF INDIA  
**3 ONE-DAY GAMES**  
**3 T20s**

WOMEN'S WORLD T20 - INDIA  
**4 T20s**

AUSTRALIA WOMEN'S TEAM TOUR OF SRI LANKA  
**4 ONE-DAY GAMES**  
**1 T20**

ENGLAND WOMEN'S TEAM TOUR OF SRI LANKA  
**4 ONE-DAY GAMES**

ACC WOMEN'S ASIA CUP IN THAILAND  
**5 T20s**

2017

ICC WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS IN SRI LANKA  
**7 ONE-DAY GAMES**

ICC 50 OVER WORLD CUP IN ENGLAND  
**7 ONE-DAY GAMES**

TOUR OF WEST INDIES  
**3 ONE-DAY GAMES**  
**3 T20s**

2018

PAKISTAN WOMEN'S TEAM TOUR OF SRI LANKA  
**3 ONE-DAY GAMES**  
**3 T20s**

ACC WOMEN'S T20 ASIA CUP IN MALAYSIA  
**5 T20s**

INDIA WOMEN'S TEAM TOUR OF SRI LANKA  
**3 ONE-DAY GAMES**  
**5 T20s**

ICC T20 WOMEN'S WORLD CUP IN WEST INDIES  
**4 T20s**

2019

TOUR OF SOUTH AFRICA  
**3 ONE-DAY GAMES**  
**3 T20s**

ENGLAND WOMEN'S TEAM TOUR OF SRI LANKA  
**3 ONE-DAY GAMES**  
**3 T20s**

TOUR OF AUSTRALIA  
**3 ONE-DAY GAMES**  
**3 T20s**

ACC WOMEN'S EMERGING TEAMS ASIA CUP IN SRI LANKA  
**3 ONE-DAY GAMES**

SOUTH ASIAN GAMES - UNDER 23  
**4 T20s**

2020

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP IN AUSTRALIA  
**4 T20s**

## DOMESTIC TOURNAMENT - MEN'S

2017/2020

**DIVISION iii**

CLUBS IN DISTRICTS  
**50 OVER**

INTRA PROVINCE DISTRICT QUALIFYING CLUBS  
**50 OVER**

INTRA PROVINCE FINAL ROUNDS  
**50 OVER**

**DIVISION ii**

GOVERNOR'S TROPHY - QUALIFIED CLUBS  
**2 DAY / 50 OVER**

**MAJOR TIER A**

QUALIFIED CLUBS - 1ST ROUND

SUPER 8 / **4 DAY**

PLATE 6 / **3 DAY**

MAJOR QUALIFIED CLUBS  
**T20**

MAJOR LIMITED OVER - QUALIFIED CLUBS  
**50 OVER**

LANKA PREMIER LEAGUE  
**T20**

**SUPER PROVINCIAL**

SUPER PROVINCIAL  
**50 OVER**

SUPER PROVINCIAL **T20**

SUPER PROVINCIAL **4 DAY**

**MAJOR TIER B**

QUALIFIED CLUBS  
**3 DAY**

## DOMESTIC TOURNAMENT - WOMEN'S

2017/2019

**UNDER 23**

DISTRICTS **50 OVER**

SUPER PROVINCIAL  
**50 OVER**

DIVISION 1 QUALIFIED CLUBS  
**50 OVER**

SUPER PROVINCIAL  
**50 OVER**

SUPER PROVINCIAL  
**T20**

## DOMESTIC TOURNAMENT - YOUTH

2017/2018

UNDER 15 DISTRICT  
**50 OVER**

UNDER 15 PROVINCES  
**50 OVER**

UNDER 19 SUPER PROVINCIAL  
**50 OVER**

UNDER 23 MAJOR EMERGING  
**50 OVER**

UNDER 23 SUPER PROVINCIAL  
**3 DAY**

2018 / 2019

UNDER 19 PROVINCES  
**50 OVER**

UNDER 23 MAJOR CLUBS  
**50 OVER**

UNDER 23 SUPER PROVINCIAL  
**3 DAY**

2019 / 2020

UNDER 15 DISTRICTS  
**50 OVER**

UNDER 15 PROVINCES  
**50 OVER**

UNDER 19 SUPER PROVINCIAL  
**50 OVER**

UNDER 23 MAJOR CLUBS  
**50 OVER**

THE COVID - 19 PANDEMIC IMPACTED SRI LANKA'S INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC CRICKET CALENDAR DURING THE YEAR 2020

# National Athletic Championship rescheduled for May 20-23



The National Athletic Championship will be held at the Sugathadasa Stadium

## DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

The 99th National Athletic Championship has been rescheduled for May 20 to 23 at the Sugathadasa Stadium in Colombo.

Sri Lanka Athletics (SLA) announced the new dates for the Nationals following the cancellation of the 24th Asian Athletics Championship 2021.

The Asian Athletics Championship 2021 was set to be held from May 20 to 23 in Hangzhou, China. The next edition of the Asian Athletics Championship will be held in Pattaya, Thailand in 2023.

National Athletics Coach Y. K. Kularatne said that Sri Lanka Athletics had earlier decided to conduct the National Championship

from April 7 to 10. However, with the Asian Athletics Meet cancelled, SLA has now decided to conduct the new selection trials for the Nationals from April 7 to 10 at the Sugathadasa Stadium.

SLA successfully conducted the 98th National Championships last December according to the health regulations and that was a good opportunity for the local athletes to make a comeback with their performances.

Due to COVID-19 pandemic several International events were postponed including the Asian Youth Athletic Championship, Asian Martial Art and Beach Games and the Asian Athletic Championship.

Meanwhile, SLA is currently on the lookout for more competitions for Sri Lanka's top athletes, especially in the European Circuit, which will be beneficial to boost their World Ranking Points.

With the new World Ranking System coming into play for Olympic slots, many top athletes are also on the lookout for competition in the European Circuit.

The selection trial for the Nationals will be the first event for the local athletes in 2021.

With the new points system athletes can collect a total of 100 points from the Nationals which are vital for Olympic qualification.

## Wijebandara sweeps into Colombo Open semis

Vibuda Wijebandara joined the semi-final lineup of the Men's Singles event with a straight set win on the sixth day of the Colombo Open Tennis Tournament, which continued at the SLTA Courts in Green Path yesterday. The favourite rallied

around excellently and went on to beat his opponent Wenuka Kithnula 6-2, 6-3 in the last quarter-final of the event.

**The results**  
**Men's Open Singles (quarter-finals):** Vibuda Wijebandara beat Wenuka Kithnula 6-2, 6-3.

### Boys' U-14

**(third-round):**

Sandaruru Guruge beat Binuka Silva 6-0, 6-1. Lisal Goonetilleke beat Abdul Cader 6-1, 6-2. Dhanushka Dias beat Rehan Gunawardane 6-0, 6-3. Aweesh Ganegoda beat K. Udayachandran 6-0, 4-6, 10-3. T. Bellanarachchi beat Lithum Jayabandu 6-4, 6-4. Nenuka Geegamage beat Dhanushka Wickramanayake 6-3, 6-1. **A.N**



Vibuda Wijebandara in action

## Sports Minister summons cricket officials

Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa met the newly appointed Cricket Advisory Committee headed by its chairman Aravinda de Silva at the Sports Ministry office in Colombo yesterday.

The Minister had a lengthy discussion with the committee on the present plight of the game and how to get the Sri Lanka team back into winning ways.

The other members of the Cricket Advisory Committee are, Roshan Mahanama, Muttiah Muralitharan and Kumar Sangakkara.



Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa (right) in conversation with Cricket Committee members

This four-member committee has been tasked to work closely with SLC in order to uplift the standard

of cricket both at domestic and international level, thereby ensuring a sustainable high standard of cricket

in Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) officials were also present at this discussion. **A.N**

## SLC under 23 cricket to resume on Feb. 26

The interrupted Under-23 Inter-Club Cricket Tournament conducted by Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) will resume on February 26, with the semi-finals scheduled to be worked off in Colombo.

SSC will take on Badureliya CC at the NCC Grounds in Maitland Place while Colts CC will confront Lankan CC at the P. Sara Oval.

Earlier, the SLC Tournament made several unsuccessful attempts to finalise the two semi-finals but due to the escalating cases of COVID-19 patients the matches were postponed indefinitely last August.



U-23 Cricket Tournament will resume on February 26

However, the green-light was granted to SLC by the health authorities

earlier this week and the tournament will proceed with the final to be staged

at the SSC Grounds in Maitland Place on February 28. **A.N**

## Inaugural Gnanam Paints Champions Trophy

### Jaffna Panthers, Jaffna Royals and Ariyalai Killadikal record wins

Jaffna Panthers, Jaffna Royals and Ariyalai Kailladikal teams recorded wins on day-4 of the Inaugural Gnanam Paints Champions Trophy Cricket Tournament continued at the St. Patrick's College, Jaffna ground.

Jaffna Panthers beat Kokuvil Stars by six wickets and Jaffna Royals beat Chundikuli Eagles by three wickets. Ariyalai Killadikal beat Chullipuram Vikings by seven wickets.

Altogether 10 teams named Aggressive Boys, Ariyalai Killadikal, Chundikuli Eagles, Chullipuram Vikings, Jaffna Panthers, Jaffna Royals, Kokuvil Stars, Nallur Broncos, North Conquerors and Vadamarachchi

Vengaigal in Jaffna Peninsula are participating in this tournament.

This tournament is conducted by Gnanam Paints Company Ltd- Jaffna with sponsors Nippon Paints Ltd, IBC Tamil, Kiruba Learners and Everythinghere.lk in collaboration with Jaffna District Cricket Association.

#### Brief Scores:

Jaffna Panthers won by four runs. **Jaffna Panthers:** 126/8 (20) (K. Komainthan 35, T. Thanujan 17, R. Nitharsan 17 n.o., S. Rammiyarakulan 4/22, J. Sakithyan 2/19) **Kokuvil Stars:** 122 (20) (K. Mohankumar 25, K. Piratheesan 23, V. Rakievkumar 20,

S. Rammiyarakulan 19 n.o., S. Kanistan 4/12, G. Gerikthusan 2/16).

Ariyalai Kailladikal won by seven wickets. **Chullipuram Vikings:** 121/6 (19) (S. Mathusan 55, S. Niroshan 37, R. Mathusan 2/18) **Ariyalai Kailladikal:** 123/3 (16.5) (L. Akeesan 69 n.o., Vijayakanth Vijayakanth 22).

Jaffna Royals won by three wickets. **Chundukuli Eagles:** 105 (19.5) (Anandarajah Anbujan 36, P. Brinthanpan 28, S. Pirasanna 3 for 20, T. Priyalaxan 3/23, V. Vaamanan 2/17, Y. Jintusan 2/32) **Jaffna Royals:** 106/7 (17.5) (S. Kowthanam 31, D. Shanthos 23, Vasanthan Jathusan 3/20, S. Kajanan 2/15). **YK**

## Former TT champ Chalitha felicitated

Former National Table Tennis champion Chalitha Ranjana was felicitated by the SR Table Tennis Academy during the Southern Province TT Championship which was held recently at the Sri Wijayarama Hall, Ambalangoda. Chantul Dulsen of Dharmasoka College emerged champion of the tournament while Isuru Anjana of the same school secured the runner up position.

The four-time National champion Chalitha is the only medal winner at the

2004 Commonwealth TT Championship in Malaysia. He was also a member of the Sri Lankan team at the South Asian Games in 1999, 2003 and 2010. A product from the Sri Devananda Vidyalaya, Ambalangoda, Chalitha performed well at both local and International tournaments to win several medals. He won six golds, three silvers and a bronze medal at the previous New Zealand Open TT Championship. He is also the present Mercantile TT champion, representing Seylan Bank. **DR**



Roshan Chaminda, secretary of the schools TTA, Chatura Dushan, secretary of the TT Coaches Association and Sameera Raja, president of the SR TT Academy hand over the special memento to Chalitha Ranjana.

## Djokovic passes Tiafoe test, Serena sublime at Australian Open



Serena Williams of the US hits a return against Serbia's Nina Stojanovic during their women's singles match

**MELBOURNE, AFP** - Eight-time champion Novak Djokovic was made to sweat at the Australian Open yesterday as Serena Williams made serene progress in her bid for a record-equalling 24th Grand Slam title.

Women's favourite Naomi Osaka also charged through but fellow major-winners Stan Wawrinka, Bianca Andreescu and Petra Kvitova were all second-round casualties.

Djokovic was given a stern examination by America's Frances Tiafoe and dropped his first set of the tournament before recovering to win 6-3, 6-7 (3/7), 7-6 (7/2), 6-3.

The top seed looked in control after taking the first set, but lightning-quick Tiafoe, who reached the quarter-

finals two years ago, refused to go quietly.

The American bounced back to take a close second set but imploded as tensions rose in the fourth, receiving a code violation for an audible obscenity as Djokovic took charge.

The Serb is targeting a record-extending ninth title and his 18th Grand Slam trophy overall as he snaps at the heels of Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer, who top the all-time list with 20 each.

He avoided the fate of 2014 winner Wawrinka, who blew three match points in the fifth-set tie-breaker in his four-hour epic with Martin Fucsovics, who won 7-5, 6-1, 4-6, 2-6, 7-6 (11/9).

Osaka, whose three Grand Slam titles include the 2019 Australian crown, had no

such trouble in her evening match against France's Caroline Garcia, winning 6-2, 6-3 in 61 minutes.

Earlier Williams, 39, continued her quest to equal Margaret Court's all-time mark of 24 Grand Slams with a 6-3, 6-0 romp past 99th-ranked Serbian Nina Stojanovic.

Williams hit 27 winners in her 101st Australian Open match while again sporting her unique, one-legged cast inspired by track legend 'Flo-Jo'.

Williams' elder sister Venus, 40, was a major casualty on day three when she painfully rolled her ankle in the first set against Sara Errani before hobbling through a 6-1, 6-0 defeat.

And Andreescu, the 2019 US Open champion who

missed the entire 2020 season with a knee injury, saw her comeback come to an abrupt end 6-3, 6-2 against Taiwan's Hsieh Su-wei.

Elsewhere Kvitova, the former Wimbledon champion and Melbourne runner-up in 2019, committed 44 unforced errors in her 6-4, 1-6, 6-1 defeat to Romania's Sorana Cirstea as the big names tumbled on day three.

However, reigning US Open champion Dominic Thiem, runner-up to Djokovic last year, was all smiles as he beat Germany's Dominik Koepfer 6-4, 6-0, 6-2.

Eighth seed Diego Schwartzmann of Argentina also hurried into the last 32, brushing aside Frenchman Alexandre Muller 6-2, 6-0, 6-3 in an hour and 32



Serbia's Novak Djokovic hits a return against Frances Tiafoe of the US during their men's singles match

minutes on 1573 Arena. Germany's volatile US Open finalist Alexander Zverev will close out the night session against America's Maxime Cressy.

The tantrum-prone Nick Kyrgios could also provide fireworks out on his favourite John Cain Arena against France's 29th seed Ugo Humbert.

# Daily News Business

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## Involve more Lankan architects for State projects - SLIA



BOC ASSISTS LOAN REVIVAL FOR... PAGE 15

**FIZEL JABIR**  
The Sri Lanka Institute of Architects (SLIA) requested the government to offer opportunities for talented Sri Lankan Architects to handle large projects in the country and utilize their service more for State ventures.  
"I am inviting government decision makers of the construction industry in Sri Lanka; specifically from the President and Prime Minister to give opportunities for talented Sri Lankan Architects to handle the large projects which are going ahead to make greater impact for our future built environment. Give the opportunity, SLIA is ready to conduct design competitions with-

in 3 months. That is the way forward if we really think smart that we are to make Sri Lanka "the wonder of Asia". At least if we award 4 such buildings to talented Architects in a year through SLIA design competitions, over the span of 4 years we would have 20 iconic landmark buildings in Sri Lanka. This is the potential impact SLIA could make through collaboration with the Sri Lankan government and SLIA. If the government really wants to boost our industry during this seemingly difficult period this would be much appreciated by those of the prospective practices as well, Archt Russel Dandeniya, Senior Vice President SLIA told



**Archt Russel Dandeniya**  
the SLIA Annual Sessions 20/21 launching press conference in Colombo on Tuesday. Dandeniya said the total public investment on construc-

tion was approximately Rs 1 trillion out of which 40% was on buildings and out of the 40%, the component of private sector both consultancy and construction was 12%. The balance 28% was the component of the Public sector. He said the State sector (public and semipublic) employment related to construction related professions (architects, engineers, quantity surveyors etc.) were 1,020 (those who are working at CEGB, UDA, NPPD, SEC, Buildings Department, NHDA, University of Moratuwa, Department of Archeology, etc.). However Dandeniya said while the private sector employed 7,600 professionals related to con-

struction, the State sector employed only 120 architects with the private sector employing more than 1,200 architects. He said it was therefore evident there is an imbalance of distribution of work between private sector and State sector where 28% of public investment is carried out by 120 architects and 12% is carried out by 1,200 architects. The majority of these architects in the private sector, who have been trained under public funds, are working below par and their potential is not being harnessed for the betterment of the public.  
"We are not asking anything but serving opportunities to make our built environment

remarkable and boosting architecture practices during this difficult period by creating opportunities.  
I think we all are struggling with Covid-19, but dawn of new hope with new government and leadership it's expected that they will address these imbalances in the future and the SLIA is awaiting and will strive to serve with more closer ties as usual with this government specifically boosting propaganda in the field of construction where more than a million people are involved and perhaps four million dependents."  
The inauguration ceremony of the Annual Sessions of 2021 will be held on February 17.

### Johnson & Johnson keen in making COVID-19 vaccine in India

**NEW DELHI:** Johnson & Johnson is interested in manufacturing its COVID-19 vaccine in India, a government official told a news conference on Tuesday.  
India also currently has no concern over the efficacy of the NSE -1.28 % vaccine that is being used in the country's massive inoculation campaign, Vinod Kumar Paul said. ([www.ndtv.com](http://www.ndtv.com))

## Sri Lanka Telecom posts Rs 7.9 bn PAT for 2020

Group's 4Q Operating Profit up by 27% , revenue recorded at Rs. 24 bn

Sri Lanka Telecom PLC (SLT) Group concluded financial year 2020 on a high note, with a significant 25% YoY growth in profit after tax to Rs. 7.9 billion, despite many challenges faced by the Group arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.  
Group revenue climbed to Rs. 91.1 billion for the year with a 6% YoY growth, strongly underpinned by higher broad band revenue propelled by the accelerated fibre expansion programme and growth in mobile broad-band services. Revenue for PEOTV and carrier services also advanced during the year. SLT Group increased EBITDA (Earnings Before Interest, Tax, Depreciation and Amortization) by 16% YoY to Rs. 34.7 billion in FY 2020, leading to a higher

EBITDA margin of 38% compared to 35% in the previous year, mainly achieved through successful cost management measures.  
The Group revenue for Q4 2020, rose by 4% QoQ to Rs. 24 billion, recording the highest quarterly revenue achieved for FY 2020. The operating profit for the quarter increased by 27% compared to the same quarter of the previous year reaching Rs. 1.9 billion, a decline of 33% compared to 3Q 2020. The Group profit after tax for the quarter reported at Rs. 1.1 billion, a drop of 48% QoQ, mainly due to the higher operating costs and adverse impact from fluctuation in foreign currencies.  
Mobitel (Pvt) Ltd, the mobile arm of the SLT Group managed to grow its revenue despite adverse



SLT Group Chairman, **Rohan Fernando** | SLT CEO, **Lalith Seneviratne** | Chief Executive Officer, **Kiththi Perera** | Mobitel Acting CEO, **Chandika Vitharana**

macroeconomic conditions prevalent in 2020. Mobitel reported a strong profitable growth due to simultaneous growth in revenue and reduction in operational expenditure. Mobitel revenue for FY 2020 stood at Rs. 43.2 billion, up by 8% compared to FY 2019. Backed by the growth in revenue and aptly supported by operational efficiencies, Mobitel was able to record significant growth in all key profitability indicators.

The Company recorded Rs. 3.1 billion improvement in EBITDA, an increase of 23% YoY. EBIT increased by Rs. 2.6 billion in FY 2020 which is an increase by 50% compared to FY 2019. Mobitel recorded its highest ever profit after tax of Rs. 4.9 billion in FY 2020, an increase by 54% YoY.  
The Group paid a total amount of Rs. 17.1 billion as direct and in direct taxes including levies to the Government in FY 2020. SLT

Group Chairman, Rohan Fernando said "Our financial results for 2020 have yet again demonstrated SLT Group's resilience and success in providing essential telecommunication services to the country and community, notwithstanding unprecedented challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. "In year 2021, we will focus on enhancing quality in our services and strengthening our strategy in fulfilling our customers' needs." **TO PAGE 14**



The harvesting of paddy commenced all over Sri Lanka and a bumper paddy harvest is expected. Here farmers using modern machines, carrying their paddy harvest in Romiel Mawatha which surrounds the Panagoda, Homagama Army Camp. Picture by Saliya Ruopsinghe

### 'Stocks landslide to a near 4-week low'

Market experienced the largest intraday loss for the week on the 3rd consecutive day of downfall recording a near 4-week low.  
Index experienced a dip within the first few minutes of trading followed by a short-lived uptrend. Subsequently market witnessed a landslide for the rest of the session hitting its intraday low of 7,689 before closing at 7,732 losing 231 points.  
Materials sector led the turnover for the session closely followed by Capital Goods sector making a combined contribution

of 53%. Market witnessed low foreign participation dominated by the selling side resulting in a net outflow.  
The secondary bond market yield curve remained broadly unchanged while overall market witnessed ultra-thin volumes.  
In the belly end of the yield curve, 01.12.24 changed hands at 6.55% while 15.10.27 traded at 7.32%. At the bill auction held yesterday, 3M bill yield increased by 2bps to 4.72%, 6M bill by 7bps to 4.85% and one year bill by 2bps to 5.04% while only 35% of the offered value got accepted.

### Punnakkudha to get 200 acre Textile Industrial Park

Text and Pic by, **SIVAM PACKIYANATHAN**  
A 200 acre plot of land at Punnakkudha in the Chenkalady region was surveyed and handed over to the Board of Investment (BOI) of Sri Lanka for the construction of Textile Industrial Park.

The formalities took place at the Batticaloa District Secretariat Day on February 9 in the presence of State Minister of Rural Areas Development and Promotion of Domestic Animal Husbandry and Minor Economic Crop Cultivation Sathasivam Vijalandran,

Batticaloa Government Agent K. Karunakaran, Deputy Director Board of Investment Sri Lanka S. Satkunalasingam, Director of Land Reform Commission Batticaloa and Trincomalee N. Vimalraj and Administration Chief of the LRC, Batticaloa S. Surendar.  
Through this project four foreign investors are expected to start apparel factories by which 8,000 youth in the Batticaloa district are expected to obtain employment while many more are to benefit indirectly.  
Apart from employment opportunities it will uplift



Officials at the event

the economic standards of the district. The textile industry will get a boost through this project and workers will be able to develop their skills in the industry.

### An alternative to Savings Accounts

**NDB | WEALTH MONEY PLUS FUND**

\* Current Yield as at 04<sup>th</sup> February 2021

**6.00%**

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

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### World food prices rise for seventh month in a row

World food prices rose for the seventh consecutive month in December, led by dairy products and vegetable oils, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations reported today.  
The FAO Food Price Index averaged 107.5 points in December, 2.2 percent higher than in November. Over the whole of 2020, the benchmark index, which tracks monthly changes in the international prices of commonly-traded food commodities, averaged 97.9 points, a three-year high and a 3.1 percent increase from 2019 although still more than 25 percent below its historical 2011 peak.  
The FAO Cereal Price Index rose 1.1 percent from November and for all of 2020 averaged 6.6 percent above the level of

2019. Export prices for wheat, maize, sorghum and rice all rose in December, moving higher in part due to concerns over growing conditions and crop prospects in North and South America as well as the Russian Federation.  
The FAO Vegetable Oil Price Index gained 4.7 percent in December to reach its highest level since September 2012. In addition to ongoing supply tightness in major palm oil producing countries, international trade was affected by a sharp hike in export duties in Indonesia.  
The FAO Dairy Price Index increased 3.2 percent in December, its seventh consecutive monthly rise, with all categories higher due to strong global import demand induced by concerns over drier and warmer



conditions on Oceania's milk production as well as high internal demand in Western Europe.  
The FAO Meat Price Index increased 1.7 percent in the month of December, while its

full-year average was 4.5 percent below that of 2019.  
The FAO Sugar Price Index declined by 0.6 percent in December after a marked increase during the previous month.

