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DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS WILL CONTINUE DESPITE COVID - PM

RS.10.8 BN MAJOR CANAL PROJECT IN NWP BEGINS

NUWAN KODIKARA

Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa yesterday stated that the Government had no plans to curtail development even in the face