SHARES - COLOMBO STOCK EXCHANGE

Market Statistics on 10.02.2021

Security	Volume	**V.W.A. Previous Close	Open	High	Low	**V.W.A. Yesterday's Close	Change (Rs.)
<b>Main Board</b>							
A.SPEN.HOT.HOLD.	11,725	33.30	32.70	32.70	31.50	32.00	(1.30)
ABANS	5,074	189.50	180.75	191.50	168.00	174.00	(15.50)
ACCESS ENG SL	1,535,716	25.60	25.90	27.00	25.00	25.30	(0.30)
ACL	184,539	93.40	94.00	94.00	88.40	89.20	(4.20)
ACL PLASTICS	8,520	300.00	295.00	295.00	275.00	279.75	(20.25)
ACME	107,668	5.80	5.80	5.90	5.80	5.90	0.10
AGALAWATTE	6,448	29.00	28.00	29.20	27.60	27.90	(1.10)
AHOT PROPERTIES	12,975	39.00	39.10	39.10	38.10	38.10	(0.90)
AITKEN SPENCE	903,694	64.80	64.70	66.50	63.00	64.20	(0.60)
ALLIANCE	60,238	51.20	50.60	55.00	50.60	54.80	3.60
AMANA BANK	595,508	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.40	3.40	(0.20)
AMAYA LEISURE	1,702	40.00	43.50	43.50	39.90	39.90	(0.10)
ASIA ASSET	47,561	7.20	7.20	7.20	6.90	7.00	(0.20)
ASIRI	89,171	29.00	29.00	29.00	28.50	28.50	(0.50)
ASIRI SURG	30,721	14.00	14.00	14.70	13.90	14.00	0.00
AUTODROME	3,960	79.00	80.00	82.70	80.00	80.00	1.00
BAIRAHA FARMS	13,567	145.50	145.00	145.00	138.25	140.00	(5.50)
BALANGODA	28,354	15.00	14.50	14.80	13.80	14.00	(1.00)
BUKIT DARAH	1,373	326.75	338.50	338.50	313.00	314.50	(12.25)
C M HOLDINGS	95	99.80	95.00	95.00	99.00	99.80	0.00
C T HOLDINGS	25,111	171.00	171.00	179.00	171.00	174.25	3.25
CARGILLS	22,780	232.25	235.00	236.00	232.00	235.00	2.75
CARGO BOAT	300	73.90	74.00	74.00	69.30	69.70	(4.20)
CARSONS	2,277	308.25	300.00	301.00	282.00	298.25	(10.00)
CDB	17,083	120.50	120.25	120.25	118.75	119.00	(1.50)
CDB (CDB.X0000)	5,395	83.90	81.00	81.00	80.00	80.00	(3.90)
CENTRAL FINANCE	188,240	114.00	112.50	114.00	106.50	108.00	(6.00)
CENTRAL IND.	161,960	129.25	130.00	130.00	123.00	125.00	(4.25)
CEYLINCO INS.	13	2,061.75	2,120.00	2,138.00	2,100.00	2,061.75	0.00
CEYLINCO INS. (CINS.X0000)	544	1,184.00	1,175.75	1,175.75	1,145.25	1,150.00	(34.00)
CEYLON GUARDIAN	107,177	132.25	130.25	132.25	128.25	130.00	(2.25)
CEYLON INV.	69,183	74.70	74.70	76.90	70.00	70.50	(4.20)
CEYLON TOBACCO	462	1,105.00	1,129.75	1,129.75	1,090.00	1,100.25	(4.75)
CHEMANEX	49,313	88.90	87.10	90.00	82.20	84.60	(4.30)
CHEVRON	175,540	107.00	106.25	108.25	103.25	105.00	(2.00)
CIC	458,940	61.90	63.00	63.00	59.10	59.90	(2.00)
CIC (CIC.X0000)	992,449	49.00	49.00	49.30	45.90	46.60	(2.40)
CITRUS LEISURE	70,777	9.60	9.80	9.80	8.90	9.20	(0.40)
COLD STORES	8,843	689.00	689.00	690.00	670.00	674.75	(14.25)
COLOMBO CITY	136	993.75	963.00	987.75	903.00	922.25	(71.50)
COLOMBO LAND	10,224	27.00	27.30	27.30	25.00	25.20	(1.80)
COMMERCIAL BANK	521,895	87.80	88.30	88.30	86.50	87.50	(0.30)
COMMERCIAL BANK (COMB.X0000)	26,685	80.10	80.20	80.50	77.90	78.70	(1.40)
CONVENIENCE FOOD	519	1,467.50	1,451.00	1,500.00	1,362.00	1,398.25	(69.25)
DANKOTUWA PORCEL	493,322	14.40	14.80	14.80	12.80	13.30	(1.10)
DFCC BANK PLC	97,543	64.40	65.70	66.20	63.50	64.00	(0.40)
DIALOG	1,413,241	12.10	12.10	12.40	12.10	12.20	0.10
DIMO	5,698	580.00	579.00	600.00	565.00	568.00	(12.00)
DIPPED PRODUCTS	839,924	718.50	700.00	710.00	645.00	665.00	(63.50)
DOCKYARD	11,625	79.00	83.00	83.00	75.00	77.20	(1.80)
DOLPHIN HOTELS	6,125	26.00	26.00	26.00	25.00	25.00	(1.00)
DURDANS	2,302	105.00	101.50	102.00	101.50	102.00	(3.00)
DURDANS (CHL.X0000)	240	100.00	95.20	95.20	95.00	95.10	(4.90)
E B CREAMY	111,138	58.30	58.80	59.50	48.00	50.40	(7.90)
EAST WEST	83,403	11.80	12.20	12.20	11.50	11.50	(0.30)
EASTERN MERCHANT	5,232	6.30	6.40	6.50	6.10	6.10	(0.20)
EXPOLANKA	6,750,149	51.70	51.70	52.50	48.60	49.20	(2.50)
FORT LAND	116,915	15.10	15.10	16.00	14.30	14.50	(0.60)
GRAIN ELEVATORS	406,573	160.25	160.00	161.75	150.00	151.75	(8.50)
HAYCARB	417,593	1,499.00	1,300.00	1,300.00	1,001.75	1,109.25	(389.75)
HAYLEYS	350,977	746.50	740.00	740.00	650.25	680.50	(66.00)
HAYLEYS FABRIC	720,980	35.40	35.00	35.00	32.50	32.80	(2.20)
HAYLEYS FIBRE	20,319	205.00	197.00	198.00	180.00	183.75	(21.25)
HDFC	43,427	41.60	41.10	42.00	40.10	40.50	(1.10)
HEMAS HOLDINGS	1,067,695	90.00	90.10	91.50	88.00	89.00	(1.00)
HNB	177,476	142.25	140.00	143.00	139.00	139.25	(3.00)
HNB ASSURANCE	93,166	61.40	61.00	61.60	60.00	60.20	(1.20)
HNB (HNB.X0000)	266,485	111.75	110.00	111.75	108.75	109.50	(2.25)
HORANA	40,234	22.80	23.00	23.50	23.00	23.00	0.20
HOTEL SIGIRIYA	60	65.60	66.80	66.80	62.10	65.60	0.00
HOTELS CORP	69,318	11.50	12.00	12.00	11.50	11.60	0.10
HUNTERS	42	750.50	741.00	741.00	701.00	750.50	0.00
INDUSTRIAL ASPH.	44,544,630	0.50	0.50	0.60	0.40	0.50	0.00
JANSHAKTHI INS.	59,610	29.50	29.60	29.90	28.70	28.90	(0.60)
JKH	2,275,220	154.00	154.00	157.00	153.25	154.75	0.75
KANDY HOTELS	1,700	4.90	5.20	5.20	4.90	4.90	0.00
KEGALLE	23,800	123.75	126.00	128.75	110.00	113.75	(10.00)
KELANI CABLES	4,289	145.25	140.00	143.00	140.00	142.75	(2.50)
KELANI TYRES	156,260	88.10	89.00	89.00	83.00	85.20	(2.90)
KELANI VALLEY	31,070	92.00	95.00	95.00	88.00	88.80	(3.20)
KINGSBURY	56,124	12.70	13.00	13.00	12.00	12.10	(0.60)
KOTAGALA	38,684	6.70	6.60	6.90	6.30	6.40	(0.30)
L O L C HOLDINGS	756,690	422.75	425.00	437.75	402.00	407.75	(15.00)
LANKA ALUMINIUM	689,869	27.55	27.00	27.00	22.00	22.50	(5.05)
LANKA HOSPITALS	22,201	49.50	49.70	49.70	45.00	46.80	(2.70)
LANKA IOC	200,286	22.90	23.30	23.30	22.00	22.00	(0.90)
LANKA REALTY	9,013	35.00	34.20	35.00	34.20	34.30	(0.70)
LANKA TILES	79,419	224.25	225.00	225.00	194.00	200.25	(24.00)
LANKA WALLTILE	126,450	229.75	230.00	230.00	195.00	202.50	(27.25)
LAUGFS GAS	5,986	26.90	25.00	26.00	24.40	25.00	(1.90)
LAUGFS GAS (LGL.X0000)	24,490	20.00	20.00	20.00	18.90	19.20	(0.80)
LAXAPANA	113,185	14.20	14.20	14.50	13.90	14.10	(0.10)
LB FINANCE	95,685	225.00	225.00	225.00	205.00	209.75	(15.25)
LEE HEDGES	476	74.00	72.00	76.00	72.00	72.50	(1.50)
LION BREWERY	92	580.50	580.50	583.00	580.00	580.50	0.00
LMF	84,090	165.75	165.00	171.00	150.25	157.00	(8.75)
LVL ENERGY	590,928	10.00	10.00	10.00	9.80	9.90	(0.10)
MALWATTE (MAL.X0000)	53,173	8.90	9.00	9.00	8.30	8.60	(0.30)
MELSTACORP	557,804	57.60	58.00	58.00	51.10	52.20	(5.40)
MERC. SHIPPING	297	86.10	83.20	84.00	83.00	83.20	(2.90)
MERCHANT BANK	167,136	7.20	7.20	7.30	6.70	6.70	(0.50)
MULLERS	228,585	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.10	1.10	(0.10)
NAMUNUKULA	26,990	182.50	185.00	186.00	175.00	178.25	(4.25)
NAT. DEV. BANK	66,124	91.60	90.00	91.00	85.00	86.40	(5.20)
NATIONS TRUST	32,764	60.70	60.20	60.50	59.50	59.70	(1.00)
NAVALOKA	176,626	5.40	5.50	5.70	5.00	5.10	(0.30)
NESTLE	266	1,189.50	1,175.25	1,175.25	1,155.00	1,170.00	(19.50)
OVERSEAS REALTY	1,064,904	15.90	15.80	16.20	15.40	15.70	(0.20)
PAN ASIA	443,513	17.50	17.60	18.20	16.90	17.10	(0.40)
PANASIAN POWER	2,424,083	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.50	3.50	(0.20)
PEOPLE'S INS	37,710	32.70	33.30	33.50	32.00	32.20	(0.50)
PEOPLES LEASING	469,451	13.00	13.00	13.30	12.70	12.70	(0.30)
PIRAMAL GLASS	2,402,863	9.60	9.60	9.60	9.20	9.40	(0.20)
PRINTCARE PLC	280	33.50	32.60	33.60	32.60	32.70	(0.80)
R I L PROPERTY	469,975	7.10	7.20	7.40	6.70	6.80	(0.30)
REGNIS	7,554	118.75	120.00	122.50	110.00	114.25	(4.50)
RENUKA AGRI	1,577,462	4.40	4.40	4.40	3.90	4.00	(0.40)
RENUKA CITY HOT.	1,503	236.50	234.00	234.00	225.50	227.00	(9.50)
RENUKA FOODS	27,574	16.00	16.30	16.30	15.00	15.90	(0.10)
RENUKA FOODS (COCO.X0000)	5,927	13.60	13.40	13.40	13.00	13.00	(0.60)
RENUKA HOLDINGS	159,143	17.30	17.00	17.00	16.10	16.10	(1.20)
RENUKA HOLDINGS (RHL.X0000)	40,060	13.40	13.20	13.20	12.90	12.90	(0.50)
RESUS ENERGY	16,159	25.20	26.00	26.50	25.00	25.70	0.50
RICHARD PIERIS	990,929	14.90	15.00	15.00	14.50	14.60	(0.30)
ROYAL CERAMIC	560,294	311.75	310.00	318.00	290.00		

## ADVERTORIAL

## BOC assists loan revival for customers in North Central Province

With the aim of assisting Micro and SME customers who have faced financial difficulties during the COVID-19 pandemic to revive their businesses, Bank of Ceylon (BOC), has initiated a loan revival program that will visit customers and attend to their financial needs.

In this regard the Bank held yet another program in Anuradhapura recently with the patronage of the Chairman Kanchana Ratwatte and the General Manager D.P.K. Gunasekera. Senior DGM Human Resource K.E.D. Sumanasiri, DGM Sales and Channel Management Priyal Silva and AGM North Central Province Mahinda Bandara also represented the forum on behalf of the bank's Corporate and Executive Management.

During the forum customers were able to discuss their concerns with regard to loan facilities directly with the bank officials at this program. Bank



officials discussed with customers to obtain an in-depth understanding of customer's true concerns and were able to provide tailor-made financial solutions for their problems.

In regard to revive the economy after the COVID-19 pandemic, Bank of Ceylon has extended a gamut of benefits for the development of micro and SME sector in the country to rebuild their businesses and sustain the functioning.

The Bank has so far been able to disburse loan facilities to entrepreneurs with special attention to agriculture, tourism, exports, tea, apparel, IT, logistics and spices cultivation.

The Bank wishes to extend these facilities to many customers as possible to ensure that there will be a significant impact on the economic and social wellbeing by building as many successful entrepreneurs as possible.

## EWIS awarded three titles at Best Workplaces Sri Lanka 2020

E-W Information Systems (EWIS) and its group companies emerged victorious with three titles being bestowed at the recently concluded awards presented by Great Place to Work Institute, Sri Lanka for the year 2020.

EWIS together with EWIS Peripherals was recognized among the top 40 Best Workplaces for the fifth year.

EWIS Colombo Limited, Sri Lanka's first and only fully-fledged Original Device Manufacturing (ODM) plant was ranked among the '10 Best Workplaces for Women 2020' for the second consecutive year.

The company actively promotes women empowerment with a safe and secure environment for the staff,



EWIS Director Roseanne Wijayanayake and General Manager Shaharin Nadesapillai receives the 'Best Workplace for Women' award

and this is well reflected in its state-of-the-art plant located at Sooriyawewa in Hambantota where over 80 per cent of its workforce are women, breaking away from the traditionally male-dominant industry.

EWIS was ranked in the inaugural list of the '10 Best

Small and Medium IT/ITES Workplaces' in Sri Lanka. E-W Information Systems is also certified as a 'Great Workplace' by Great Place to Work Sri Lanka for the sixth consecutive year.

With a reputation as a pioneer in the country's ICT industry over 34 years,

EWIS continues to embrace and take its people-centric philosophy to greater heights, recognizing that its people are at the heart of everything it does. "Our staff are our biggest asset.

Respect, sharing and caring is a way of life taught by our parents and this is the very same philosophy we follow and embrace at EWIS," said EWIS Chairman Sanjeewa Wickramanayake.

The annual awards conducted by the Great Place to Work Institute recognize organizations in Sri Lanka based on the feedback received by their respective employees through an anonymous employee survey, followed by a cultural audit on the practices which drive employee experience.

## Rotaract Club of NSBM commences 'Road to A+' project

The Covid-19 pandemic has taken over the entire world, affecting all functional systems including education. The educational efforts all across Sri Lanka have been moved to the digital platform such as Zoom, Google Meets & Microsoft teams to ensure the students are not left behind during this crucial time and to prepare them for the upcoming O-Level and A-level examinations.

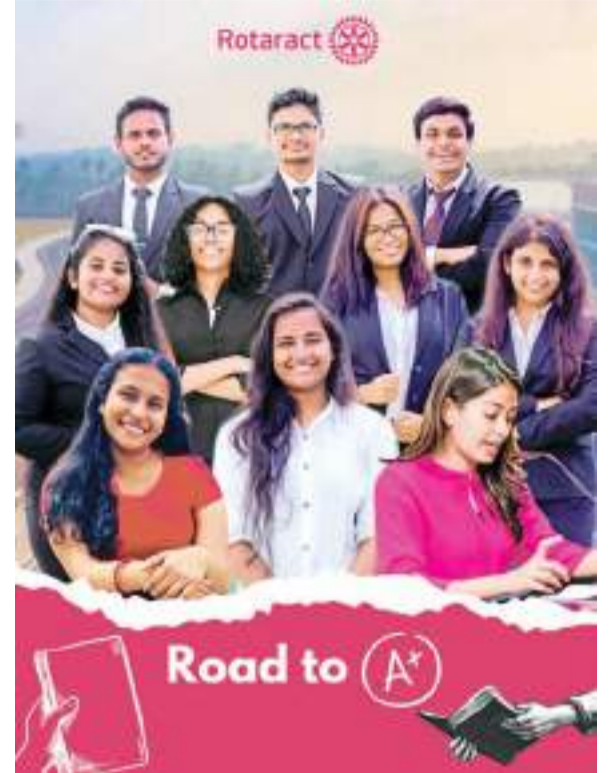
In line with the current situation, the Professional Development Avenue of the Rotaract Club of NSBM decided to further support the digital education of the school students without any additional costs to students. Therefore we took the initiative to start the project "Road to A+". This project was the brainchild of the two professional development directors, Rtr. Senuri Silva and Rtr. Supuli Gunawardane who have been vocal in serving opportunities to develop professional skills of both school students and undergraduates alike.

The sole aim of this project is to provide a sustainable platform on our YouTube channel for the students of grades of 9,10 and 11, where students can access additional study materials in the form of

detailed videos explaining each topic under each subject taught mainly by fellow undergraduates at National School of Business Management (NSBM) with the support from other Rotaractors. The prevailing uncertainty of reopening schools and tuition classes has left students with limited resources and time to do their revisions. The Rotaract Club of NSBM decided to take a step ahead to help the students to revise their knowledge on the previous lessons that they may have forgotten and prepare them for the new lessons to further solidify a better understanding of subject content.

The videos can be freely accessed by anyone with or without an account on YouTube at Rotaract Club of NSBM. However, it should be duly noted that these materials are not taught by trained professionals but rather by a set of passionate undergraduates and Rotaractors who know the daily struggles of a school student. These materials are not meant to act as a subsidy for the lessons taught by professionals but rather provides an additional support to all students who are pursuing their academics in these difficult times.

Currently, the project is an umbrella to several



The "Road to A+ "Team

grades and subjects such as: Grade 9 – Science, Maths and English, Grade 10 – Maths, Science and English and Grade 11 – English and Maths. Currently, all of the aforementioned subjects are conducted in English medium and in accordance with the national syllabus prescribed by the Educational Publications Department. However, we do hope to

expand our offerings to Sinhala medium and many more subjects in the near future.

Rotaract Club of NSBM is the oldest Club within NSBM Green University Town being charted in 2013 with the objective of grooming youth with potential into future leaders through service to the society and self.



Committee member of the Rotaract Club of NSBM

## ComBank joins Mother Sri Lanka to promote responsible citizenship

The Commercial Bank of Ceylon has announced a partnership with Mother Sri Lanka (MSL) a non-profit organisation to fund 'Project RUN' which is the only programme in the country that promotes the concept of being a 'Responsible Citizen' among school children.

The Bank's funding will go towards a competition launched island-wide to encourage students to design projects that help uplift life and enrich communities across the country. The scope includes selecting the best projects of three all-Island winners and nine provincial winners. They will be announced at an awards ceremony to be held in April 2022.

Around 75,000 students from 1,500 schools are expected to participate in Project RUN which is named after the acronyms of three components: Responsible citizenship, Unity, and National Pride.

Launched to promote responsible citizenship and citizen engagement, MSL Project RUN has already implemented 1,400 projects and is a tried and tested programme which has been sustained for over eight years with the approval of the Ministry of Education. Commercial Bank's CSR Trust is supporting the 2021-22 edition of the programme, also known as RUN Stage IV.

Commenting on Commercial Bank's latest commitment to the community,



Commercial Bank Chairman Justice K. Sripavan and Chairperson of Mother Sri Lanka Dr. Janaki Kuruppu exchange the agreement in the presence of Mother Sri Lanka Executive Committee member Devaka Wickramasuriya, Director Riaz Saban, Executive Committee member Air Chief Marshal Gagan Bulathsinghala and Director Thushantha Karunanayake; Commercial Bank's Managing Director S. Renganathan, Deputy General Manager Marketing Hasrath Munasinghe and Project Coordinator CSR Trust Mahesh Rathnayake

the Bank's Managing Director S. Renganathan said: "Commercial Bank is no stranger to empowering school children through its CSR initiatives that promote IT literacy and mastery of the STEM subjects on a national scale. With this partnership, we are privileged to support an effort to mould young minds to be more socially-conscious so that they grow up to be well-rounded citizens that contribute to the community both through their skills and a sense of national responsibility."

The Chairperson of Mother Sri Lanka, Dr Janaki Kuruppu said, "As citizens of this country, we must acknowledge that we have a long way to go in developing the concept of Responsible Citizenship.

How many times have we noticed someone abusing the free health system or the free education system in our country, or in much simpler terms, noticed with sadness how someone is misusing a public toilet, a government office, or a public transport facility

with callous disregard to the facility or public funds."

Mother Sri Lanka (MSL) is a non-profit organisation which brings together the collaborative efforts of the public, private, and non-profit sectors focusing primarily on the educational, socio-economic, and cultural development of Sri Lankans.

In the sphere of corporate social responsibility, Commercial Bank's largest contribution is towards IT education in Sri Lanka.

## 'Jayagamu Sri Lanka' by NDB continues support to SMEs

NDB's 'Jayagamu Sri Lanka' initiative lends support to Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (SMEs), emerging exporters, aspiring entrepreneurs and enthusiastic innovators of Sri Lanka.

The initiative offers an extensive range of financial and non-financial services to local businesses to develop commercial activity and boost trade whilst uplifting the local economy.

Since commencement, NDB 'Jayagamu Sri Lanka' has garnered great appreciation and has been well accepted by business communities, entrepreneurs, exporters and innovators as the platform resonates its vision and delivers its promise to encourage emerging entrepreneurs and build financial empowerment in the country. As we know, Sri Lanka's economic reinforcement greatly



relies on the exporters, investors and inventors who are pivotal to restart economic activity with new opportunities created by the global supply chain disruption. NDB's novel 'Jayagamu Sri Lanka' supports such

entrepreneurs and businesses to capture those available opportunities and progressively build the Sri Lankan economy.

NDB's 'Jayagamu Sri Lanka' provides with financial assistance for Sri Lankan

exporters in the form of working capital finance for funding requirements along with facilities such as pre and post-export finance and other trade-related facilities (bank guarantee, letters of credit revolving STLs and FOREX facilities) Capital Expenditure financing is also offered with concessional lending rates, funding based on higher LTV on immovable/movable security, funding on acceptable personal guarantees or SLECIC Guarantee, a 25% waiver on all bank charges, approval within 7 working days and obtaining of buyer ratings through NDB Bank from internationally recognized organizations as well as free 1st shipment with Cargo Insurance cover up to \$30,000 (with conditions applied).

For non-financial assistance, the plan offers businesses with

advisory services such as assistance in finding export markets through Export Development Board (EDB), Sri Lanka Export Credit Insurance Corporation (SLECIC), Chamber of Commerce, Daraz and Code 360.com and trade desk to facilitate exporters. NDB will also assist in facilitating links between prospective clients and local trades to obtain services at discounted prices.

As a leading bank offering innovative and inspiring financial solutions to all its customers, NDB Jayagamu Sri Lanka is a timely solution that meets and exceeds the needs of its customers and the local economy.

NDB Bank named the "Bank of the Year Sri Lanka 2020" by the Banker Magazine UK is the 4th largest listed bank in Sri Lanka and the parent company of the NDB Group.

## Sampath Bank partners John Keells Properties

### TRI-ZEN on Home Financing Solutions

Sampath Bank PLC entered into a strategic alliance with TRI-ZEN, a premium smart living project being developed in Union Place, Colombo by John Keells Properties in partnership with Indra Traders that shares the Bank's penchant for innovation.

Building on its longstanding relationship with the John Keells Group and Indra Traders, Sampath Bank seeks to partner with this pathbreaking project and offer prospective TRI-ZEN buyers tailor-made home financing solutions.

Sampath Bank Managing Director Nanda Fernando, Nayana Mawilmada, Sector Head, John Keells Properties; Rushanka Silva, Deputy Chairman, Sampath Bank and Chairman, Braybrooke Residential Towers, Indra Silva, Chairman, Indra Traders and Director, Braybrooke Residential Towers Shashi Kandambijassim, Senior Deputy General Manager Corporate Credit and Corporate Digitalization, Sampath Bank, Deepal de Silva, Deputy General Manager Branch Banking, Sampath Bank, Nadeem Shums, Head of Sales, John Keells Properties; Roshanie Jayasundara Moraes, Chief Marketing Officer, John Keells Properties; and Ravi Wijewantha, Chief Financial Officer, John Keells Properties took part in the signing of the agreement in this regard at the John Keells Properties Head Office premises together with other senior representatives from the three companies.

The 53-storey TRI-ZEN development includes 891 one, two, and three-bedroom smart living spaces

that seamlessly blend modern technology with contemporary living, starting from Rs. 26 million. The enviable address includes state-of-the-art entertainment facilities as well as a suite of other value-added services and modern amenities to offer an unparalleled smart living experience to homeowners. The property's futuristic concept, central location and world class amenities coupled with the legacy of its developers, make TRI-ZEN a great choice for those looking to buy their dream home in Colombo as well as investors seeking premium real estate.

Commenting on this partnership, Nanda Fernando, Managing Director, Sampath Bank said, "At Sampath Bank, we have always been committed to offering innovative financial solutions, best suited to our customers' individual requirements to help them achieve their life and financial goals. In line with this, we are delighted to join hands with John Keells Properties and Indra Traders on TRI-ZEN – a project that shares our passion for innovation."

Shashi Kandambijassim, Senior Deputy General Manager – Corporate Credit and Corporate Digitalization, Sampath Bank added, "Our partnership with the TRI-ZEN project builds on our longstanding relationship with the John Keells Group and Indra Traders. Integrating modern technology and several valued added elements into its contemporary design, the property is sure to appeal to prospective buyers, for both investment and residential purposes."



Nanda Fernando, Managing Director, Sampath Bank handing over the agreement to Nayana Mawilmada, Sector Head, John Keells Properties, Deepal de Silva, Deputy General Manager Branch Banking, Sampath Bank, Shashi Kandambijassim, Senior Deputy General Manager Corporate Credit and Corporate Digitalization, Sampath Bank, Rushanka Silva, Deputy Chairman, Sampath Bank and Chairman, Braybrooke Residential Towers, Indra Silva, Chairman, Indra Traders and Director, Braybrooke Residential Towers Nadeem Shums, Head of Sales, John Keells Properties; Roshanie Jayasundara Moraes, Chief Marketing Officer, John Keells Properties; and Ravi Wijewantha, Chief Financial Officer, John Keells Properties

## Jeewa premier Colombo Presents Study Canada Open Day 2021



With over 18 years of experience, Jeewa Education stands out as the pioneer international Educational consultancy in Sri Lanka. Throughout the years they have managed to offer genuine students the opportunity to obtain an internationally recognized quality education in Australia. Jeewa Education managed to stand out from the crowd by not only establishing branches in Panadura, Kandy, Battaramulla and Colombo. But providing array of free value added services for Sri Lankan students

Jeewa Education has recently expanded its Education consultancy services to other countries, such as Canada, United Kingdom, New Zealand, Malaysia, & Vietnam. Thus, in order to offer a wider range of opportunities to students wishing to pursue their higher education in Canada, Jeewa Education plans to host Study Canada - Open Day for the first time on 13th February 2021.

Following are some excerpts from an interview held with Mr Ishq Ismail, Branch manager, Jeewa Premier Colombo regarding this Study Canada Open Day. We understand that Jeewa Education has expanded its Educational Consultancy services to Canada.

### Why do you think our students choose Canada as a study destination?

Canada is a safe, multicultural & welcoming country to study & live & it is consistently ranked as one of the best countries in the world and students will receive an internationally recognized education from some of the top educators and academics in the world. Students experience will be one that will shape their life & it may lead to a career and a future in Canada, or better career prospects at back in Sri Lanka. At the very least, it will give our students the access to experience the beautifully landscaped & environmentally friendly students atmosphere that will change their strategic thinking patterns for the future.

### What is the purpose of this Study Canada - Open Day?

As we all know most of the international borders are closed for Sri Lankan students in various countries including Australia & New Zealand due to Covid 19 Pandemic & international students were given the opportunity to study online from their home countries but studying online will not meet the students expectation in getting the international education experience. As parents, not only would you want your children to pursue a qualification that would be the stepping-stone for a rewarding career but they want their children to get the international exposure in being living in another country independently.

Since, the borders are open for international students to travel and study in Canada, Jeewa Premier Colombo office has decided to organize Study Canada open day along with Country representatives of top ranked Institutes in Canada to provide admission and visa guidance to eligible Undergraduate & Postgraduate students in Sri Lanka.

Therefore they would be able to gain more information about the different courses offered by the universities & institutes in Toronto, Vancouver & Manitoba and clear any doubts they may have about study Canada. Furthermore, many students who attend this Open Day are still unsure about the courses they should follow, Our Counselors can explain about global career opportunities & help them to choose their future educational and career paths. Therefore, We strongly advise our students to bring their Educational certificates along with them to assess their eligibility to Study in Canada.

It's important to remind them to wear a face mask & maintain the Social distancing during the event.



### How can one get more information about this Open day ?

Any parents or students wishing to obtain more information about this Canada Open day can feel free to contact us. Furthermore, if students wish to obtain a priority service at this event they should consider registering through the link mentioned below.

Tel : 0775993979,  
Web: [www.jeewapremier.lk](http://www.jeewapremier.lk)



## Iran committed to taking bilateral ties to new heights

Message by Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran H.E. Hashem Ashjazadeh

*In the Name of God, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful*

On the auspicious occasion of the 42nd anniversary of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, I wish to extend my warm greetings to my fellow Iranians and the people of Sri Lanka.

February 11th marks the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran led by the late Imam Khomeini in 1979. A revolution which was attained through enormous self - sacrifices by the Iranian people seeking independence, freedom and justice.

The independence and self - sufficiency achieved after the Islamic Revolution has paved the way for major breakthroughs in scientific and industrial areas. Developments in Nano technology, pharmaceuticals, defense industries, stem cells, auto industry, agriculture, peaceful nuclear energy and many more are among the achievements Iran has made by relying on its indigenous scientists.

In terms of regional and international development indices, Iran has also gained considerable rankings. Standing fourth in cement production, being fourth in the world in stem cell research and first in the region for production of biotechnology, ranking as the 10th largest producer of petrochemicals, producing 90 percent of the country's pharmaceutical needs, being world's largest producer of handmade carpet and having a high science and technology growth rate are all achieved during the past four decades.

From the beginning of the Islamic revolution, Iran has always been a victim of terrorism. The very last year one of

Iranian commanders in fight with terrorism and a couple of months ago a prominent scientist were martyred by terrorist states. This has put Iran on the forefront of fighting terrorism in the region and in particular with fundamentalist groups and religious extremists such as ISIS in the Middle East.

However, the menace of terrorism doesn't recognize borders and has been spread globally affecting many countries including Sri Lanka. The Easter attacks which killed many innocent people was one of the latest terrorist acts carried out by such groups. Therefore, an international determination and cooperation to combat terrorism in all forms and manifestations is required for a peaceful world.

This year we are commemorating the Iranian National Day at a time the world is still challenging the Covid - 19 pandemic which shocked the whole world and left millions of victims. While the world was trying to contain the deadly virus, Iran had to struggle to survive the pandemic and toughest sanctions at the same time which prevented the access of Iranian people to the required medications and equipment to fight the disease.

Historically, the relations between Iran and Sri Lanka have always been a friendly one and recently have gained momentum under the auspices of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Sri Lankan government.

Iran remains one of the largest export markets for Sri Lankan goods mainly tea, rubber and other agricultural crops. However; the current trade exchange



volume between Iran and Sri Lanka is not as much as expected and much needs to be done to boost this trend.

Energy, tourism, agriculture, pharmaceuticals, medical equipment and services, food stuff, fisheries and infrastructure projects are the sectors with the most potentials to work on. Uma Oya Multipurpose Development Project which is scheduled to be completed in the coming months adding 120 MW power to Sri Lanka national grid is an instance of a successful infrastructure project carried out by an Iranian contractor abroad.

Finally I take this opportunity to convey my warmest greetings to His Excellency President, government and friendly people of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

We look forward to taking our ties to new heights in years to come.

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Sealed Tenders are invited from authorized Suppliers under the approval of Health Ministry and Sri Lanka Standard Institute (SLS) for **Supply of Bottled Drinking Water** for Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation.  
The terms and conditions and other details are obtainable from the Asst. Director (Procurement) of the Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation, Independence Square, Colombo 07, Sri Lanka on submission of a written request to him **on or before 03.03.2021**.  
A non-refundable Tender Fee of **Rs. 2,000.00 (Rupees Two Thousand)** is payable to the Chief Accountant of the Corporation to issue a set of Tender Documents. Tender Documents could be collected from the Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation during office days (Monday to Friday, except Mercantile Holidays) from 9.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. **on or before 03.03.2021**. Tender Documents may be inspected free of charge at the Office of the Asst. Director (Procurement) of Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation.  
Tenders duly perfected should reach Chairman, Procurement Committee, Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation, Independence Square, Colombo 07 **at or before 3.00 p.m. on 04.03.2021**. Tenders will be opened immediately **after 3.00 p.m. on 04.03.2021** in the presence of Tenderers or their authorized representatives.  
**Chairman, Procurement Committee, Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation Independence Square, Colombo 07.**  
(SLRC Web Site : <http://www.rupavahini.lk>)

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# Introduction of the South Asian Journal of Tourism and Hospitality:

## A timely requirement

Professor **ATHULA GNANAPALA AND**  
Professor **MALCOLM COOPER**  
Co-Editors-in-Chief  
South Asian Journal of Tourism and  
Hospitality Sabaragamuwa University of  
Sri Lanka

The Faculty of Management Studies of Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka recently launched its maiden journal on tourism and hospitality namely 'South Asian Journal of Tourism and Hospitality' (SAJTH).

It is a peer-reviewed bi-annual journal with open-access, issued in January and July, was introduced in collaboration with leading academics in Tourism and Hospitality across the world.

This inaugural issue of SAJTH propagates new tourism and hospitality knowledge through eight research papers and a book review that critically explore contemporary issues in both in and out of the South Asian context. In the first article, the development of the wildlife tourism resources at the

Beijing Wildlife Park (BWP) is investigated with the aim of determining the way forward for sustainable development of the BWP by using the case study approach through collecting data from the online comments on two Chinese travel apps.

The second paper explores the ways in which mass tourism has utilized cultural heritage as a salient asset for development. It argues that there are numerous ways in which ordinary heritage could be better researched in South Asia, how it might be used as a tourism resource, and as a tool for community empowerment.

The third paper reports on a study of visitor demand for Human-Elephant Conflict mitigation strategies such as visitor willingness to pay a conservation tax at park level that could be used for implementing HEC mitigation measures to conserve elephants in the wild.

A discrete choice experiment

(DCE) was conducted at three national parks in Sri Lanka presenting different options for mitigating HEC. The influence of experiential marketing on destination loyalty through the mediating effect of tourists' satisfaction and destination image in the tourists' cultural destinations in Sri Lanka is the fourth paper. It discloses that experiential marketing has a significant positive effect on destination loyalty only with the mediating effect of destination image and satisfaction.

The fifth paper titled "Can the Western Tourist Gaze be deconstructed through Buddhist Ontology" with the philosophical insights advanced by the Kyoto School of Thought, articulates that the western gaze in the discovery of the outer world can become meaningless. Hence, the western tourist gaze that sought pleasure or leisure or even newness would be futile as it leads to avidya, the manifestation of the ego. The paper concludes

that 'the union of the seer and the seen' gets deconstructed when the individual deeply realizes the fundamental nothingness that creates the above subjective-objective illusion (avidya?) - the foundation of the western tourist gaze.

The sixth paper focuses on the moderating role of personal initiative in projecting employee creativity through transformational leadership in five-star hotels in Sri Lanka. It discusses the fact that a significant moderating role of the personal initiative was found in the association between transformational leadership and employee creativity from surveying 312 employees and their immediate supervisors.

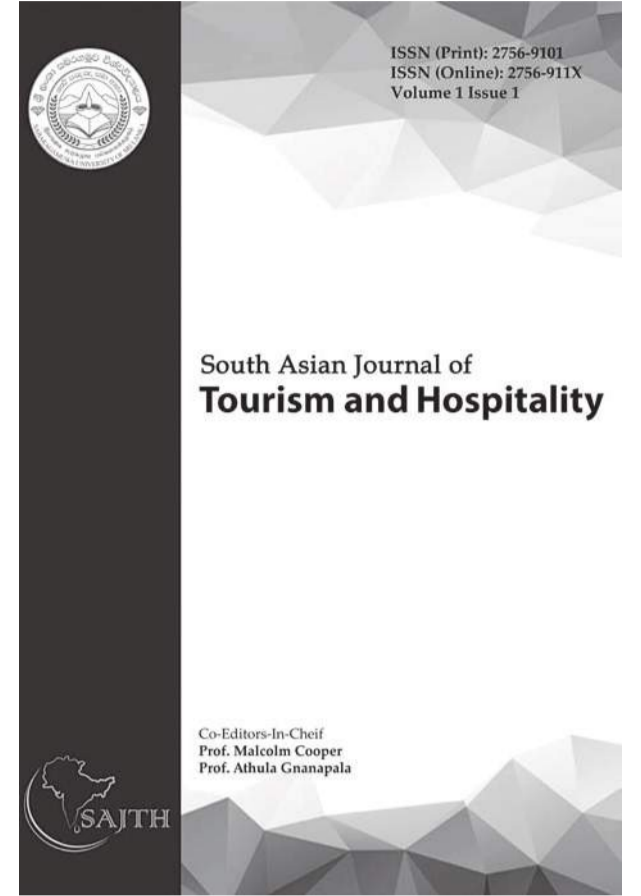
Whether and to what extent, branding and trademark regimes can be used in a business context to extract value from tourism-related products and services in Sri Lanka is discussed in the seventh paper, following a systematic literature review. The focus of the eighth paper is to understand how people used their cooking mishaps during the movement control order

period due to the Covid-19 pandemic to seek emotional support and a sense of belonging to an online food community. Three major sharing motivations, namely, social and relational, emotional articulation and information sharing, are derived through content analysis of reports.

Finally, the book "Tourism, Hospitality and Digital Transformation," edited by K. Tajeddini, V. Ratten, and T. Merkle (Routledge; 1st Edition, 2019) is reviewed comprehensively and critically.

Future issues of the Journal will provide a platform for academic dialog in publishing interdisciplinary research in the intersection of tourism, hospitality, environmental management, business management, economics, and community. We will accept research that is conducted through qualitative, quantitative, or mixed methods approaches.

SAJTH features a peer-reviewed format that ensures enhanced visibility and global exposure. The journal can be easily accessed through:



## MillenniumIT ESP, STEMUp partnership strengthened

MillenniumIT ESP one of Sri Lanka's leading IT Solutions provider partnered with STEMUp, a not-for-profit organization, last year as an industry advisor.

The objective of this partnership was to inspire and engage local students to become interested and opt to pursue degrees and careers in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields in order to support STEMUp's newest mission of democratizing the knowledge and technology access of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to every student in the island.

The partnership has proven to create a great impact in the country and has led to the integration that was envisaged by MillenniumIT ESP. It has managed to encourage and drive student involvement and participation, thereby creating a new generation of technologically sound young individuals.

This venture has acted to enhance access to knowledge, expertise and information that will transform lives and drive local students to reach new potentials, making ground making discoveries and advancements that will benefit society in leaps and bounds.

"Our partnership with STEMUp was primarily one of the ways by which we could contribute towards the development of Sri Lanka



Infotel Exhibition 2019 Stall (Public In-Person Activity)

and the country's future generations. We are passionately driven towards enabling them to be ready for the revolving and evolving dynamics of tomorrow and thus be future-ready," commented MillenniumIT ESP's Director/Chief Executive Officer Shevan Goonetilleke.

"We are seeing enterprises all around the world rapidly adapting to emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning to conduct business through innovation and efficiency. Therefore, preparing our younger generations to adapt and embrace such knowledge is a need of the hour and we believe we have been able to successfully contribute towards this development through our partnership with STEMUp," he further added.

The sudden emergence and unexpected rise of the pandemic did not deter the

journey nor restrict progress. Over 15 online sessions were conducted as a part of a webinar series for the "Machine Learning for Kids" program.

Backed by decades of experience and expertise in technology, innovation, adaptation and transformation, MillenniumIT ESP has identified that Sri Lanka still struggles to be on par with global technology adaptation trends.

"The STEMUp Educational Platform is not just a platform to learn STEM skills. It is also a great platform to showcase your talents to the rest of the world whilst sharpening your leadership, team working and networking skills - abilities that you cannot master in any traditional university or college set up," stated Yasiru Geevinda, a Software Engineer Intern at MillenniumIT ESP's Emerging Technologies Team.

The STEMUp Educational Foundation supports the view that STEM literacy is a foundation skill that will be beneficial for all careers and will help to build critical thinking abilities, creativity and collaboration skills. Commenting on the success of the partnership, Indika Dalugama, Director, STEMUp Educational Foundation said, "The STEMUP Educational Foundation is always trying to introduce emerging technologies into the national education system.

MillenniumIT ESP is one of Sri Lanka's leading information system solution providers delivering IT solutions across various industries; including banking and finance, telecommunications, apparel and manufacturing, healthcare, construction, transportation, agriculture, government, public sector and leading conglomerates.

## 'Caltex Havoline Thegi Engima Season 2' launched

Chevron Lubricants Lanka PLC, has launched the second phase of the 'Caltex Havoline Thegi Engima' mega promotion from February to April, to reward their valuable consumers. Despite the economic adversities during this time, Caltex has decided to spearhead this promotion to appreciate their loyal consumers.

The 'Caltex Havoline Thegi Engima Season 2' consumer promotion will seek to reward all consumers who purchase Havoline motorcycle oil products. By purchasing the oils, consumers will not only be helping to protect their engines - the most valued component in the vehicle - but will also be guaranteeing themselves a prize.

Consumers who purchase Havoline super 4T SAE20W40, Havoline Super 4T SAE20W50, Havoline Super 4T SAE10W30 or Havoline Supermatic SAE10W30, which are specially designed for scooters, will automati-



cally be eligible to participate in the promotion. All purchases of 4T oil promotional packs will be rewarded with guaranteed instant mobile reloads covering all mobile networks in the country.

The promotion will be run island-

wide, rewarding a total of Rs. 15 million worth of reloads during the 2-month period. With simple mechanics, the promotion will guarantee a win for every consumer. Consumers simply need to SMS the code given on the scratch card that will be on the promotional packs. In addition to the mobile reloads.

Winners will be announced weekly on the Caltex Sri Lanka Facebook Page.

Commenting on the commencement of the promotion, Muhammad Najam Shamsuddin, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Chevron Lubricants Lanka PLC said, "We know that it has been a tough time for all our consumers."

Chevron Lubricants Lanka, a part of Chevron Global which is among the top 5 companies in the energy sector, is one of the pre-eminent marketers of lubricant in Sri Lanka

## AMW delivers fully reconditioned Yamaha two-wheelers

Associated Motorways Pvt Ltd (AMW), the authorized agent for Yamaha Motor Co. Ltd, Japan (YMC) in Sri Lanka since 1981, once again gives two-wheeler riders the opportunity to own a world-class machine, with professional care and exceptional value for money.

This groundbreaking venture by Yamaha includes the re-purchase of any Yamaha motorcycle/scooter, complete reconditioning of the machine so it rides as good as new and then making it available to riders at an unbeatable price.

This latest addition to AMW - Yamaha portfolio will be a permanent feature and is aimed at giving riders a holistic service, with plenty of value additions that will make riding a Yamaha motorcycle/scooter even more of a pleasure.

Elaborating on this new venture, Yohann De Zoysa, Director Passenger Vehicles - AMW, had this to say, "Creating a true biking culture around the iconic Yamaha brand has always been at the very heart of what we do.

This new project is a long-term venture that is designed to give motorbike riders a superior experience whether on or off the road."

With a network of over 200 dedicated, trained, professional service centers and dealers located island-wide Yamaha is uniquely positioned to offer a level of personalized service, with professional expertise backed by years of experience. What's more, riders are guaranteed a level of quality and care they won't find anywhere else, with only the use of original spare parts and the very latest technology. All reconditioned two-wheelers come with a 3-month or 3000 KM warranty and all pricing will be transparent, with no broker's fees or additional charges.

Zahran Ziyawudeen, Deputy General Manager - Yamaha, AMW commented, "We have always been the first choice for riders who demand the very best, whether it's the motorbike they ride, aftersales service or superior value for money. This latest venture makes reconditioned Yamaha two-wheelers accessible island-wide at an unbeatable cost with the complete assurance and backing of AMW"

Yamaha will also be partnering with several online plat-



Zahran Ziyawudeen, Deputy General Manager Yamaha, AMW and Yohann De Zoysa, Director Passenger Vehicles AMW at the launch of 'Yamaha Certified'

forms in the near future to make this innovative venture accessible to anyone, anywhere on the island.

This will also give users more information about their motorcycles/scooters, with the aim of increasing transparency, so comparing prices, options, and making a purchase becomes so much easier for the customer.

## MBSL offers leasing package for 'DOST' trucks

Merchant Bank of Sri Lanka and Finance PLC joins hands with Lanka Ashok Leyland PLC to offer a special leasing package for 'DOST' Trucks.

This Partnership is focused to provide assistance for small and medium scale entrepreneurs who had experienced setbacks in their businesses due to COVID-19 pandemic.

The special leasing package will be provided to purchase Lanka Ashok Leyland 'DOST' Trucks enhanced with Euro IV technology.

The potential customers will receive special benefits through this leasing facility from MBSL such as free vehicle registration, insurance and lowest monthly installment amounts proportionate to their income. Leasing service-

es will be provided with a minimum amount of paperwork within one day.

Sharing his ideas on MBSL Lanka Ashok Leyland partnership, the Acting CEO of MBSL, Jude Gamalath said, "There has been a considerable collapse in the SME owing to the COVID 19 Pandemic. So, it is imperative that small and medium scale enterprises which substantially assist the country's economy to be reinforced in order to strengthen the national economy.

However, with the government strategy to rebuild businesses MBSL; as a responsible financial institution dedicated to assist the development of national economy took the initiative to build the partnership with Lanka Ashok Leyland by launching this leas-

ing facility". MBSL which was established in year 1982 became a public company registered in the Colombo Stock Exchange in year 1991.

Contemporarily it has become a pioneering financial institution in the field of investments and corporate financial services sector in Sri Lanka which rewards its customers with excellent leasing facilities, credit facilities for SMEs (Small and Medium Size Enterprises), credit facilities for commercial entities, corporate advisory services, stock market related services, fixed deposit, savings accounts, children's savings accounts, property sales and also gold loan services; with outstanding proficiency.



Country Manager Dell Technologies, Sri Lanka and the Maldives, Chrishan Fernando, Director Operations, Singer Sri Lanka PLC, Jagath Perera and Chairman of E-City, Wasantha Dinuwan at the Dell Concept store opening

## E-City launches Dell Concept Store in Sri Lanka

E-City, a leading tech solutions provider recently launched the first-ever Dell Concept Store at Unity Plaza, Bambalapatiya, showcasing Dell's total consumer product range.

E-City partnered with Dell Technologies, a global leader in computer technology to launch this exclusive showroom for Dell consumer products.

Established as a dedicated showroom to provide a refined experience, the new concept store enables the customers to

explore Dell's range of consumer products, avail a true self-shopping experience, compare product prices and choose their dream products from a grand variety.

Dell Technologies is at the forefront of technology and is a global market leader for PCs/laptops and computer accessories. Dell Technologies pioneers digital transformation around the world and an exclusive Dell concept store unfolds Dell's latest tech solutions including PCs, Laptops

and other computer accessories to every Sri Lankan.

Commenting during the launch, Chairman of E-City, Wasantha Dinuwan said "E-City is a one stop shop to get hands on experience on the best range of Dell products. Ever since we started operations back in 2013, we built a strong relationship with Dell, fulfilling the technology needs of our customers island wide. Our team at the Dell concept store is committed to provide the best possible customer service and

make the customer's visit a truly memorable one."

Country Manager Dell Technologies, Sri Lanka and Maldives, Chrishan Fernando stated, "Dell brand is closer to the hearts of many Sri Lankans as we have been operating within the Sri Lankan market for a longer period."

Sharing his thoughts on the new concept store, Head of Distribution, Client and Enterprise Dell Technologies, Sri Lanka and Maldives, Aabid Aslam said,

"Our aim is to strengthen customer experience through one on one brand engagement by building awareness on Dell products and benefits. The new concept store was launched to achieve this objective and it will indeed serve as a multi-purpose store offering superior services."

E-City is renowned for its superior aftersales services. The newly opened Dell Concept Store will cater to all the repair needs of Dell consumers with full transparency and care.



# Latin America battles oxygen shortage in COVID fight

**URUGUAY:** As a second, deadly wave of COVID-19 batters Latin America, images have emerged from country after country of desperate people lining up for days to buy oxygen to ease the suffering of infected loved ones fighting for breath.

As demand soars, prices have skyrocketed and families have had to scrape together their last cents to pay for supplies of the essential gas.

On January 14 alone, a researcher estimates more than 100 people died of asphyxiation at hospitals in Brazil's northern Amazonas state.

One of them, according to his widow, was Henrique Marques, 52, who ran out of breath in a hospital in Manaus.

According to the World Health Organization, about one in five people with COVID-19 requires oxygen therapy to relieve respiratory distress.

With more than 19 million recorded infections to date – likely an undercount,

according to experts – this means almost four million people in Latin America have required oxygen therapy since the outbreak began.

Public health NGO PATH, which compiles a "COVID-19 Oxygen Needs Tracker", says more than half of hospitals in low- and middle-income countries – a category that includes most of Latin America – have an inconsistent supply of medical oxygen, or lack it entirely.

On a world map produced by PATH to show daily oxygen need, Brazil is marked with a large, bright orange dot indicating demand for some 327,000 cylinders, followed by Mexico with 89,700 cylinders, Colombia with 76,700, Argentina 56,200 and Peru 36,700. Latin America's death toll of more than 610,000 is second only to that of Europe, with about 762,000.

Brazil and Mexico account for more than half of the region's deaths, with

228,000 and 162,000 respectively, and rank second and third in terms of mortality worldwide.

Peru is proportionally the hardest hit with 125 deaths per 100,000 of its population of 33 million.

Amazonas state and its capital, Manaus, were particularly assailed by the second wave this year, quickly running out of hospital beds, oxygen and burial space.

By mid-January, daily demand for oxygen in Amazonas was about 76,000 cubic meters (around 20 million US fluid gallons) and supply at a mere 28,200 cubic meters.

In Lima, July Blanco and her brother Juan Carlos were among hundreds to have lined up for days at a time, sleeping outdoors, to obtain an oxygen refill for their ailing father.

They waited patiently with others outside the Criogas factory, famed for keeping its prices stable while other

producers hiked theirs by as much as 300 percent. The price for a 10 cubic-meter tank varies widely in Peru – between \$330 and \$690 – while a cubic meter of oxygen sells for anything between \$5 and \$13.

In Mexico, the authorities say they have not detected any shortage or hoarding of oxygen. However, there has been a 700-percent increase in demand between December 20 and January 20, and a shortage of cylinders.

On the Mexican black market, consumers say they are paying 45,000 pesos (\$2,230) for a 9,500-liter tank and 32,000 pesos for a 6,000-liter tank – triple the normal price.

In impoverished Nicaragua, the price for a tank of oxygen could be as high as \$1,000 or \$1,500, according to Roger Pasquier, president of the Nicaraguan Anesthesiology Association.

- AFP



A woman in Brazil sits beside two oxygen cylinders. According to the World Health Organisation, about one in five people with COVID-19 requires oxygen therapy to relieve respiratory distress. - AFP



European Commission chief Ursula von der Leyen

# Vaccine production must catch up to science - EU chief

**BELGIUM:** Europe's race to manufacture COVID-19 vaccines must accelerate to catch up to scientific breakthroughs and outpace emerging variants, European Commission chief Ursula von der Leyen said on Wednesday.

"We underestimated the difficulty related to mass production. Normally, it takes five to 10 years to produce a new vaccine. We did it in 10 months. This is a huge scientific success, and we should be rightly proud – but in a way, science has outstripped industry," she told the European Parliament.

In her first public admission to Europeans – outside of some select media interviews – von der Leyen said her Commission had made missteps in procuring vaccines on behalf all EU countries.

But she defended the overall strategy. "We were late to authorise. We were too optimistic when it came to massive production. And perhaps we were too confident that what we ordered would actually be delivered on time," she said.

But to have allowed Europe's wealthiest countries to grab vaccines for themselves

and leave others in the cold "would have been, I think, the end of our community," she said.

There were lessons to be learnt, von der Leyen said, and her Commission would do so. They included getting more data shared between clinics in EU countries, improving regulations to allow the European Medicines Agency to move faster in authorising vaccines, and especially to clear industrial bottlenecks to vaccine production.

"Industry must adapt to the pace of science," she said, noting that vaccines can contain as many as 400 ingredients and manufacturing involve as many as 100 companies.

A vaccine production task force under internal market commissioner Thierry Breton was charged with that mission, she said.

"We're dealing with completely new mRNA vaccines never manufactured at scale before. One of the current bottlenecks is, for example, linked to synthetic molecules... we need more coordination on the supply of key ingredients." Von der Leyen warned that European scientists do not yet

know if the vaccines will be effective against new mutant strains of the virus that are emerging.

"But we do know these variants will continue to emerge. And we do know that we need to anticipate and prepare immediately," she warned.

She also said deeply regretted an aborted bid by the Commission last month to try to restrict vaccines being transported into Britain's territory of Northern Ireland as part of a bitter row with Anglo-Swedish pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca, which has failed to deliver vaccine doses it promised to the EU. But she stressed that "in the end, we got it right" and a hastily set-up EU vaccine export control scheme would not "restrict companies that are honouring their contracts with the European Union" and vaccines to most of the bloc's neighbours would be unhindered.

The Commission, she emphasised, "will do its utmost to protect the peace of Northern Ireland, just as it has done throughout the entire Brexit process".

- AFP

# Pet pooches play more when humans are watching

**US:** Pet dogs are far more likely to play with one another when their owner is present and being attentive, according to a new study, raising the intriguing possibility that they are putting on a show for our benefit.

That our canine companions are keenly attuned to the level of interest humans are showing them is well established, Lindsay Mehrkam, an animal behaviorist and lead author of the paper that appeared in *Animal Cognition*, told AFP Tuesday.

"But we weren't aware of any research that has really shown the effect of a human audience impacting species typical behavior, in this case dog-dog play," Mehrkam oversaw an experiment involving 10 pairs of pet dogs that had lived together for at least six months.

The duos ordinarily engaged in play at least once a day, according to their owners.

The researchers videotaped the dog pairs under three conditions: where the owner was absent, where the owner was present but ignoring them, and where the owner was present and showing them with attention in the form of verbal praise and petting.

To ensure the experiment was robust, they ran each of the conditions three times over the course of several days.

"We found overall that the availability of owner attention did in fact facilitate play," said Mehrkam, with human attention increasing both the frequency and intensity of behaviors like bowing,

hip nudges, wrestling, chasing, gentle bites and so on.

"It's really quite striking that dogs who have the chance to play with each other whenever they want to, nonetheless are much more likely to get up off their butts and start playing when a person is just paying attention to them," said co-author Clive Wynne of Arizona State University.

The researchers offered several ideas for what might be driving the effect.

One possibility is that an owner's attention might be a reward dogs are seeking, like young children pleading with their parents to watch them as they show off what they can do.

The dogs might have also learned that playing among themselves leads to bigger prizes, such as the owner joining in the fun, or taking them outside.

Or, their owner might provide the dogs a sense of safety, because although animals use play to strengthen bonds, it can sometimes turn tense and lead to aggression. Having a person around is insurance against a fight.

Their human's presence could also be a trigger that enriches the general environment, perhaps causing a rush of the love hormone oxytocin, which leads to a more positive emotional state that in turn manifests as play.

"It's one of those types of studies that leads to a lot more questions than answers," said Mehrkam, adding she was working on untangling the various threads in ongoing experiments. - AFP



A dog watches a TV show which specially caters to pet pooches. - AFP

# COVID CUPID shoots down Thailand Valentine's Day marriages

**THAILAND:** Lovers across Bangkok will be heartbroken come Valentine's Day, with city officials declaring Wednesday that all of the Thai capital's 50 districts will be banned from issuing marriage licenses.

The holiday, immensely popular across the kingdom, is also typically considered an auspicious day for couples to tie the knot resulting in large queues at marriage registration offices across the city.

The most popular district is Bang Rak which translates as "district of love" in Thai.

But the hopes of eager-to-wed couples have been dashed.



Valentine's Day is typically considered an auspicious day for couples to tie the knot in Thailand.

"Bangkok's 50 district offices will refrain from providing marriage license registration service on this Valentine's Day," Thailand's Public Relations Department said on Twitter.

"The cancellation aims to prevent the spread of #Covid19." The announcement also said Chinese New Year festival, which usually involves a raucous parade in Bangkok's Chinatown, will not go on.

Last year, Bang Rak district had scores of couples dressed in matching outfits or formal wear lining up before dawn to register for licenses, helped by pink-shirted civil servants wearing "love" headbands.

Little fanfare has been made among the city's malls and businesses compared to previous years, though that hasn't stopped some restaurants for punting out Valentine's Day-themed meal offerings.

Burger King Thailand has debuted "Black and Pink burgers" for Valentine's Day, featuring a pink salmon patty with rose-colored buns.

- AFP

# Maori MP refuses to wear tie rejecting 'colonial noose'

**NEW ZEALAND:** New Zealand's Parliament backed down Wednesday after ejecting a Maori lawmaker because he refused to wear a tie, allowing him to speak without an accessory he labelled a "colonial noose".

The issue flared on Tuesday when Maori Party co-leader Rawiri Waititi was ejected from the parliamentary debating chamber for not wearing the required attire during question time.

Waititi, who has a full-face "te moko" tattoo and dons a black cowboy hat, argued that he was wearing legitimate Maori business attire – a traditional pendant.

"This is not about ties, it's about cultural identity," he said as he left.

Indigenous Maori make up about 15 percent of New Zealand's five million population but are over-represented in statistics such as poverty



Maori Party co-leader Rawiri Waititi was ejected from the New Zealand Parliamentary Debating Chamber for not wearing a tie during question time.

and imprisonment, with many blaming injustices dating back to the days of British colonial rule.

Waititi said the tie row showed race relations still needed to improve in the South Pacific nation.

"This is a breach of the rights of indigenous peoples, we (must) have the freedom to express our cultural identity in a space like this," he said.

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said she had no objection to lawmakers not wearing ties but added "there are much more important issues for all of us".

After strictly enforcing the dress code on Tuesday, parliamentary speaker Trevor Mallard took a more relaxed approach when a tie-less Waititi spoke on Wednesday.

Rather than have the Maori leader ejected, Mallard simply let him ask a question unhindered, later saying a permanent rule change was being considered.

- AFP

GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA  
MINISTRY OF HIGHWAYS  
ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

## INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

The Chairman, Directors procurement committee, on behalf of the Road Development Authority invites Sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the following project.

Contract No.	Project Name	Province	Engineer's Estimate (Excl. Contingencies) / (Rs) (Mn)	Eligibility Grade In Bridge Speciality	Bid Security (Rs.)	Contract Period (Days)
RDA/MM/WP/GOSL (WB)/2021/12	Reconstruction of culvert No: 7/1 (single cell box) on Dehiwala - Maharagama Road	Western	17.84	C6 above	267,650.00	180

- The work consists of construction of single cell box of (4.0m x 2.0m) providing overall width of 13.0 m with 1.5 m wide foot walk on both sides.
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure. Since the Total Cost Estimate of this procurement is below Rs. 50 Mn, Regional Preference and CIDA grade preference shall be apply as stipulated in Public finance Circular No: 04/2016 (II) and 5% preference will be given to state owned Enterprises at the financial evaluation as Public finance circular No: 03/2020 (i).
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall be currently registered with the Bridge speciality Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA) as given in the above table.
- Interested bidders can be downloaded at the web site of Road Development Authority (<http://www.rda.gov.lk/source/bids-ads.htm>) from **12.02.2021** to **05.03.2021** at **15.00 hrs.** by the interested bidders.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from the following offices.
  - Director (MM),  
Road Development Authority,  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor, 'Maganeguma Mahamedura',  
No. 216, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla.  
Tel: 011 - 2882196 Fax: 011 - 2882195
  - Provincial Director (Western Province),  
Road Development Authority, Colombo.  
Tel: 011 - 2863916 Fax: 011 - 2887623
- The Pre - Bid meeting will be arranged on **25.02.2021** at **10.00 a.m.** at the Provincial Director's Office, Road Development Authority, Colombo. As per the public contract act No. 03 of 1987, the **bidders of the tender shall be registered in the Department of registration of Companies.**
- Bid shall be accompanied by Bid Security for an amount given in the above table. Bid security shall be valid up to **19.06.2021.**
- The interested bidders should obtain a pay order of **Rs. 3,780.00 (valid for 90 days)** for non - refundable tender fee drawn in favour of the "Director General, Road Development Authority" and submit with the Bidding Documents. The Bidding Document without the pay order will not be accepted.
- Bid, with original pay order, shall be delivered in duplicate to the Chairman, Director's procurement committee, Maintenance Management Division, Road Development Authority 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, 'Maganeguma Mahamedura', No. 216, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla on or before **10.00 hrs. on 06.03.2021.** Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing. Online method will be exercised for the Bid opening. Zoom meeting link will be informed later.

**Chairman,  
Director's Procurement Committee  
Maintenance Management Division,  
Road Development Authority  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor, 'Maganeguma Mahamedura',  
Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla.**

## EXTENSION OF THE PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DEADLINE

### FOR THE SUPPLY, INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING OF MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (MIS) FOR CEB PROVIDENT FUND

RFP NO: CEB/AFM(TM)/PF/2021

This has reference to the Paper Advertisement published on January 21, 2021 for the Request for the Proposal (RFP) for the Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Management Information System (MIS) for Ceylon Electricity Board Provident Fund.

The Proposal Submission Deadline stipulated in the said advertisement has been extended to **10.00 hrs on February 22, 2021.**

Accordingly, prospective Project Proponents are supposed to submit their proposals at or before 10.00 hrs on February 22, 2021.

For all your clarifications, please contact the Deputy Finance Manager (Provident Fund), 2nd Floor, Ceylon Electricity Board, No. 50, Sir Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mawatha, Colombo 00200.

Telephone : 011- 232 1419, Facsimile : 011 -242 1613,  
E-Mail : [dfmpfhq.fm@ceb.lk](mailto:dfmpfhq.fm@ceb.lk)

Additional Finance Manager (Treasury Management)  
2nd Floor, Ceylon Electricity Board  
No. 50, Sir Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mawatha  
Colombo 00200.



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State Ministry of Rural Housing and Construction & Building Materials Industries Promotion

STATE ENGINEERING CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA

### INVITATION FOR BIDS

Bid for Supply, Fabrication and Fixing of Aluminium Pantry Cupboards for Construction of Millennium Wards, PCU & Paramedical Services Building (Balance Work) at Colombo South Teaching Hospital - Kalubowila.

Bid Identification No.: C&P/P/2292/2021/005

- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee on behalf of the State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka invites Sealed Bids from eligible and qualified bidders for **Supply, Fabrication and Fixing of Aluminium Pantry Cupboards for Construction of Millennium Wards, PCU & Paramedical Services Building (Balance Work) at Colombo South Teaching Hospital - Kalubowila.** The estimated cost of this procurement is around Rs. 6 Million (Excluding VAT) and the construction period is 45 days.
- Bidding will be conducted through **National Competitive Bidding (NCB)** Procedure.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall be a reputed local company having experience in Performing at least **one (01)** contract of a value, nature & complexity equivalent for the proposed work during last five **(05)** years in Sri Lanka.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from **Chief Engineer (Contracts & Planning), Contract & Planning Division (5th Floor), State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka, 130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha, Colombo 02** and inspect the bidding documents at the same address on any working day from **09.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs** and contact numbers are 011-2451151, 011-2430061-5.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English Language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the **Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka, 130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha, Colombo 02** from 11.02.2021 until 24.02.2021 on any working day from **09.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs** upon payment of the tender fee (non-refundable) **Rs. 2,000.00** to the **Cashier, Accounts Division at 7th Floor, State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka, 130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha, Colombo 02.**
- Bids will be delivered to the **Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka, Ground Floor, Head Office Building, 130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha, Colombo 02** at or before **14.00 hrs on 25.02.2021.** Contract name should be marked at the top left hand corner of the cover. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives who wish to attend.
- Bids shall be accompanied by a bid security for an amount of **Sri Lanka Rupees Sixty Thousand (Rs. 60,000.00)** in any form as specified in the bidding document. Bid Security should be valid up to **10.06.2021.**

Chairman,  
Department Procurement Committee,  
State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka,  
130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha,  
Colombo 02.  
11.02.2021



State Ministry of Rural Housing and Construction & Building Materials Industries Promotion  
**STATE ENGINEERING CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA**



**INVITATION FOR BIDS**

1. The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee (DPC) on behalf of the State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka now invites two separate sealed Bids from the Bidders for the Works as described below.

No.	Name & identification No. of Bid	CIDA Registration	Construction Period	Location	Non-refundable Bid Fee (Rs.)	Bid Security Amount (Rs.)	Bid Security Validity Date
1.	Bid for Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning & Maintenance of Air-Conditioning & Ventilation System for the Proposed Multi Purpose Auditorium (Air Cooled Package Unit) - Design & Construction of Building Complex for National Institute of Social Development (NISD) (C&P/C/2301/2020/061)	EM3 (Mechanical Ventilation and Air-Conditioning) or above	45 Days	Negombo Road, NISD Work Site	3,000.00	150,000.00	24.06.2021
2.	Bid for Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning & Maintenance of Split Type Air-conditioning System (Inverter type) at Wing A for Design and Construction of Building Complex for National Institute of Social Development (NISD) at Seeduwa (C&P/C/2301/2020/090)	-	30 Days	Negombo Road, NISD Work Site	2,000.00	70,000.00	10.06.2021

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure & interested Bidders may quote any or both bids separately.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful Bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall be a reputed local company having experience in supply, installation, testing, commissioning and maintenance of Air-Conditioning Works as per bidding document.
- Interested Bidders may obtain further information from **Chief Engineer (Contracts & Planning), Contracts & Planning Division, 5th Floor, State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka, 130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha, Colombo 02** and inspect the Bidding Documents at the same address on any working day from **09.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs** and contact numbers are **011-2451151, 011-2430061-5**.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English Language may be purchased by interested Bidders on submission of a written application to the State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka, 130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha, Colombo 02 from 11.02.2021 until 24.02.2021 on any working day from 09.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs upon payment of a tender fee (non-refundable) given as above to the **Cashier, Accounts Division at 7th Floor, State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka, 130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha, Colombo 02**.
- Bids will be delivered to the address below at **Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka, Ground Floor, Head Office Building, 130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha, Colombo 02** at or before **14.00 hrs** on 25.02.2021. Contract name should be marked at the top left-hand corner of the Bid. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives who wish to attend.
- Both bids shall be accompanied by a separate Bid Security for the amount given above. Bid Security shall be in any form as per the Bid Document and should be valid up to the date as per above.
- A Pre Bid Meeting is scheduled to be held at **6th Floor, Head Office Building, State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka, 130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha, Colombo 02** on **18.02.2021 at 10.00 hrs & 11.00 hrs** for Bid No. 1 & No. 2 respectively.

**Chairman  
 Department Procurement Committee  
 State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka,  
 130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha,  
 Colombo 02.**

11.02.2021

**Classifieds**

**Business**

**Urgent requirement** for Tea Maker in Hawaii Restuarant (Salary Rs. 45000/-) for inquiries: 0773658648. 009661

**201 Business Opportunities**

**General**

**320**

**Need Directors/** partners for a company/business. High payments of 10% - 15% is paid and you can get daily/weekly/monthly. 0775590415. 010233

**426 Educational Vocational**

**Employment**

**Learn to drive** accurately and perfectly within the city without fear. Most welcome inexperienced driving licence holders. 0762905252, 0714225441. 009329

**320 Positions Vacant**  
Hotel & Bakery

**Urgent recruitment** to the following categories of Hawaii Restaurant. \* Rice & Curry Cooks - Rs. 90,000/-, \* Kitchen Helpers - Rs. 40,000/-, \* Juice & Fruit Salad Makers - Rs. 50,000/-, Counter Helpers - Rs. 40,000/-, Kottu & Rotty Makers - Rs. 65,000/- - 70,000/-, \* Cleaning Staffs - Rs. 40,000/- . Company will be providing food & lodging as well as 04 days off per month. Please kindly call for interviews - 0773658648. 009659

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.



Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Services, Animal Husbandry, Irrigation, Fisheries, Water Supply & Environment Northern Province



**INVITATION FOR BIDS**

**Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)**

- The Chairman, Procurement Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture – Northern Province, No. 655, Navalar Road, Jaffna now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the **works** described in the below:
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted by the Ministry of Finance or any other acceptable Institutions. And Domestic Contractors shall have been registered in the field of **Building Construction** for grade mentioned in the table below with the Institute for Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA).
- Qualification requirements are indicated in Section 4 of the Bidding document. Additional details are provided in the Section 5 (Schedule) of the bidding document.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from **Chairman, Procurement Committee/ Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture – Northern Province, No. 655, Navalar Road, Jaffna (Tel.No.021-221-7305, Fax.021-221-7304)** on any working day from **09.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs from 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021 till 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021**.
- 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 from **11<sup>th</sup> February 2021 till 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 from 09.00 hrs to 15 hrs, on working days** upon payment of a non-refundable fee made as given in the table. The method of payment should be by cash.
- Bids shall be delivered in duplicate directly or sent by Registered Post to the address below at **or before 14.00 hrs on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- Bids must be accompanied by a bid security as per the information given in the table.
- Pre-bid meeting will be held on **25<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 14.00 hrs** in the Ministry of Agriculture – Northern Province, No. 655, Navalar Road, Jaffna. Interested bidders may attend the meeting at their own expense.

No.	Contract No.	Description of Work	Estimated Cost Rs (Mn) without VAT	Contract Period	Required Grade	Security Amount (Rs)	Bid Security Validity Period	Bid Validity Period	Non Refundable Fee
<b>Building Works</b>									
1.	NP/31/02/F04/CSR - 01/2021	Construction of Ayurveda dispensary at Pallai	9.424	180 Days	C7 & C6	150,000.00	16.06.2021	19.05.2021	2,000.00

**Chairman,  
 Procurement Committee,  
 Ministry of Agriculture,  
 Northern Province.**  
 11.02.2021

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**University College of Matara  
 Procurement Notice**

1. Chairman, Department Procurement Committee (Minor), University College of Matara invites eligible bidders to bid for the tasks given below:

Bid Number	Description	Refundable Bid Security Deposit (Rs.)
UCM/ADM/PU/2/1-2021	Providing Janitorial Services for University College of Matara - 2021	50,000.00
UCM/ADM/PU/2/2-2021	Providing Security Services for University College of Matara - 2021	50,000.00

- Bidding will be done in accordance with the provisions of National Competitive Bidding Procedure (NCB).
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Assistant Registrar of the University College of Matara on working days of the week from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. Contact Numbers : 041-2222963/041-2222967.
- A complete set of Bidding documents would be purchased on submission of a written request to the Director/ Chief Executive Officer from 11.02.2021 until 03.03.2021 on normal working days between 9:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m. upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 2,000/= in cash for each service separately.
- Name of the procurement service should be clearly written on the left-hand side top corner of the envelope and the bids should be sent to address; **Director/ Chief Executive Officer, University College of Matara, No. 690, Tangalle Road, Meddawatta, Matara** through registered post or can be put in to the tender box which is placed in the Administrative Office of the University College of Matara. Bidding will be closed on 04th March 2021 at 2.00 p.m.
- Each service is considered as a separate bid and applicants can bid for any number of procurements. However, such bids should be submitted as separate bids.
- Bids will be opened soon after the closing of bids. For the opening of bids, the bidder or a representative of the bidder (with an authority delegating letter) can participate.
- Bidder should submit a Bid Bond by a Bank Guarantee in favor of **Director/ Chief Executive Officer, University College of Matara**, obtained from a licensed commercial bank certified by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, along with bidding document as per the values given in the above table.
- Chairman, Department Procurement Committee (Minor), University College of Matara reserves the right to accept or reject any bid at any time.

**Chairman, Department Procurement Committee (Minor),  
 University College of Matara,  
 No. 690, Tangalle Road, Meddawatta, Matara.**

**Tel : 041-2222963/041-2222967  
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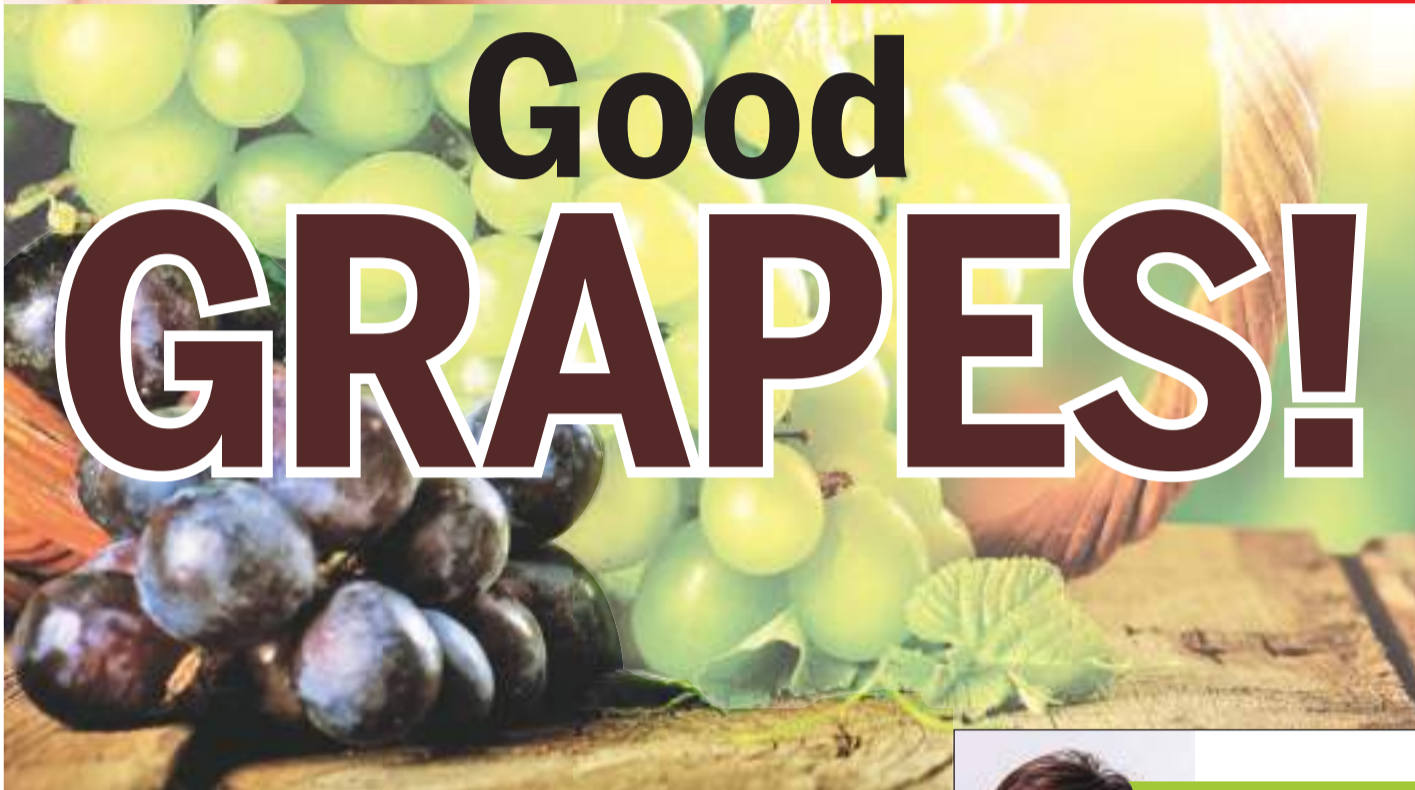
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# Town & Country

To re-kindle the passions of town & country folk

FEATURES EDITOR : (011) 242 9216 Fax : (011) 234 3694 E mail : features@tdc.com

TOWN & COUNTRY TOWN & COUNTRY



# Good GRAPES!

From being used in dishing out sinful desserts and refreshing fruit bowls to being renowned as the primary ingredient in the wine making process, it is not without reason that grapes are known as the queen of fruits. Classified under the family of berries, grapes come in different varieties as well as colours: green, red, blue, purple and black. While majority of the production of grapes in the world are used by the wine making industry, the remaining lot is consumed as fruits and a small portion is used in making dried fruits and beauty products.

### NUTRITIONAL INGREDIENTS

A half-cup serving of grapes contains:  
**Calories:** 52  
**Protein:** 1 gram  
**Fat:** 0 grams  
**Carbohydrates:** 14 grams  
**Fiber:** 1 gram  
**Sugar:** 12 grams

### MAINTAINING BEAUTY

Grapes are the ultimate ingredient that is known to have the best of benefits on the health, hair, and skin. Consuming grapes or applying the tropically means you will surely get the best-desired solution for a particular problem. You just have to be sure of the way to consume grape, to receive the maximum benefit from it.



### BEAUTY BENEFITS

**\* Loaded with antioxidants for healthy, glowing skin**  
 Grapes are known to improve skin elasticity

and improve blood circulation, which keeps skin looking healthy and young.  
**\* Prevents signs of aging and other skin problems**

The antioxidants present in grapes help reduce the appearance of dark spots, wrinkles, and other signs of aging.

### \* Provides UV protection

Grapes make a great home remedy for sunburns. They contain powerful antioxidants that protect against harmful ultraviolet radiation, and some studies support the use of grapes or grape derivatives in sun protection products. (Do be aware though that they do not replace sunscreen!)

### \* Acts as an exfoliant

Grape seed oil is rich in Vitamin E, which helps skin retain moisture and also acts as a mild exfoliant. The tonic properties of this oil works to remove the top layer of dead skin cells, keeping skin smooth and supple.

### \* Helps lighten scars

The combination of Vitamin E and Vitamin C in grapes can help reduce the appearance of scars and increase blood circulation to the skin and scalp.

### \* Promotes hair growth and improves volume

The linoleic acid present in grapes and grape seed oil is known to strengthen hair follicles and improve hair growth.

### \* Prevents hair loss

Grapes can be extremely beneficial when it comes to combating hair loss. Their seeds contain antioxidants that help stimulate blood flow and encourage hair growth.

### \* Boosts shine in dry, brittle hair

Sun exposure and other environmental factors can leave hair feeling dry and brittle. Grape seed oil can help restore shine by locking in moisture to prevent frizz, split ends, and breakage.

### \* Fights dandruff

Grape seed oil is full of emollients and nutrients that can help treat dandruff and other conditions caused by a dry, flaky scalp.

Important to note: grape seed oil is most effective on fighting dandruff caused by a dry scalp. It cannot cure dandruff caused by skin conditions like eczema, psoriasis, dermatitis, or fungal irritation.

### \* Brightens eyes

Healthy eyesight and bright, sparkling eyes require many of the vitamins



and nutrients found in grapes. Grapes also contain the antioxidant lutein, which helps fight against cataracts and degenerative diseases.

### HEALTH BENEFITS

#### \* Packed with essential vitamins and nutrients

Grapes are high in several important vitamins and nutrients, including Vitamin C (a powerful antioxidant) and Vitamin K (vital for blood clotting and healthy bones). The nutrients in grapes may help protect against a host of health conditions, including eye problems, some forms of cancer, and cardiovascular disease.

#### \* Boosts brain function

Eating grapes may improve memory, attention, and mood. One study found that 250 mg of a grape supplement per day significantly improved cognitive test scores - measuring attention, memory and language - compared to baseline values. Grapes also contain resveratrol, a chemical that, according to some studies, may help protect against Alzheimer's disease.

#### \* Beneficial for heart health

There are two main reasons why eating grapes is good for the heart: May help lower blood pressure - Grapes are high in potassium, which is necessary for maintaining healthy blood pressure levels. Low intake of potassium has been linked to several health problems, including increased risk of high blood pressure, heart disease, and stroke.

May help reduce cholesterol - Grapes are loaded with phytochemicals that help regulate cholesterol levels in the body, which thereby aids in lowering the risk of heart attacks and other cardiovascular diseases.

#### \* Relieves constipation

Grapes are a key source of dietary fiber and other powerful nutrients that can help relieve chronic constipation. As a natural laxative, grapes are dense in both water and fiber - the main nutrients required to treat and eliminate constipation.

#### \* Helps with diabetes management

Grapes are high in sugar, which may make them seem like an unlikely choice for diabetes regulation, but they also have a low glycemic index (a measure of how quickly a food raises blood sugar).

#### \* May offer cell protective properties

Found in grapes, the powerful compound resveratrol has been shown to protect cells and support cancer prevention and treatment that may have beneficial effects against various types of cancer, including colon cancer and breast cancer.

#### \* Prevents loss of vision and protects against eye disease

Grapes also contain the antioxidants lutein and zeaxanthin, which some studies have found help protect the eyes from blue light damage.

#### \* Helps fight bacterial and viral infections

Several of the compounds found in grapes have been shown to help fight bacterial and viral infections. According to this study, grape skin extract may be helpful in protecting against the flu virus.

### SELECTING GRAPES AS A PART OF A BEAUTY TREATMENT

Always look for grapes that are fresh and plump and fairly firm to the touch.

### BEAUTY TREATMENTS

Different treatments from hair to skin and health benefits include grapes. Remedies are included in the box along with this article.

### SIDE EFFECTS

Grape is likely safe when consumed in amounts commonly found in foods. Grape is possibly safe when taken by mouth in medicinal amounts.

Grape seed extracts have been used safely in studies for up to 14 weeks. Eating large quantities of grapes, dried grapes, raisins, or sultanas might cause diarrhea. Some people have allergic reactions to grapes and grape products. Some other potential side effects include stomach upset, indigestion, nausea, vomiting, cough, dry mouth, sore throat, infections, headache, and muscular problems.

### GROWING GRAPES FOR BEAUTY TREATMENTS

It is always best to buy your grapes as growing grapes in certain climates can be difficult.

- COMPILED BY RUWINI JAYAWARDANA

### Grape home remedies

- Remove pigmentation and even out the skin tone: Polyphenols present in the grapes even out the skin texture and add a natural glow to the skin. You can use grape juice for this purpose. Apply the juice and leave it on for half an hour, before washing it off with cold water. Do apply a hydrating cream or moisturiser after the process.

- **Make your skin soft and smooth:** Imagine having baby-soft skin all the time! Grape seed oil is rich in vitamin E which improves your skin quality. Just gently scrub your skin with the mixture and wash it off with water after half an hour.

- **Lighten your skin tone:** Not just scars, grapes can lighten your skin tone as well. For those looking forward to getting back their naturally glowing skin, black grapes can do wonders. Take the pulp of black grapes and mix one tablespoon of rose water and Fuller's earth in it. Apply it on your skin and leave it on for 15 minutes before rinsing it off with lukewarm water.

- **Get rid of oily skin:** Apart from removing impurities, a grape face wash has enough nutrients to keep your skin moisturised all day long. Just mix one tablespoon of grape juice, lemon juice and mint juice each. Apply it on your face and leave it for 15 minutes then wash it off with cold water. Follow it up with a spritz of rose water.

- **Remove acne and blackheads:** For blackheads, apply grape pulp on the affected areas, keep it for 15 to 20 minutes and wash it off. For other acne problems, mix sugarcane and chamomile juice with grape pulp. Apply it to your face for 15 minutes, and then wash it off. Repeat the process at least once every week for best results.

- **Reduce dark circles:** Feeling like a raccoon lately? Grapes got your back! Apply some grape seed oil before you go to bed every night. Apart from dark circles, it will also help you sleep better.



## Benefits of moringa leaf powder on skin

SAANVI SHARMA

Here you get top 3 moringa powder benefits for the skin. Let's have a look into them.

### Anti Ageing:

Anti-ageing is one of the important benefits of moringa leaf powder on the skin. Moringa powder helps in skin rejuvenation and also it plays a major role in anti-aging. Everyday consumption of moringa powder slows down the ageing process and reduces wrinkles. This organic moringa powder is believed to reduce blemishes and wrinkles which will, in turn, make you look younger.

### How to apply:

- The moringa powder can be used as a face mask for anti-aging prevention.
- Mix a tablespoon of moringa powder, a tablespoon of honey, and a few drops of lemon.
- Apply it on a face and leave it for 10-20 minutes.
- Wash off with lukewarm water.

### Makes Your Skin Glow:

Moringa powder benefits the skin by making your skin glow. The regular application of moringa powder reduces wrinkles and slows down the aging process. It also helps in making your skin glow with regular application of the homemade pack.

### How to apply:

- The moringa powder can be used as a face mask for natural skin glow.
- Mix a tablespoon of moringa powder, a tablespoon of honey, a tablespoon turmeric powder and a few drops of lemon.
- Apply it on a face and leave it for 10-20 minutes.
- Wash off with lukewarm water and clean with a soft towel.

### Heals wounds

Moringa powder has healing powers and it helps to heal open cuts and acne on the face. The moringa powder helps in forming new cells which will help you in the healing process and this also reduces the scar depth.

### How to apply:

- The moringa powder can be used as a face mask for an acne healing process.
- Mix a tablespoon of moringa powder, a tablespoon of gram dal powder, and a few drops of honey.
- Apply it on a face and leave it for 10-20 minutes.
- Wash off with lukewarm water and clean with a soft towel.

### Moringa Powder Benefits For Hair:

Here you get top 3 moringa powder benefits for hair. Let's have a look into them.

### Stimulates Hair Growth:

Moringa powder helps in hair growth and helps in increasing the thickness and shininess. Moringa powder helps in re-growth of hair and it also develops density in the hair thickness. This powder can be used as a pack, oil or even the extract from this can be used for hair rejuvenation.

### How to apply:

- Mix the moringa powder with lukewarm water and make a paste.
- Apply this paste on your hair and leave it for 10-20 minutes and wash it off with cold water.



- This will make it shinier and soft and also helps re-growth of hair.

### Aids In Keratin Formation:

Moringa helps in keratin formation by boosting the cells and the rich protein content in the moringa powder helps in keratin formation and also helps in thickening the hair. The moringa powder can be applied directly or the oil extract can be used regularly for hair growth.

### How to apply:

- Mix moringa powder with coconut oil and bring to boil.
- Let it cool down and strain the mixture and store it in a cool place.
- Apply this oil regularly on the scalp and hair for denser growth and also for natural shininess.



# Art Gallery



**IN OUR ART CLASS**

Suseema Jamil, Grade 8, Ilma International Girls School, Colombo



**LEAF PATTERN**

Manoji Senanayake, Grade 6, Swarna Jayanthi Mahavidyalaya, Kegalle



**WINNIE-THE-POOH**

Liyoni Saunders, Grade 9, Asian International School, Colombo 5

# My dog

My pet is a dog. Its name is Micky. It is very beautiful. It has very bright eyes.

Its ears are small. Its body is covered with soft fur. My pet is brown and white. It likes to play with me. When I give Micky a small ball it plays with it.

My pet likes to sleep during the day time. It mostly likes spending time outside our

home. At night my pet goes out.

My mother says that it goes out to see the stars in the sky.

In my leisure time I play with it. It is very enjoyable. My pet can see in the dark.

My pet likes to drink milk.

I love my pet and it also loves me.

Tharindi Silva, Grade 6, Green Bridge International College, Colombo



# Flowers

Flowers make the environment very attractive. We use flowers for so many activities, such as to offer flowers for Lord Buddha. To cure patients we use flowers as medicines. When we are tired we can look at flowers to be happy.

People like to grow flowers in their gardens and make their gardens attractive. Because of the attractive flowers, foreigners love our country. We can grow many flowers to make the world gorgeous.

Supipi Ranasinghe, Grade 5, Hillwood College, Kandy



# My Lokuamma

My Lokuamma is my mother's elder sister. Her name is Shanthi de Silva. She works at the Central Bank, City Branch.

My Lokuamma is very kind and good. She loves little children. She buys me clothes and books. She helps me in my studies. She took me and my cousins to see 'Water World'. She buys me sweets and toys.

My Lokuamma likes to eat rice and curry and she likes to drink tea. When she has a little free time she watches TV. I love my Lokuamma.

Mihiri de Silva, Grade 4, Visakha Vidyalaya, Colombo

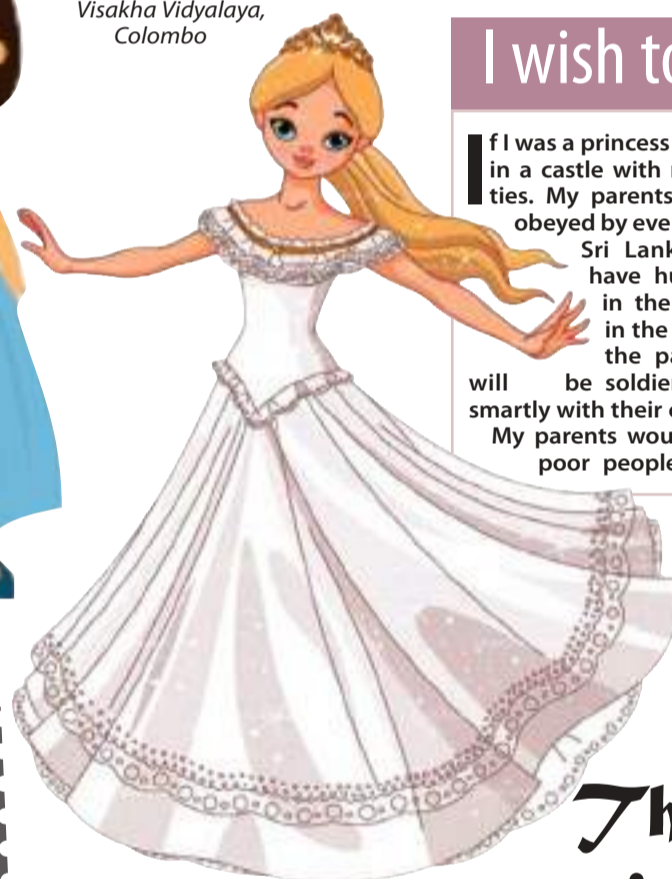


# I wish to become a princess

If I was a princess I would live in a castle with many facilities. My parents should be obeyed by every person in Sri Lanka. We can have huge parties in the castle and in the entrance of the palace there will be soldiers standing smartly with their costumes. My parents would help the poor people and keep

our motherland peaceful. I would travel on carts where a horseman will be riding in front and in the castle there will be many maids who will make delicious meals and keep them on the garden tables. I wish my dream comes true someday.

Amandhi Basnayake, Grade 6, Girls' High School, Kandy



# THOUGHTFUL GIFTS



Text and picture by ASHRAFF A SAMAD

Former First Lady Shiranthi Rajapaksa visited the children of Fathima Welfare Center's school at Colombo 5 and donated gift items to them all to mark the

birthday of Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa a few months ago. The children had a memorable and fun filled day in her company and were overjoyed to receive the presents which would aid them in their educational needs.

# Scholarship champ!



Text and pictures by ILM RIZAN, Addalalichenai Central Corr

Abdul Fais Ahnaf Zahee of Hijra Vidyalaya, Akkaraipattu, brought fame to the Akkaraipattu Educational Zone by scoring 197 marks in the grade five scholarship examinations 2020. He was felicitated by the Akkaraipattu Zonal Education Director and his team.

Akkaraipattu Zonal Education Director A L M Cassim and his team visited Abdul's home along with Akkaraipattu Hijra Vidyalaya Principal M H M Thasim and teacher-in-charge M A Anver. Abdul's parents

and family were proud to receive them in their house.

The winner was awarded with prizes and assured the support of the officers to continue studies. The Deputy Education Directors A G Fasmil, M M Sith Fathima, Assistant Education Director S Amjathkhan, Retired Assistant education Director M A Abuthahir, In-service Advisors (Primary Education) S L Mansoor, M A C M Juhais and A L M Ibrahim, Akkaraipattu Hijra Vidyalaya Principal M H M Thasim, teacher-in-charge M A Anver and Abdul's parents were present for the little ceremony in which he was handed over his prizes.



# DAY and NIGHT

In the day you'll wave goodbye run around and fly a kite. But when the day comes to an end sleep is what you must attend. Climb in your bed and fluff your pillow take one last look out the window.

Ask yourself one more question... Why does the sun go up and down shine and darken every town? Let's not worry about that right now but I know you'll find out. Night to dawn to light to dusk yep that's right nothing wrong.

Achini Randeniya, Grade 9, International School, Colombo



# Think positively!

Life means a mixture of many emotions such as sorrow, happiness, excitement etc. But it is our duty to think positively always and act according to that. We will be able to meet thousands of problems in our life such as failure in exams, family problems, missing somebody who is close to us etc. On such occasions we should have strength to face them bravely. "Yes I can do it, I will do it. I will pass the exam." Such positive

thoughts should inspire in the heart. Parents and teachers should turn children's mind towards positive thoughts by encouraging them. So friends, let's think positively and be encouraged to face problems bravely.

Navodha Senanayake, Grade 8, Bishops College, Colombo



# TOPPING THE LIST



Text and pictures by ILM RIZAN, Addalalichenai Central Corr

Kurinchakerny Girls' Maha Vidyalaya, Kinniya, which is within the Kinniya Educational Zone in the Trincomalee district, had four students who topped grades in the Grade Five Scholarship examination.

Out of the 62 students who sat for the exam, 56 students

have passed. Most of the students have scored high marks at the scholarship exam noted Kurinchakerny Girls' Maha Vidyalaya Principal S T Najeem.

Mohamed Jiffry Jirani Areeba scored the highest with -177 marks. The three other top scorers were Mohamed Arafath Resmath Reethaj - 172, Mohamed Saef Fathima Minha -169 and Rafadeen Fathima Siya -166.





# Designing your dream home

ISHARA JAYAWARDANE

**A**rchWorld speaks to **Principal Architect –KWCA, Council Member- Sri Lanka Institute of Architects, Chartered Architect, Architect Kosala Weerasekara**, on the very basic design processes that culminate in a unique creation.

“When we start a design, if it is a personal house we follow a certain design process. When it comes to residences the primary design generator would be the Client/User. The secondary design generator would be the site. As architects we always analyze the client and take into account their preferences, their tastes, and their way of life. We become so close to them that we can understand what their actual needs are. After that we start designing for them. So when it comes to the site, we have to consider the weather patterns such as wind movement and sun path. So each house is being designed after analyzing the client and the site first. So that’s why each house has its unique character,” explained Weerasekara.

In society there are so many different types of people. There are introverts and there are extroverts. There are those who like large crowds and there are those who prefer surroundings that are more mellow. Night clubs are not everyone’s cup of tea. Some people are pack rats and there are those who are not hoarders. When doing



Architect Kosala Weerasekara

personal housing you meet the same types of people.

### Unique solution

“For me extroverts and introverts are two types of personalities. In architecture everyone we meet is full of different characteristics. So if we analyze the client carefully, it will lead to a unique solution for that person. So for example, a house designed for one introvert will be different from a house designed for another introvert,” said Weerasekara.

We know that in society there are many with a nervous disposition. It is highly common to the point that we all know someone who has a nervous disposition. One has only to go on YouTube and there are plenty of talk shows like Dr. Phil where you encounter many people with a nervous disposition. So when building a personal house, it depends on the client’s situation. Weerasekara points out that as an architect he always tries to design a house that is livable for his client who during the course of their association becomes more of a friend.

There is an interesting story in a book called *Northern Lights* from the Soviet Union. Since olden times many different tribes lived in that region. There is a fairy tale called – *The Burbot and Princess Marya, his wife*. The Burbot wished to marry the Tsar’s daughter

and on the pain of death the Tsar ordered the Burbot to build a house as magnificent as the Tsar’s own in the space of one night! The Burbot accomplished this task! Once more these fairy tales form a plan and plant an idea in the child’s mind! They too want a house as majestic as the house the Burbot made!

### Homely feeling

“So the architects responsibility is to identify the qualities of the user and design an ideal home for the particular client. I don’t believe there is an ideal house for a Sri Lankan. Of course there can be similarities using materials and techniques. But what an Architect needs to do is deliver a unique and ideal house for each client which makes them feel that it is their very own home,” pointed out Weerasekara.

The tale of *The Burbot and Princess Marya, his wife* does not end there. The Tsar orders the Burbot to build a new church in one night, the likes of which have never before been seen in that country! The Burbot accomplishes this and eventually the Burbot marries the Tsar’s daughter. All of this forms a unique idea in the mind of the child that reads the fairy tale!

“In my experience before you build a house you need to know about yourself. Your capabilities and especially your financial capabilities. You need to be honest with yourself and recognize your likes and dislikes. You need to plan for the future. For example what you will be doing in the coming years. If you have kids, you need to think to yourself – ‘what will my kids be doing in the coming years?’. So you need to discuss this with your architect. And I always tell my clients to think in the long term - for example, in the coming 10 years. This is because your capabilities, your thinking, your attitudes can change after 10 years. So always keep provision for

change. I would like to quote Architect Madura Prematilleke who said – *‘Build hope, not ambition - architecture should offer hope to grow, not be heavy with ambition’*.”

### Simplicity and minimalism

Weerasekara added that for him everyone is a unique client. As far as we know there has never quite been a person like you in history. There is no one like you in the present and there will be no one quite like you in the future. That is the challenge he is confronted with. That is why every house an architect designs is unique. Weerasekara respects every client. But what he really tries to do is give them what they need which may be different from what they want. He added that basically he loves all his clients and loves to work with them.

“I do believe in simplicity and minimalism. I think simplicity and minimalism is a must for any building. People do complicated houses when they want to show off. But I think that actually what people need is something simple,” said Weerasekara.

### Long process

He went on to explain that building a house is a long process. What you see as a house is the final product. But for Weerasekara it’s a process from day one, from the moment a client walks in through the door up to the time he/she moves into the house.

“From the inception after a careful analysis of the client, site and functions we make sure the original concept is there throughout the building process. So for me it’s a team work. The Architect will lead the team with the other stakeholders of the project such as the client, the structural engineer, quantity surveyor, contractors and various other personalities. So if the process is right there will be no mistakes. That is my experience. The architect makes sure that he fulfills the client’s requirements – budget, time and quality. For me the process is so important,” said Weerasekara.



**D**esign trends throughout a house will only take you so far. Some of the most foundational parts of sustainable homes come long before we can begin designing the home. Two of the main things that should be considered before we even think about designing a home is the size and the location of the home.

### Choosing the right location for sustainability

There is such a thing as a sustainable location for a home. An eco-friendly home will be located in an area that will have a low impact on the environment, and that won’t be at a high-risk for hazardous. This means we’re trying to avoid places with bad storms, flooding,

and trees that could fall on the house. We don’t want to be building a house twice.

Consider the surrounding infrastructure. If there are already water and sewer hookups available, you won’t need to impact the environment by digging new lines.

Transportation is the last item to consider. If you can build a home in a place that allows you to take public transportation, walk to places you need to go, or ride your bike, this will help reduce your carbon footprint, thus making your home more sustainable.

Smaller houses are more efficient. One of the greatest energy costs and energy uses that homeowners face is heating and cooling. Large houses, no matter how well they’re insulated, will have larger heating and cooling

bills. Building a smaller house will also reduce the number of materials needed to finish the project. Your home builders will be able to complete the project faster with less energy used for the construction. If you’re going to build a sustainable home, then be sure to consider every variable and not just the design trends that you choose to use throughout.

Orientation of your home effects natural light and heat

The passive housing trend has been slowly growing in popularity as a way to reduce energy use and create an eco-friendly home with sustainable design. One of the biggest things that are considered when building a passive house is the home’s orientation. The home’s direction will determine how much sunlight is allowed to enter through windows and come in contact with the home to heat it. In Minnesota, where we build homes, winter can take its toll on our energy bills. But, by facing the home’s orientation in a way that allows the sun to hit it and the sun to come through windows, we can heat the home with sunlight.

By planting trees that grow leaves on the south side of the house, we can ensure that our green building is shaded to some degree during the warmer summer months so that we don’t have to worry about the sun heating the home too much and causing our cooling bill to rise.

### Local materials make a difference

The cost and energy associated with transporting products make them costly and have a huge impact on the environment. If we want to

create a truly green building, then we need to source materials locally. Additionally, when you choose to work with local businesses and use local materials, you’ll be helping your local community and economy.

### Recycled materials offer sustainable home construction

Another eco-friendly practice is recycling. One of the things that has the biggest negative impact on new construction is all of the new materials that are harvested for the project. Choosing recycled building materials instead of new materials offers many benefits. Here’s an example of many recycled building materials you can choose from.

Countertops made from recycled glass or other stone. Recycled steel instead of freshly

mined material. Reclaimed wood – this is one of our favorites because it’s one of the most beautiful and best ways to incorporate sustainable materials in your home. Reclaimed bricks, stones, pavers, and other masonry can all be reclaimed and reused. Reuse soils for landscaping instead of transporting them to other locations. Roof shingles and roof metals can be made from recycled materials. Plastic products can all be made from recycled materials. Drywall can also be made from recycled materials.

Almost all the products we use within our homes can be made from recycled materials instead of new materials. It often costs more for recycled material, but we think the positive impact on the environment is worth the cost.

- sustainable9.com



42ND SUNDAY OBSERVER-MOBITEL SCHOOL CRICKETER OF THE YEAR

# School cricket to resume as season commences in March

DINESH WEERAWANSA

Royal, Trinity, D.S. Senenayake, De Mazonod, Wesley and Gurukula MV have been drawn in division 1 Group 'A' section 'X' in the Inter-school Under-19 limited over tournament to be played from later next month.

The Division 1 Group 'A' section 'Y' will comprise St. Benedict's, St. Joseph's, Mahanama, St. Thomas', Matara, St. Sebastian's and St. Anne's, Kurunegala while section 'Z' of the same group will have Nalanda, S. Thomas', St. Anthony's Katugastota, Prince of Wales, Richmond and Maliyadeva.

The long awaited 2020-2021 Under-19 inter-school cricket season will begin on March 20, after the completion of the postponed GCE Ordinary Level 2020 examination.

However, there will be no two-day tournament this year due to limited time left after the Covid-19 pandemic. Hence, the official 2020-2021 Under-19 tournament will only be confined to a limited-over affair.

Division 1 Group 'B' section 'X' will have St. Peter's, Thurstan, Mahinda, Dharmaraja, St. Aloysius' and Moratu MV while section 'Y' will comprise Ananda, Isipatana, Zahira, Joseph Vaz, Dharmapala and Maris Stella. The section 'Z' of division 1 Group will comprise St. Sylvester's, Dharmasoka, St. Servetius', Devapathiraja, Lumbini and St. Anthony's, Wattala.

Similarly, another 36 school teams will battle in the Division 1 tournament drawn under three groups A, B and C. All in all, there will be 72 teams competing in the Under-19 division 1 and division 11 tournaments.

President of the Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association (SLSCA) Thilak Waththuhewa said they plan to commence the new inter-school Under-19 season after the conclusion of the GCE O/L examination.

"We have already drafted the SLSCA plan to conduct the Under-19 tournament from March 20. We have sent the tournament schedule to the Education



SLSCA president Thilak Waththuhewa

Ministry to get the clearance from the health authorities," said Waththuhewa, the former Nalanda Principal who is now the Principal of Richmond College, Galle.

"Unfortunately, there will not be any two-day tournament matches. Instead, we plan to conduct the one day limited over tournament this time from March 20 to April 30. We plan to conduct the finals and finish the tournaments by April 30," said the SLSCA President.

The one-day limited over tournament will be conducted under two divisions with each team drawn to play five qualifying round league matches.

"There will be 32 teams competing in division one - 16 in tier 'A' and another 16 in tier 'B'. Similarly, there will be another 32 teams in the division two. There again in division two, 16 teams will be in tier 'A' and another 16 in tier 'B'," Waththuhewa said.

He said the teams will get 40 days to complete their matches including the finals by April 30.

"All these 32 teams each in divisions one and two will get five qualifying round matches each. After the qualifying league round, eight teams each will be selected to play in the final rounds from quarter final onwards.

"The maximum number of tournament matches a team has to honour is eight, including the five qualifying round games," the Sri Lanka Schools Cricket chief explained.

The SLSCA President said apart from these tournament matches, schools may play their traditional two-day matches such as big matches, subject to clearance from the health authorities due to the prevailing Covid-19 pandemic threat.

The world's only uninterrupted big match - the Battle of the Blues between Royal and S. Thomas' is likely to be played in Hambantota at the Mahinda Rajapaksa International Cricket Stadium in April. Negotiations are already underway to play the Royal-Thomian without spectators.

But there will be live television coverage of the three-day affair, similar to the recently conducted Sri Lanka Premier League T20. The idea is mooted to maintain the 142-year-old traditions since 1879.

The Mahinda Rajapaksa International Cricket Stadium will be the ninth ground and the first outside Colombo to host the prestigious Royal-Thomian cricket encounter. When the Covid-19 pandemic first hit Sri Lanka badly in mid-March, last year's Battle of the

Blues had just been concluded. Luckily, almost all First X1 matches of the 2019/20 season were completed by then.

With the commencement of the new First X1 under-19 cricket season next month, the 43rd Observer-Mobitel School Cricketer of the Year will also be launched with the most popular contests.

The Observer-Mobitel School Cricketer of the Year contest has been held annually for 41 successive years since 1979, except for the last year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. But the postponed awards ceremony for 2020 will be held next month.

The Observer-Mobitel School Cricketer of the Year is conducted by Sri Lanka's number one English newspaper, the Sunday Observer and sponsored by Sri Lanka Telecom Mobitel.

Thanks to the longstanding association of the Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association (SLSCA), the Sri Lanka Cricket Umpires and Scorers Association and Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC), headed by Shammi Silva, the Observer-Mobitel Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year contest has gone from strength to strength.

With Sri Lanka Telecom Mobitel coming forward to add more power and energy to the Observer School Cricketer of the Year show 13 years ago, the quality of the event has been drastically improved.

In addition to giving away rich cash awards to the schoolboy and schoolgirl cricketers, the coaches and masters in charge who put a lot of effort behind the scene have been rewarded.

The Mega Show's expansion to have a

separate segment for outstation schoolboy cricketers went a long way in inspiring the talented players in far flung areas.

Under the directions of the chairman of Sri Lanka Telecom and SLT Mobitel, Rohan Fernando the Mega Show will march forward with more power and strength.

This is the 14th successive year that SLT Mobitel is sponsoring the show, at a time when the company is heading towards new horizons under the dynamic leadership of SLT and Mobitel, Fernando, the former Thomian ace rower. It has been enjoyable working with Fernando who has a tremendous sporting record, including being the President of the Sri Lanka Sailing Association and ex-Vice President of the National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka.

It is encouraging to see more and more school cricket award shows emerging, following that great initiative of Sri Lanka's flagship English newspaper - the Sunday Observer way back in 1978/79. It was the ANCL which inaugurated the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year contest at a time when there wasn't a single awards ceremony to recognize the talent of schoolboy cricketers.

Neither the school cricket governing body - Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association, nor the national governing body for cricket - Sri Lanka Cricket or then BCCSL, had a program to reward outstanding schoolboy cricketers.

There were no inter-school tournaments for First X1 cricket either. But 42 years ago, the Sunday Observer, as the country's undisputed English newspaper since 1928, realized the need to recognize talent of budding schoolboy cricketers who could step into Sri Lankan teams and become international stars by organizing this show of shows.

This initiative has proved fruitful as the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer show winners have gone on to hit the top as international cricketers.

It was the then Royal College captain

Ranjan Madugalle who was adjudged Observer Schoolboy Cricketer in 1978 and 1979.

That inspired Madugalle to go places, captaining NCC in club cricket, leading Sri Lanka with distinction and currently holding the top post in international cricket as the ICC Chief Match Referee.

Sri Lanka's 1996 World Cup winning captain Arjuna Ranatunga had the honour of winning the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year title twice - in 1980 and 1982.

During the past four decades and more, the Observer Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year contest has gone from strength to strength, producing some of the best Sri Lanka cricketers - Asanka Gurusinha, Roshan Mahanama, Muttiah Muralidaran, Kumara Dharmasena, Marvan Atapattu, Sanath Jayasuriya, Thilan Samaraweera, Dinesh Chandimal, Niroshan Dickwella and Kusal Mendis, to name a few.

All these cricketers have entered the big league after their 'graduation' as Observer-Mobitel Schoolboy Cricketers.

The success and immense popularity of the Observer-Mobitel Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year contest has persuaded some to follow our great initiative and conduct schoolboy cricketer awards shows but none of them would ever be able to emulate the Observer-Mobitel Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year contest which continues to maintain its rich traditions.

We are delighted and honoured to see more school cricket award shows emerging because that eventually meets our initial goal.

We are happy to see others following the Sunday Observer example because it helps the country's budding schoolboy cricketers who would ultimately benefit from all these shows.

Hence, the Mother of all Shows - the Observer-Mobitel Schoolboy Cricketer of the Year contest continues for the 43rd time, breaking new ground and serves as a talent search for tomorrow's cricketing heroes.

## Kavindu's all-round performances steer Kalutara Vidyalyaya

Kavindu Jayashan Jayawickrema, a left hand batsman and a left arm leg-spinner who is a product of Kalutara Vidyalyaya has shown great talent in the schools cricket arena as an all-rounder.

Playing in the under 19 Division Two Inter Schools Cricket Tournament conducted by the Sri Lanka Schools Cricket Association Kavindu scored 685 runs and claimed 82 wickets in 2019/20 season.

Kavindu was born on 12th December, 2000 in Kalutara. He attended Kalutara Vidyalyaya in 2006.

Kavindu started his cricket career at the cricket academy of Kalutara Vidyalyaya under the coaches Nalin Fernando and Sunil Silva in 2010. He represented the school under 13 'B' team under the guidance of Sarathchandra De Silva, principal of the college and Sunil Saluwadana, the cricket coach in 2011. He scored more than 100 runs and claimed 13 wickets in his first year. He was promoted to the under 13 team 'A' in 2012. He scored more than 200 runs and claimed 29 wickets in the 2012 season. He scored more than 300 runs and claimed 38 wickets in 2013. He represented the college under 15 teams in 2014 and 2015 under Rumesh Rana-



Kavindu Jayawickrama

gana, junior coach of the college. He scored more than 150 runs and claimed 19 wickets in the under 15 Division One tournament in 2014. Kavindu scored more than 200 runs and claimed 21 wickets in under 15 Division One tournament in 2015.

He represented the college under 17 team in 2016 and 2017 under Sunil Saluwadana, senior coach of the college and Buddhika Priyashantha assistant coach. He scored more than 150 runs and claimed 14 wickets in the under 17 Division One tournament in 2016. He scored more than 200 runs and claimed 14 wickets in the under 15 Division One tournament in 2017.

Kavindu represented the school under 19 teams as a fresher in 2015/16 season

under the guidance of Rumesh Milroy Silva, senior coach of the school. He scored more than 150 runs with a fifty in five matches. He represented the school team in the big match against Tissa MMV, Kalutara in 2016. He scored more than 200 runs and claimed seven wickets in the under 19 season in 2016/17. In the following season Kavindu performed well with his bowling and claimed 62 wickets with five-wicket hauls and two 10-wicket hauls under the guidance of Indika Pieris, principal and Sunil Saluwadana, coach.

He captained the college first XI team in 2018/2019 season and steered his team to the semi finals of Division Two tournament. He scored 333 runs with three fifties and claimed 69 wickets with five five-wicket hauls and one 10-wicket haul in the same season. Kalutara Vidyalyaya won the big match after 10 years and also won the limited over match after five years under the leadership Kavindu Jayawickrama. Kavindu was awarded the Best Bowler trophy in the big match in 2019.

He scored 685 runs with a century and four half centuries in 2019/20 season. His best batting performance was 133 runs against Christ King Col-

lege Ja Ela. He made half centuries against St. John's Panadura (73), Sri Jayawardenapura MV Kotte (72), St. Sebastian's Katuneriya (65) and vs St. John's Jaffna (69).

Kavindu claimed 82 wickets with eight five-wicket hauls and a ten-wicket haul in last season. His best bowling performance was 7/38 against Holy Cross Kalutara.

He scored more than 1800 runs with a century and eight half centuries while claiming 220 wickets in five under 19 seasons.

**How he fared in last school season:** vs Hene-gama Central 30, 5/55 & 2/13, vs Christ King Ja Ela 133, 4/0 & 2/74, vs Sri Devananda Ambalangoda 05, 2/23 & 1/1, Royal Panadura 24, 3/5 & 1/16, vs Asoka Colombo 28 & 4/33, vs St. John's Panadura 73, 2/36 & 0/47, vs Rahula Matara 37, 5/31 & 6/22, vs P. De S. Kularatne Ambalangoda 07, 11 & 1/67, vs Sri Jayawardenapura MV Kotte 38, 72, 6/43 & 0/25, vs St. Sebastian's Katuneriya 11, 65, 4/25 & 5/94, vs Sri Sumangala Panadura 21, 12, 5/63 & 3/69, vs Karadeniya Central 09, 17, 3/46 & 5/38, vs Holy Cross Kalutara 09, 14, 7/38 & 1/04, vs St. John's Jaffna 69, 4/57 & 1/12. YK

## Rushiru Hanshika does Dhammissara NS proud at sports

DILWIN MENDIS  
Moratuwa Sports Special Corr.

Athlete, volleyball player, opening bowler, all rounder, right hand bat, right arm bowl, second year coloursmen G. Rushiru Hanshika Peiris brought honour and glory to his Alma Mater by being an all round sportsman at Dhammissara National School Nattandiya. Though he performed well in cricket his forte is volleyball. He joined Dhammissara National School in 2007 when Nandana Yapa was the principal and his first class teacher was Mrs. Piyathilaka.

As an under seven student he participated in the Inter House Athletics Meet in 2008 and competed in 50 meters, long jump and high jump. He was adjudged the Champion Athlete for three consecutive years as he swept the board in the same three events competing in under 8 and 9 age categories. He was well supported by

the teacher in charge of athletics, Mrs. Piyathilaka.

He commenced playing volleyball in 2012 under Mr. Nuwan and in 2013 he came under the Prefect of Games Keerthi Jayasekera and the coach Channa Jayasekera. Rushiru was a member of the Inter-House volleyball runner-up team in 2013. Dhammissara NS maintaining its high standard in volleyball emerged winners at the Divisional and Zonal tournaments. In 2014 they secured the second place at Zonal level. In 2015 they won the Inter-House volleyball championship.

In 2015 they became first in Divisional and Zonal volleyball tournaments secured the runner-up position at the DSI All Island Volleyball Tournament. In 2017 in the DSI Tournament they came fourth and in the same year participating at the All Island Tournament Dhammissara NS won the fourth place. In



Rushiru Hanshika Peiris

2018 they were the All Island DSI Champions and Inter Schools Champions when Rushiru was the vice captain of the team. He was awarded school Colours for Volleyball.

In the 2019 Dialog Open President's Cup Volleyball Tournery Rushiru captained the Nattandiya Volleyball Club team which eventually emerged champions under the guidance of coach Channa Jayasekera. In recognition of this achievement the champion team was offered a tour to Malaysia by the past pupils of the school and it has been a great experience to Rushiru and his team.

With these performances under his belt Rushiru was selected to the Youth Sri Lanka Tour of Iran. But due to Covid-19 pandemic the tour was postponed.

Rushiru's passion for cricket did not die as he continued his cricketering career from under-13 age category. He was selected to the school

under-13 team in 2008 when Nuwan Ruchira was the coach and captured 20 wickets including one five wicket-haul with a match bag of 9 for 50 (5/35 and 4/15) being his personal best.

In 2009 under-15 season he excelled in bowling and passed the 200 mark with 15 scalps including one five-wicket haul. In his under-15 second year he claimed 150 runs with a fifty and claimed 25 wickets with two five-wicket hauls. But representing the under 17 team as a fresher he did not perform well and captured 13 and 15 wickets respectively in those two years.

In his first year in the under 19 season he passed the 300-run mark with a half century and captured 20 wickets with two five-wicket hauls. In his final year he could only grabbed 17 wickets. In the same year his school team was selected as the Best Team of the under 19 Division Three Tournament. He was selected to the District and Provincial Cricket Pools but due to Covid-19 pandemic both tournaments were postponed. His Master in Charge Keerthi Jayasekera, the principal Anil Pushpakumara and Deputy Principal Mrs. Nilmini Rodrigo always encouraged him and Rushiru's parents Rohan Kumara Peiris and Mali Bernadeth Geethika were always behind him in his success.



Dhammissara NS U-19 volleyball team which became the DSI Supersport Schools Volleyball C'ship winners in 2018 with school officials. Rushiru Hanshika Peiris is third from left in the front row. Picture by Dilwin Mendis Moratuwa Sports Special Corr.

## Kandy soccer yearning to regain past glory



HAFIZ MARIKAR

Kandy's successful sportsmen and sportswomen can be proud of their achievements. This was possible due to their keenness, the backing they got from parents, schools, clubs and coaches. Records reveal that Kandy has produced some of the best sportsmen and women in Football, Cricket, Hockey, Rugby, Athletics, Table Tennis, Iron Sports, Netball, Volleyball, Lawn Tennis, Boxing, Badminton, Cue Sports (Billiards and Snooker), Cycling, Swimming, chess, carrom etc.

At one time Kandy was a powerhouse of Sri Lanka club football. But today it is in a forgotten state. When will the game of football that one time held its domain and produced footballers of international class regain its former glory in the historic city of Kandy? Sports have been widely used to connecting people, build cohesive communities, enhance tolerance and change the way people think and act.

Today no one seems to care for football in the hill capital which has a history of nearly 100 years. The game is sadly neglected. For many years, tournaments and AGMs were not being held on time in an organised manner. This has been a great setback for the sport. It is reliably under-

stood last year's finals was played only this year. The FFSL is not showing any interest in Kandy football. It is time for them to wake up from their deep slumber and start move the game of football in Kandy towards the right direction. Kandy Football League is a founder member of the National controlling body. At one time this league conducted over 150 matches a year.

Football was introduced to Kandy in the mid 1920's. During the Second World War, British units were stationed in Kandy, with the onetime Commander in Chief of the Allied Forces in the South East Asia, Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten having his headquarters in the hill capital.

Later on Kandy Amateur Football League was formed. It subsequently changed its name to Kandy District Football Association. It served football in Matala, Gampola, Nawalapitiya, Kurunegala and Kegalle, as the years passed by these towns formed their own associations. Today they can survive on their own. When Football in Colombo and elsewhere experienced a setback as far as Ceylonese exponents of the game were concerned, the game was more or less confined to the permanent population and to the Servicemen. Early in 1942, however, there appeared to be a lack of interest in the game, and the efforts made by S.C.Traill the then secretary to call a meeting

of the League was failed and he was compelled to return the trophies to the donors. At that time the game seemed to be seriously affected.

But fortunately G.H. Robins, T.P.C. Roberts who were then stationed in Kandy along with M.S. Jainudeen were mainly responsible in resuscitating the game. A tournament for the main shield was inaugurated with the participation of the Services Footballers in Kandy and football began to thrive again. At that time Bogambara was the location of high activity.

At one time Kandy had one of the biggest leagues with over 40 teams. The present day generation should be aware of

the Kandy football history. Today football is not much heard of in Kandy. Football has apparently hit rock bottom. Kandy won the All-Island senior and junior League championship for the first time under the presidency of B.M Bodi Liyanage and H. Marikar in 1990's. With these wins Kandy was offered a tour to Nepal for a tournament, for which teams from Pakistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal took part and Kandy was placed second. It was the first ever Kandy team to tour overseas. Today in FFSL competitions no team from Kandy participate. Holding position in office for prestige sake is not what is required today. Officials must come for-

ward and serve the game of football to prosper.

If football in Kandy is to improve the controlling body must put the leagues on the correct path. It was a product of Kandy, Tom Ossen an old boy of Dharmaraja College, who led the Sri Lanka football team then known as Ceylon in the first ever tour of the Far East in 1958. During that period, Tom Ossen was attached to the Kandy Municipal Council as a playground Instructor and represented Young Stars Sports Club and Kandy. Later he became the coach of the Peradeniya University team, Kandy Association Football League. He has also served as a top grade FIFA referee.



## KANDY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

## INVITATION FOR BIDS

## Supply of 1000 Nos. of Compost Bins required for year 2021

Sealed bids are invited until 02.03.2021 for the supply of 1,000 Nos. Compost Bins required for the Kandy Municipal Council. Qualified bidders should submit the receipt obtained upon payment or the Money Order along with the letter of request for documents and a copy of the Registration Certificate either under the Business Registration Ordinance or the Companies Act to obtain bid documents.

A	Amount of the Bid Document	Rs. 1080/= (All Taxes Included) ❖ Bid documents may be obtained upon payment to the Shroff of the Kandy Municipal Council or ❖ If paid by a Money Order it should be in favour of "Municipal Commissioner, Kandy" only up to 02.03.2021.
B	Date of Commencement of Issuing Bid Documents	Between 9.00 a.m. and 2.45 p.m. on working days from 10.02.2021.
C	Last Date and Time of Issuing Bid Documents	Up to 2.45 p.m. on 01.03.2021
D	Last Date and Time for accepting of Bids	At or before 10.00 a.m. on 02.03.2021
E	Bid Security	A bid security in favour of "Municipal Commissioner, Kandy" to the value of Rs. 50,000.00 obtained from a state or commercial bank recognized by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka should be submitted with the perfected bid and the bid security should be valid for two (02) months. (Validity period from 02.03.2021 until 02.05.2021)
F	Date, Time and Place of Opening of Bids	At 10.00 a.m. on 02.03.2021 at the Kandy Municipal Council Hall. Bidder or his authorized representative may be present at the time of opening of bids.
G	Place where the bid documents are issued	Municipal Supplies Division, Municipal Council, Kandy
H	Place where perfected bids are received	Either should be sent by registered post or hand delivered to receive at or before 10.00 a.m. on 02.03.2021 or deposited in the Bid Box kept in the care of Chief Municipal Accountant.

Kandy Municipal Council reserves the right to take the final decision regarding the quotations. Bid documents may be inspected free of charge and further details may be obtained from the Accountant (Supplies) on Tel. No. 081-2232071.

Amila Navaratne  
Municipal Commissioner  
Municipal Council, Kandy  
09.02.2021

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Ministry of Social Welfare, Probation and Childcare, Rural  
Development and Rural Industries

Sabaragamuwa Provincial Council

## Tender Notice

Open Bids are invited under the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure for renting out of 09 shops of various sizes at the Veralupe Handicraft House belonging to the Industrial Development Authority under the Ministry of Industries of the Sabaragamuwa Provincial Council.

Sale of Liquor and related products and meat are totally prohibited and industrialists permanently resident in the Sabaragamuwa Province and registered under the Business Names Ordinance, Companies Act or the National Crafts Council are qualified to submit Tenders.

Industrialists could apply for a maximum number of 02 shops only.

Tender documents could be inspected during working days of the week from 12.02.2021 up to 08.03.2021 between 9.00 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. at the Ministry Office and interested applicants could obtain Tender Forms from this Ministry Office after submitting documents in proof of qualifications and eligibility and paying a Tender Form Fee of Rs. 1000.00 for one shop.

All relevant conditions and details will be supplied along with Tender Forms.

H.D. Sisira  
Chairman, Tender Board,  
Ministry of Social Welfare, Probation and Childcare,  
Rural Development and Rural Industries,  
Sabaragamuwa Provincial Council,  
New Town, Ratnapura.

Telephone - 045-2222145, 045-2228137

DEDICATED ECONOMIC CENTRE, RATMALANA  
PROCUREMENT NOTICEPROVISION OF SECURITY SERVICE AND CLEANING SERVICE  
FOR THE YEAR 2021/2022

- The Chairman, Procurement Committee of Divisional Secretary's Office, Ratmalana on behalf of Dedicated Economic Commission, Ratmalana invites Bids for the Supply of Security Service and Cleaning Service in the Year 2021 at Dedicated Economic Centre, Ratmalana.
- Bid applications could be obtained from the Office of Dedicated Economic Centre, Ratmalana from 11th February 2021 to 24th February 2021 from 9.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. upon payment of a non-refundable sum of Rs. 1000.00.
- Completed Bid Application Forms with the top left-hand corner of the envelope marked as "Supply of Security Service for the Year 2021" by Suppliers of Security Services and "Supply of Cleaning Service for the Year 2021" by Suppliers of Cleaning Services respectively should either be sent by Registered Post or deposited in the Tender Box kept at the Accounts Division, Ground Floor, Divisional Secretary's Office, Ratmalana before 2.00 p.m. on 24th February 2021.
- All Bids should be accompanied with the original Receipt / Bank Slip issued for the deposit of a refundable Procurement Security of Rs. 10,000/= in favour of the Management Trust, Dedicated Economic Centre, Ratmalana in People's Bank, Ratmalana Branch Account No. 080-1-001-6-0001501.
- Bid Documents inserted in two separate covers marked as original and duplicate should be enclosed in one envelope and submitted.
- Tenders will be opened at 2.05 p.m. on 24th February 2021 at the Divisional Secretary's Office, Ratmalana and Bidders or their authorized representatives could participate at the time.
- The Procurement Committee reserves the right to accept or reject the relevant Bids in full or part thereof.
- Bids received late will be rejected.

Chairman,  
Procurement Committee,  
Divisional Secretary's Office,  
Ratmalana.



## SRI LANKA PORTS AUTHORITY

## INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee on behalf of the Sri Lanka Ports Authority now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the items given below.

Tender No.	Name of the Tender	Bid Security Amount (Rs.)	Document Fee (Inclusive of VAT)	Closing Date & Time
CES/FP/05/PT/6154(MP)	14 Nos. Trolley and Catenary Trolley Wire Rope for STS Cranes at ECT	55,000.00	1,000.00	16.03.2021 10.00 hrs.
CES/FP/02/PT/6146(EL)	1500 M of Elastic Cords for JCT Cranes	22,000.00	1,000.00	16.03.2021 10.00 hrs.
CMS/LP/20/PT/07/059	5040 Liters, Trans Fluid Oil P - 157	24,000.00	1,000.00	05.03.2021 13.30 hrs.
CMS/LP/20/PT/20/055	32 Nos. Motor Tyres 2100x25 40 PLY Tubeless	18,000.00	1,000.00	05.03.2021 13.30 hrs.
CMS/LP/20/PT/17/055	60 Nos. Rotary Type AC Compressor	20,000.00	1,000.00	05.03.2021 13.30 hrs.
CMS/LP/19/PT/04/058	Leather Shoes (462 - Pairs)	16,000.00	1,000.00	08.03.2021 13.30 hrs.
CMS/LP/20/PT/07/060	4992 Liters, Transynd Synthetic Fluid TES 295 (AN - 011001)	129,800.00	3,500.00	08.03.2021 13.30 hrs.
CMS/LP/20/PT/17/053	5000 Nos. Safety Shoes for year 2021	170,000.00	3,500.00	08.03.2021 13.30 hrs. Pre Bid Meeting Date & Time 22.02.2021 10.00 hrs.
CMS/LP/20/PT/08/057	Spares for Weka Box Coolers of Dredger Hansakawa	40,000.00	1,000.00	09.03.2021 13.30 hrs.
CMS/LP/20/PT/08/059	Marine Quality Paint and Thinner for Tug Nandimithra	55,000.00	1,000.00	09.03.2021 13.30 hrs.
CMS/LP/20/PT/08/056	High Expansion Foam - 2000 Liter	42,200.00	1,000.00	10.03.2021 13.30 hrs.

- Bidders are hereby informed that the provisions of Public Contracts Act No. 03 of 1987 are applicable to tenders total cost exceeding Rs. 5 Million. Accordingly, all parties involved in each aforementioned tender are required to strictly abide by the said Act throughout the duration of contract. Furthermore, any bidder who wishes to act as an agent, sub-agent, a representative or a nominee for and on behalf of any foreign manufacturer or a supplier is required to register himself with the Registrar of Public Contracts and submit the duly completed registration certificate along with his bid documents.
- Bidders should have been in the business of supplying similar goods given above at least during the last three (03) years.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from the Chief Manager (Supplies & Material Management) and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below during office hours.
- A complete set of bidding documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee indicated in Column 04 from 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021 during 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on working days up to day prior to the closing date. The method of payment will be by cash.
- Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before closing time. Late bids will not be accepted. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person at the address below at closing time. All bids must be accompanied by the amount of above mentioned Bid Security.

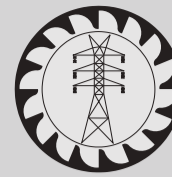
Chief Manager (Supplies & Material Management)  
Supplies Division,  
Sri Lanka Ports Authority,  
No. 45, Leyden Bastian Road,  
Colombo 01.

Telephone Nos. 2482231, 2483338, 2482499, 2482832, 2482409, 2482652, 2483024, 2482638  
Fax Nos: 2381652, 2470443

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# INVITATION FOR BIDS



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இலங்கை மின்சார சபை  
CEYLON ELECTRICITY BOARD

1	2	3	4	5	6
Division and Branch Province	Bid No. / Item Description & Quantity	Bid closing date & Time	Place of Purchase of Bidding Documents & Contact TP. Nos.	Price of the Bidding Document (Rs)	Type of Bid ICB/ NCB
<b>MATERIALS</b>					
Generation (Lakvijaya)	<b>LV/T/2020/0459</b> Supplying of Industrial Garbage bins for Main Power Plant Premises.	10/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Procurement Division, 4th Floor, Admin Building, Lakvijaya Power Plant, Ceylon Electricity Board, Narakkaliya, Norochcholai 61342 TP : 032 226 8972 Fax: 032 226 8975	1,000.00	NCB
Generation (Lakvijaya)	<b>LV/T/2021/0003</b> Supply & Delivery of 19L Drinking Water Bottles to Lakvijaya Power Plant	03/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	3,500.00	NCB
Transmission (AM&CM)	<b>TR/AM&amp;CM/ICB/2020/33/D</b> Supply and Delivery of 55km Length of Seven Strand (7/3.25mm) Galvanized Steel (GS) Earth and 35km Length of Nineteen Strand (19/2.36mm) Galvanized Steel (GS) Earth Conductors	24/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Chief Engineer (Material Management), Transmission Asset Management and Condition Monitoring Branch, C.E.B., Kent Road, Colombo 09, Sri Lanka Tel : 011-2669823, Fax: 011-2669738	2,500.00	ICB
Transmission (AM&CM)	<b>TR/AM&amp;CM/ICB/2020/42/D</b> Supply and Delivery of GI Nuts & Bolts for the Transmission System of	24/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Office of the DGM (Transmission Asset Management and Condition Monitoring), CEB, Kent Road, Colombo 09, Sri Lanka	2,500.00	NCB
**DD 01 (P&D)	<b>DD1/P&amp;D/NCB/2020/012/D</b> Fabrication & Delivery of 10 sqmm H.S. Duplex PVC Insulated Alu. Cables (One core insulated other core bare) - For NWP	10/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Planning & Development Branch (DD1), Fourth Floor, CEB Head Quarters, No.50, Sir Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mw, Colombo 02. T.P No. 011-2430473 / 0702309090 e-mail: mmp.dd1@ceb.lk	3,500.00	NCB
**DD 01 (P&D)	<b>DD1/P&amp;D/ICB/2020/002/D</b> Supply & Delivery of MV Earthing Equipment	24/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Same as above	12,500.00	ICB
** Please send the requests via e-mail to mmp.dd1@ceb.lk with contact details to obtain information regarding the purchasing of the Bid document in this pandemic situation due to Covid - 19.					
DD 02 (Central)	<b>CP1/CE(COM)/PPC/2020/507</b> Supply & Installation of Plotter (Printer) Machine for Chief Engineer (Planning & Development) Branch - CP.	03/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Chief Engineer (Commercial) , CEB, No. 04, Asgiriya Road, Kandy. T.P 081-2234324	500.00	NCB
DD 02 (P&D)	<b>DD2/P&amp;D/NCB/2020/062/D</b> Supply and Delivery of Ungalvanized Tension Cross Arms with E.W. Attach 33kV	03/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	DGM (P&D-DD2), Ground Floor, Ceylon Electricity Board, No 205/3, Kandy Road, Pahala Biyanwila, Kadawatha. +94- 11- 2348470 +94- 11- 24331177	12,500.00	NCB
DD 02 (P&D)	<b>DD2/P&amp;D/ICB/2020/064/D</b> Supply & Delivery of Stay Wires - Galvanized Stay Wires G.S. 7/3.25 mm- (Grade- 700)	24/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	-Do-	12,500.00	ICB
DD 02 (P&D)	<b>DD2/P&amp;D/ICB/2020/065/D</b> Supply & Delivery of Stay Wires - Galvanized Stay Wires G.S. 7/4.00 mm- (Grade- 700)	24/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	-Do-	3,500.00	ICB
DD 02 (P&D)	<b>DD2/P&amp;D/NCB/2020/066/D</b> Supply & Delivery of Stay Assembly Ungalvanized 1.8m x 16mm	03/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	-Do-	12,500.00	NCB
DD 02 (P&D)	<b>DD2/P&amp;D/ICB/2020/067/D</b> Supply & Delivery of Large Angle Assembly for ABC 230/400V (for 54.6sqmm Messenger)	24/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	-Do-	12,500.00	ICB
DD 02 (P&D)	<b>DD2/P&amp;D/ICB/2020/070/D</b> Supply & Delivery of Pin Insulators 33kV	24/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	-Do-	12,500.00	ICB
DD 02 (P&D)	<b>DD2/P&amp;D/ICB/2020/071/D</b> Supply and Delivery of ACSR (Raccoon)	24/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	-Do-	12,500.00	ICB
DD 02 (WPN)	<b>WPN/NCB/2021/05</b> Supply & Delivery of Aerial Connection Boxes - 1000 Nos.	24/02/2021 14.00 hrs.	DGM(WPN)'s Office, CEB, No.280, Kandy Road, Kiribathgoda Tel.011-2911071/72	1,000.00	NCB
DD 03 (Sab)	<b>SAB/CE(COM)/T/2021/11</b> Supply & Delivery of 1,000 Nos. of 8.3m/100kg Pre-Stressed Spun Concrete Poles	03/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Office of Deputy General Manager (Sabaragamuwa), Chief Engineer (Commercial) Unit, Ceylon Electricity Board, No.09, New Town, Rathnapura Tel. No. 045-2225891-95 Fax: 045-2226084	2,500.00	NCB
DD 03 (Sab)	<b>SAB/CE(COM)/T/2021/12</b> Supply & Delivery of 1,000 Nos. of 6m/50kg Pre-Stressed Spun Concrete Poles	03/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Office of Deputy General Manager (Sabaragamuwa), Chief Engineer (Commercial) Unit, Ceylon Electricity Board, No.09, New Town, Rathnapura Tel. No. 045-2225891-95 Fax: 045-2226084	2,500.00	NCB
DD 04 (WPS-1)	<b>WPS-1/PPC/T/2021/13</b> Supply & Delivery of Draw Vice (2 Ton) 46 Nos.	04/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Office of DGM (WPS-1), 3rd Floor, Distribution Division 4 Head Quarters, Ceylon Electricity Board, No. 25, Council Lane, Dehiwala. 011-2638852	1,500.00	NCB
DD 04 (WPS-1)	<b>WPS-1/PPC/T/2021/14</b> Supply & Delivery of Tool Set for Bundled Cable 01 No.	04/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,500.00	NCB
DD 04 (WPS-1)	<b>WPS-1/PPC/T/2021/15</b> Supply & Delivery of Safety Ladders - 20 ft 30 Nos. / Safety Ladders - 24 ft 20 Nos. / Safety Ladders - 28 ft 35 Nos. a) Safety Ladders - 32 ft 12 Nos.	04/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,500.00	NCB
DD 04 (P&D)	<b>DD4/P&amp;D/ICB/2020/036/D</b> Supply and Delivery of Aerial Bundled Conductor Alu. (ABC) 230/400V 3x70+54.6+16sqmm - 100 km	24/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Office of the DGM(P&D)-DD4,C.E.B., 4th Floor, No. 25, Council Lane, Dehiwala. 011-4204015	15,000.00	ICB
DD 04 (P&D)	<b>DD4/P&amp;D/ICB/2020/040/D</b> Supply and Delivery of All Alu. Alloy Conductors (AAAC) (ELM) - 19/3.76 - 17 MT	24/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Office of the DGM(P&D)-DD4,C.E.B., 4th Floor, No. 25, Council Lane, Dehiwala. 011-4204015	2,500.00	ICB
DD 04 (P&D)	<b>DD4/P&amp;D/ICB/2020/048/D</b> Supply and Delivery of Insulator - Stay LT -23,000 Nos. / Insulator - Stay HT - 3,000 Nos.	24/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Office of the DGM(P&D)-DD4,C.E.B., 4th Floor, No. 25, Council Lane, Dehiwala. 011-4204015	2,500.00	ICB
DD 04 (P&D)	<b>DD4/P&amp;D/ICB/2020/049/D</b> Supply and Delivery of 33kV Pin Type Insulator(with pin) - 16,000.00 Nos. / Spindle for 33kV Pin Type Insulator - 1,000 Nos.	24/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Office of the DGM(P&D)-DD4,C.E.B., 4th Floor, No. 25, Council Lane, Dehiwala. 011-4204015	14,500.00	ICB
DD 04 (P&D)	<b>DD4/P&amp;D/ICB/2020/050/D</b> Supply and Delivery of A.C.S.R. (Raccoon) 7/4.09mm - 150MT	24/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Office of the DGM(P&D)-DD4,C.E.B., 4th Floor, No. 25, Council Lane, Dehiwala. 011-4204015	15,000.00	ICB
DD 04 (P&D)	<b>DD4/P&amp;D/ICB/2020/052/D</b> Supply and Delivery of Static Meter 3 Phase 3 Wire - CT/PT Operated (110V) - 150 Nos. / GSM & GPRS Communication Module (Modem) for Meter including accessories -150 Nos. / GSM & GPRS Communication Module (Modem) for PC (Laptop) including accessories - 15 Nos. / PC Software and accessories including cables for local configuration - 1 Nos	24/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Office of the DGM(P&D)-DD4,C.E.B., 4th Floor, No. 25, Council Lane, Dehiwala. 011-4204015	2,500.00	ICB
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>					
Transmission (O&M)	<b>TR/O&amp;M/NCB/2020/051/D</b> Construction Of Chain Link Fence at Ukuwela Grid Substation	05/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Office of the Chief Engineer, Transmission O&M-Central, Ceylon Electricity Board, Pallekele GSS, Balagolla Kengalle 20186 Tel: 081 221 5669 Fax: 081 205 0960	250.00	NCB
DD 04 (WPS-1)	<b>WPS-1/PPC/Civil/T/2021/01</b> Bid For Renovation of ES's Quarters at Hill Street, Dehiwala (3Quarters)	25/02/2021 10.00 hrs.	Office of DGM (WPS-1), 3rd Floor, Distribution Division 4 Head Quarters, Ceylon Electricity Board, No. 25, Council Lane, Dehiwala. 011-2638852	1,000.00	NCB
DD 04 (WPS-1)	<b>WPS-1/PPC/Civil/T/2021/02</b> Bid For Construction of Vehicle Garage, External Store, Security Hut & Fabric Canopies at Panadura CSC.	25/02/2021 10.00 hrs.	Office of DGM (WPS-1), 3rd Floor, Distribution Division 4 Head Quarters, Ceylon Electricity Board, No. 25, Council Lane, Dehiwala. 011-2638852	1,000.00	NCB
<b>SERVICES</b>					
Generation (Samanala Complex)	<b>SC/DGM/BID/SC/2020/10</b> Obtaining service of a hiring Car for Samanala Complex office	04/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Office of the Deputy General Manager (Samanala Complex), Ceylon Electricity Board, 158/5, New Town, Ratnapura. Tel: 045-2225002 Fax: 045-2225005	1,000.00	NCB
Generation (Victoria)	<b>MC/VIC /2020/435</b> Cleaning & maintenance of Adikarigama Building Site premises, Intake Premises, Digana Housing Scheme premises & its' buildings.	04/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Victoria Power Station, C.E.B, Adikarigama. Tel: 081-2200465 /081-2202305	1,000.00	NCB
DD 01 (Colombo City)	<b>DGM(CC)/CE(M)/PPC/2021/01</b> Rent or Lease of a House for Chief Engineer (Maintenance) as official quarters (Lease period 02 years)	03/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	No Tender Document will be issued. Owners shall forward the bid together with all necessary particulars in their own format. 011-2575930	-	NCB
DD 01 (Colombo City)	<b>DGM(CC)/CE(M)/PPC/2021/02</b> Rent or Lease of a House for Electrical Engineer (HTM) as official quarters (Lease period 02 years)	03/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	Same as above	-	NCB
DD 01 (NCP)	<b>DGM/NCP/COM/C1/HV/2021/004</b> Hiring of a Crew Cab for Electrical Superintendent (Kekirawa) of Electrical Engineer (Kekirawa)	25/02/2021 15.00 hrs.	Office of the DGM (NCP), Ceylon Electricity Board, Maithreepala Senanayaka Mawatha, Anuradhapura. TP. 025- 2222552	500.00	NCB
DD 02 (Central 2)	<b>CP2/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/010</b> Hiring of a Light Lorry for Electricity Breakdown Services Supply & Maintenance at ECSC Hemmatagama in Mawanella Area for a Period of 02 Years	03/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Chief Engineer (Commercial)-CP2, CEB, Quarry Road, Eriyagama, Peradeniya. T.P 081-4949160	1,000.00	NCB
DD 02 (Central 2)	<b>CP2/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/011</b> Hiring of a Light Lorry for ECSC at Nawalapitiya (Mini AMU) in Nawalapitiya Area for a Period of 02 Years.	03/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Chief Engineer (Commercial)-CP2, CEB, Quarry Road, Eriyagama, Peradeniya. T.P 081-4949160	1,000.00	NCB
DD 02 (Central 2)	<b>CP2/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/013</b> Rent/Lease Building for Use as Official Quarters of Electrical Superintendent Gampola in Nawalapitiya for a Period of 02 Years. <b>Requirements</b> - Building should be located in and around Gampola area.	03/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Chief Engineer (Commercial)-CP2, CEB, Quarry Road, Eriyagama, Peradeniya. T.P 081-4949160	-	NCB
DD 02 (Central)	<b>CP1/CE(OM)/PPC/2020/500</b> Tender for Asphalt Laying Internal Road at ECSC Naula in Dambulla Area ICTAD Grade:- C8 or above Pre-Bid meeting: - 24-02-2021 - 02.00 pm. Place :- ECSC Naula in Dambulla Area.	03/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Chief Engineer (Commercial) , CEB, No. 04, Asgiriya Road, Kandy. T.P 081-2234324	1000.00	NCB
DD 02 (Central)	<b>CP1/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/031</b> Rent / Lease Land for Use as Pole Yard belongs to ECSC Dambulla in Dambulla Area for a period of 02 years. <b>Requirements</b> - Land should be located in and around Dambulla Area.	03/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Chief Engineer (Commercial) , CEB, No. 04, Asgiriya Road, Kandy. T.P 081-2234324	-	NCB

Division and Branch Province	Bid No. / Item Description & Quantity	Bid closing date & Time	Place of Purchase of Bidding Documents & Contact TP. Nos.	Price of the Bidding Document (Rs)	Type of Bid ICB/ NCB
DD 02 (Central)	<b>CPI/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/032</b> Rent / Lease Building for Use as Site Office Matale belong to Chief Engineer (Distribution Maintenance) Unit - CP for a period of 02 years. <b>Requirements</b> - Building should be located in and around Matale Area.	03/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Chief Engineer (Commercial) , CEB, No. 04, Asgiriya Road, Kandy. T.P 081-2234324	-	NCB
DD 02 (Central)	<b>CPI/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/030</b> Rent / lease suitable Building for use as Official quarters of Area Electrical Engineer (Dambulla) for a period of 02 years. <b>Requirements</b> - Building should be located in Dambulla town area	03/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Chief Engineer (Commercial) , CEB, No. 04, Asgiriya Road, Kandy. T.P 081-2234324	-	NCB
DD 02 (Central)	<b>CPI/CE(COM)/PPC/2021/029</b> Rent / lease of a building to be use as Area Electrical Engineer's Office at Katugastota for a period of 02 years. <b>Requirements</b> - Located in and around Katugastota Area	03/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Self prepared detailed application to be forwarded with expected monthly rental. T.P 081-2499679 081-4949218	-	NCB
DD 02 (EP)	<b>DGM [E]/QPPC/20/214</b> Consultancy Services for Architectural and Electrical Design for the Proposed Two Storeyed Area Chief Engineer's Office - Trincomalee	03/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Office of Deputy General Manager (Eastern Province), Ceylon Electricity Board, Uppuweli, Trincomalee 026 222 2666, 026 222 1030 Or Office of Deputy General Manager (Civil Works and Buildings), Ceylon Electricity Board, No.90, 4th Floor, G.C.S.U. Building, Sir Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mawatha, Colombo 02. 011 244 7567, 011 244 7568	2000.00	NCB
DD 02 (C&C)	<b>DD2/DGM(C&amp;C)/HV/ML/2020/T111</b> Hiring of a van for two (02) years on wet lease basis for the use of Meter Laboratory - DD 02, Kiribathgoda.	03/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	DGM (Com. & Corp.) DD 2, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Ceylon Electricity Board, No.205/3, Kandy Road, Pahala Biyanwila, Kadawatha. 011-2901308	500.00	NCB
DD 02 (C&C)	<b>DD2/DGM(C&amp;C)/OR/T112</b> Provision of Cleaning Service to the Additional General Manager (DD02) Office Complex at Kadawatha.	03/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	-Do-	500.00	NCB
DD 02 (C&C)	<b>DD2/DGM(C&amp;C)/OR/T113</b> Provision of Security service to the office building of AGM (Distribution Division 02) at Kadawatha.	03/03/2021 10.00 hrs.	-Do-	1,000.00	NCB
DD 02 (WPN)	<b>WPN/NCB/V-V152/2021/23</b> Hiring of a Van for Consumer Service Centre - Pasyala	24/02/2021 14.00 hrs.	DGM(WPN)'s Office, CEB, No.280, Kandy Road, Kiribathgoda. Tel.011-2911071/72	500.00	NCB
DD 02 (WPN)	<b>WPN/NCB/K-V176/2021/59</b> Hiring of a Van for Consumer Service Centre - Dompe	24/02/2021 14.00 hrs.	DGM(WPN)'s Office, CEB, No.280, Kandy Road, Kiribathgoda. Tel.011-2911071/72	500.00	NCB
DD 02 (WPN)	<b>WPN/NCB/DM-V25/2021/60</b> Hiring of a Van for Distribution Maintenance Unit - Veyangoda Site	24/02/2021 14.00 hrs.	DGM(WPN)'s Office, CEB, No.280, Kandy Road, Kiribathgoda. Tel.011-2911071/72	500.00	NCB
DD 02 (WPN)	<b>WPN/NCB/D - V134/2021/61</b> Hiring of a Van for Electrical Engineer's Office - Divulapitiya	24/02/2021 14.00 hrs.	DGM(WPN)'s Office, CEB, No.280, Kandy Road, Kiribathgoda. Tel.011-2911071/72	500.00	NCB
DD 02 (WPN)	<b>WPN/NCB/J-V129/2021/62</b> Hiring of a Crew Cab for Chief Electrical Engineer's office (Ja-ela)	24/02/2021 14.00 hrs.	DGM(WPN)'s Office, CEB, No.280, Kandy Road, Kiribathgoda. Tel.011-2911071/72	500.00	NCB
DD 02 (WPN)	<b>WPN/NCB/DGM-V10/2021/63</b> Hiring of a Motor Car on Wet Lease basis (with driver) for Chief Engineer (Energy Management )	24/02/2021 14.00 hrs.	DGM(WPN)'s Office, CEB, No.280, Kandy Road, Kiribathgoda. Tel.011-2911071/72	500.00	NCB
DD 02 (WPN)	<b>WPN/NCB/2020/150</b> Bidding for the purchase of a land between 40-60 perches for the Ja-Ela Customer Service Center (It should be between 2-3 km from Ja-Ela town)	24/02/2021 14.00 hrs.	DGM(WPN)'s Office, CEB, No.280, Kandy Road, Kiribathgoda. Tel.011-2911071/72	500.00	NCB
DD 03 (SAB )	<b>SAB/KAH-V29/HV/2021/18</b> Hiring of a Motor Car for Area Electrical Engineer's Unit - Kahawaththa	03/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Office of the DGM, CE (Commercial) Unit, Ceylon Electricity Board, New Town, Rathnapura. T.P No. 045-2225891-5, Fax - 045-2226084	1,000.00	NCB
DD 03 (SAB )	<b>SAB/EMB-V28/HV/2021/19</b> Hiring of a Double Cab 4 Wheel Drive for Godakawela Consumer Service Center	03/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD 03 (SAB )	<b>SAB/RAT-V79/HV/2021/20</b> Hiring of a Three Wheeler for Area Electrical Engineer 's Unit - Rathnapura	03/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB
DD 03 (SAB )	<b>SAB/RAT-V96/HV/2021/21</b> Hiring of a Dual Purpose Van for Area Electrical Engineer's Unit - Rathnapura	03/03/2021 14.00 hrs.	Same as above	1,000.00	NCB

Chairman of the above Procurement Committees, on behalf of the Ceylon Electricity Board, now invites sealed Bids from potential Suppliers for the above mentioned items on the basis of International /National competitive bidding. Bids should be submitted only on the bid documents purchased from the CEB.

Bidding Documents will be issued only to the prospective Bidders or their accredited Agents. Wherever necessary they should get registered in terms of the Public Contracts Act No.3 of 1987.

Bidding Documents could be purchased by any prospective bidder or their accredited Agents on submission of a written request to the respective Deputy General Manager/Chief Engineer of the CEB upon payment of the amount indicated in Column 6 of the above table for each set of Bid Document, between 0900 hrs. and 1500 hrs. on any working day till the day prior to the bid closing date. Payment shall be made in cash or bank draft drawn in favour of the General Manager, CEB.

Foreign Diplomatic Missions / Trade Commissions may obtain information copies of the Bidding Documents, free of charge on submission of a written request. The Bidding Documents may be inspected by the prospective bidders or their Agents at the office of the respective DGM/CE free of charge.

Bids will be opened immediately after the closing time of the bidding in the presence of Bidders and their authorized representatives at the locations indicated in Column 9. Late Bids shall be rejected.

All clarifications shall be sought two weeks before the Bid closing date, from the respective DGM/CE of the CEB who issued the bidding Documents.

\* ICB – International Competitive Bidding, NCB – National Competitive Bidding.

General Manager

*Enrich Life through Power*



The Information copy of the Bid document may be downloaded from the CEB Corporate website [www.ceb.lk](http://www.ceb.lk)

- HOUSES

- LANDS

- COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

- APARTMENTS

Sunday Observer



- Buy & Sell
- Rent or Lease
- Wanted

HOUSE & PROPERTY



**CEYLON ELECTRICITY BOARD**  
**TENDER NOTICE**

**PURCHASE OF LAND - KEERIYANKALLIYA**

Sealed quotations are invited to purchase a land of about **five (5) acres (The length & width of the land should be more than 80m x 80m respectively)** situated in the Keeriyankalliya/ Mundel area and within 2km distance from Colombo - Puttalam main road.

In case of no single owner land is available, adjoining small lands may be quoted to form the above extent.

The land should be free of any disputes, flood hazards and should not be a marshy land. It should have a minimum of 5 meters wide access and should be located in non-congested area.

The sealed quotations should be forwarded with the following information to undermentioned address, on or before 10.00 a.m. 03rd March 2021 by registered post or handed over and at the top left-hand corner of the envelope should be titled **"Purchase of a Land – Keeriyankalliya"**.

Following information should be provided;

1. Name, address and Telephone No. of the owner.
2. Details of access to the land.
3. Extent of the Land and selling price.
4. Copies of the deed and the plan.

**Office of the Deputy General Manager (Transmission Projects)**  
**Ceylon Electricity Board**  
**1st Floor, G.O.B.A. Building**  
**65/1, Sir Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mawatha**  
**COLOMBO 00200**

Tel Phone : 94 11 2441556



**INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT**  
**CORRECTION NOTICE**

It is kindly informed that the term "Director General of Inland Revenue Department" should be substituted as **"Commissioner General of Inland Revenue Department"**, in the notice published by the Department of Inland Revenue on 08.02.2021 under the title "Notice of Calling Applications for the Appointment of Officers to the posts of Director (Information and Communication Technology) of Sri Lanka Information and Communication Technology Service"

**AUCTION OF UNREDEEMED GOLD ARTICLES**

Gold articles left as security for gold loans at Vavuniya, Balangoda, Moratuwa, Kalutara, Kurumegala, Galle, Medirwachchiya, Polonnaruwa, Dehiattakandiya, Kanthale, Walapane, Kandy, Chilawa, Keagalle, Nikawaratiya, Bandarawela, Monaragala, Kirulapone (City Branch), Ampara, Mannar, Mallavi, Ratnapura, Batticaloa, Dambulla, Hiltton, Horana, Jaffna, Matara, Nuwara-Eliya, Puttalam, Trincomalee, Matale, Poltuwila, Thissamaharamaya, Badulla, Galenbindunuwewa, Gampaha, Ja-Ela, Negombo, Nittambuwa, Kaduwela, Nelliyadi, Wennappuwa and Padaviya HNB Finance branches/Service Centres, up to 30/09/2020, and not redeemed or renewed by 17/02/2021, will be sold by public

**Auction Date : 18/02/2021**  
**Auction Time : 10.30 am**  
**Auction Venue : HNB Finance, No.166, Nawala Road, Nugegoda.**

- Participants to the auction must produce their National Identity Cards
- HNB Finance PLC reserves the right to cancel, postpone or merge the auction dates.

HNB Finance PLC  
No 168, Nawala Road, Nugegoda.  
Tel: 0112 02 48 48  
Fax: 0112 17 62 63

**HNB FINANCE**

**CORRECTION NOTICE**

**Invitation for Bids for the Maintenance of the Canteen Service of Colombo North (Teaching) Hospital - Year 2021/2022**

This refers to the above titled advertisement published on Page No. 25 of Daily News on 08th February 2021.

Please note that Item No. 01 should be corrected as follows ;

07. Quotations are invited by the Regional Procurement Committee of the Hospital for the running of the Canteen of Colombo North (Teaching) Hospital for the Year 2021/2022 from qualified and eligible Bidders.

- i) Bidders should produce a copy of the Business Registration Certificate.
- ii) Should possess experience in maintaining canteens in the last three years.

The other contents remain unchanged.

**Chairman  
Regional Procurement Committee  
Colombo North Teaching Hospital,  
Ragama.**

**REVOCATION OF POWER OF ATTORNEY**

This is to bring to the notice of the General Public and the Government of Sri Lanka that I, **GLORIDA JAYASEELI ROSIARO JOSEPH**, holder of National Identity Card bearing No. 618380793 V of No. 112/A, Pitakanda Road, Aruppola, Kandy have with immediate effect revoked, cancelled and annulled the Power of Attorney No. 4778 dated 21st March 2015 attested by D.C. Peiris, Notary Public of Colombo, appointed **MOHAMED GHOUSE MOHAMED IMRAZ**, holder of National Identity Card No. 760770892 V of No. 66/44, Kammala Road, Henamulla, Panadura as my Attorney and registered on 24th April 2015 under Section 12 of the Permit Book in Folio 86 of the Day Book No. 2224 in Registrar General's Office, Colombo. I shall not henceforth ratify or be responsible for any act, power, deed matters thing on my behalf.

**G.J.R. JOSEPH**

**Repeat Your Ad For Better Offers**

It is hereby notified to the Republic of Sri Lanka and the General Public that I, **Hewa Palliya Guruge Kusumawathi** of No. 572/1, Sudarshana Mawatha, Kurana Katunayake, Katana Divisional Secretariat, Gampaha District, will be known and called as **Farhana Ghulam Qadir** hereinafter.

**Farhana Ghulam Qadir**

**Notice**

In terms of Section 9(1) of the Companies Act No. 07 of 2007 as follows :

**Sun Mesh Industries (Pvt) Ltd.**  
Registered No. **PV 00234108**

Date of Incorporation 02.02.2021  
Dorabe B Estate, Hiruwalpola, Dummalasuriya Road, Bingiriya.

**Company Secretary**

**MINISTRY OF TRADE  
COOPERATIVE WHOLESALE ESTABLISHMENT**

**REGISTRATION OF SUPPLIERS - 2021**

It is hereby notified that the closing date for registration of suppliers of the Cooperative Wholesale Establishment for the year 2021, has been extended up to 28.02.2021.

**Chairman,  
Cooperative Wholesale Establishment,  
27, Vauxhall Street,  
Colombo 02.**



**PROCUREMENT NOTICE**

**WESTERN PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES**

Quotations are invited for purchase of material mentioned below for production purposes.

1. **Iron and Relevant Material**  
12 mm mild steel (19.5) rods approximately 10,000  
10 mm mild steel (19.5) rods approximately 2,000  
12x6 mm sides (19.5) iron approximately 200 and  
Welding rods / paint / nails / sandpaper / drill bits etc.
2. **Timber Raw Material**  
Colon timber approximately 200 feet (linear feet and square feet)  
Ginisapu timber, approximately 20000 feet (linear feet and square feet)  
Mahogany timber approximately 1500 feet (linear feet and square feet)
3. **Timber Related Material**  
Paint / Nails / Sandpaper / Gum / Hardboard, etc
4. **Ginisapu Timber sets required for school desks and chairs - approximately 10,000**
  - Bid documents required for quoting prices could be obtained from 12.02.2021 up to 03.03.2021 from 9.00 a.m. until 3.00 p.m. from the Head Office of the Department of Industries after paying a non-refundable fee of Rs. 3500.00 for iron and relevant material, a non-refundable fee of Rs. 1000.00 for Timber raw material, timber related material and for timber sets (separately for each of them).
  - Duly competed bids should be sealed and sent by registered post to the Chairman, Procurement Committee, Department of Industries (W.P.), New Provincial Council Building, 3rd Floor, Battaramulla to be received before 2.00 p.m. on 04.03.2021 or should be inserted in the Tender Box kept at the Assistant Director's Room of this office. Bids will be opened at 2.00 p.m. on 04.03.2021.

**Chairman,  
Procurement Committee,  
Department of Industries (W.P.)  
204, Provincial Council Building - 3rd Floor,  
Battaramulla.  
0112092595 / 0112092591**

**LICENSE FROM THE REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES**

In pursuance of Section 34 (1) of the Companies Act No. 07 of 2007, an application has been made to the Registrar of Companies for a license directing an Association about to be formed under the name of "GOOD HOPE FOUNDATION" with limited liability and without the addition of the word "LIMITED" to its name.

The objects for which the Association is established are :

1. To formulate, develop and implement projects and programmes for social development in terms of education, career building, entrepreneurship building, self-employment and training, capacity building to women, children, youth, differently abled people and displaced and other vulnerable groups.
2. To act upon emergency situations and natural disasters and implementing projects for disaster management and rebuilding the capacity of nation.
3. To implement projects for environmental protection, waste management, harvest management, recycling and green initiatives while protecting wild animals.
4. To implement projects and programmes for women and child protection and acting on health / nutrition related concerns.

We hereby declare that the Association does not engage in Primary & Secondary Education in Sri Lanka when we meet our real mission with the above objectives.

The Articles of Association, a copy of which may be inspected at M/S T & D Management Consultants (Private) Limited, 1st Floor, YMBA Building, Fort, Galle. Notice is hereby given that any person, Company or Corporation objecting to this application, may bring such objections on or before three weeks from the date of this publication by a letter addressed to the Registrar of Companies, 400, D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha, Colombo 10.

**Promoters**

**THE WAGES BOARDS ORDINANCE NOTIFICATION**

**WAGES BOARD FOR THE RUBBER GROWING AND MANUFACTURING TRADE**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 28 of Wages Boards Ordinance (Chapter 136) the Wages Board for the Rubber Growing and Manufacturing Trade hereby notifies that the Board by virtue of powers vested in it by Section 30 of the aforesaid Ordinance propose to vary the decisions mentioned in the Schedule hereto, as specified in that Schedule.

Objections to aforesaid proposal will be received by me until 12.00 noon on 15th February 2021.

Every objection should be submitted in writing with a statement indicating the reasons for such objection.

**Sgd./  
B.K. Prabath Chandrakeerthi  
Chairman  
Wages Board for the Rubber Growing and  
Manufacturing Trade**

**Department of Labour,  
Colombo 05.**

09.02.2021

**SCHEDULE**

The Part II of the Wages Board for the Rubber Growing and Manufacturing Trade set out in the Schedule to the Notification published in Gazette Extraordinary No. 10047 dated 25th November 1949 as varied from time to time and last varied by the Notification published in Gazette Extraordinary No. 1881/43 of 26.09.2014 shall be further varied by the substitution of the following new part.

**Part II**

The minimum rate of daily wage for time work

Labour	Rs. 900.00
Budgetary Relief Allowance	Rs. 100.00

**PROCUREMENT NOTICE**

**(NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING)**

**MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION**

**Moragahakanda Kaluganga Development Project**

**Moragahakanda, Kongahawela**

Sealed quotations are invited to issue dry food ration for the months of March and April 2021 for the families that are resettled in the Guruwela and Wellewela divisions under the Moragahakanda Kaluganga Development Project of the Ministry of Irrigation. These quotations should be valid for 60 days from the opening date of quotations.

Kinds of Dry Foods to be supplied and Details:-

- ❖ Bid Invitation No. - MKDP / SUP / Q / 5176
- ❖ Kind of Required Dry Food - Rice (Local Badabath) Nadu - 125310 Kg
- Sprats - 4115 Kg
- Dhal - 8235 Kg
- Sugar - 8235 Kg
- Salmon 400g - 7875 Tins
- Salmon 200g - 715 Tins
- Milk Powder - 200 Packets
- ❖ Place of Delivery - Moragahakanda Main Stores

**INSTRUCTIONS AND CONDITIONS**

**Obtaining Tender Forms**

1. Sets of forms for the submission quotations with details of relevant items may be obtained upon payment of a non refundable fee Rs. 1000.00 between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on working days of the week from 12.02.2021 until 08.03.2021 from the Procurement Division of the office at the address given below on submission of a letter of request for documents.

**Submission of Quotations**

- ❖ Quotations prepared as per the forms obtained for the submission of quotations may either be sent by registered post to the address given below or sealed and deposited in the Office Tender Box to receive before 2.30 p.m. on 09.03.2021.
- ❖ It is mandatory to mention the Tender No. on the left-hand top corner of the envelope containing the quotation.
- ❖ Quotations will be opened at 2.30 p.m. on 09.03.2021 and you or your authorized representative may be present at the time of opening of quotations.

For further details:-

01. Procurement Engineer Procurement Division Moragahakanda Kaluganga Development Project Telephone No. 066-2053604	Project Director Moragahakanda Kaluganga Development Project Moragahakanda, Kongahawela Telephone No. 066-2053601
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**GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA  
MINISTRY OF HIGHWAYS  
ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**



**INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**

1. The Chairman, Road Development Authority Procurement Committee, on behalf of the Road Development Authority (RDA), invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the project described below:-

Contract No.	Contract Name	Engineer's Estimate (W/O. Contingencies) (Mn)	Contract Duration (Days)	ICTAD Grade	Bid Security (Rs.)
RDA/DC/NWP/IR - GOSL/2021/07	Reconstruction of Haggamuwa Bridge Across Dandagamuwa Oya on Kuliypitiya - Galahitiyawa Road	87.5	273	C4 or C3	1,500,000.00

2. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
3. To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall be currently registered with the Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA) in grades given in the above table in Bridge speciality.
4. Interested bidders may obtain further information from the following offices and inspect the bidding documents via website [www.rda.gov.lk](http://www.rda.gov.lk).
  - a. Provincial Director (NWP), Road Development Authority, Kurunegala.  
T: 037-2223250 Fax: 037-2228076
  - b. Director (Construction), Road Development Authority, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 'Maganeguma Mahamedura', No. 216, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla.  
T P : 011-2864388 Fax: 011-2861821
5. The Pre - Bid meeting will be held at 10:00 hrs on 18.02.2021 at the office of the Provincial Director (NWP), Road Development Authority, Kurunegala and a site visit will be arranged immediately thereafter if necessary.
6. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language shall be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application with a pay order of Rs. 21,600.00 (with VAT) (valid for 90 days) for non - refundable tender fee drawn in favour of the Director General, Road Development Authority to the Provincial Director (NWP), RDA, Kurunegala OR Director (Construction), 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 'Maganeguma Mahamedura', No. 216, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla from 12.02.2021 until 04.03.2021 during 09:00 hrs to 15:00 hrs. As per the Public Contract Act No. 3 of 1987, only the Agents and Successful winners of tenders shall be registered in Department of Registrar of Companies.
7. Bid shall be accompanied by a Bid - Security for an amount given in the above table. Bid - Security shall be valid up to 02.07.2021. Bids shall be valid up to 04.06.2021.
8. Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the Chairman, Road Development Authority Procurement Committee, C/o Director General, Road Development Authority, First Floor, 'Maganeguma Mahamedura', No. 216, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla on or before 14:00 hrs on 05.03.2021. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after the closing, in the presence of the bidder's representatives who choose to attend.

**Chairman,  
Road Development Authority Procurement Committee  
Road Development Authority  
First Floor, 'Maganeguma Mahamedura',  
Ni. 216, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha,  
Battaramulla.**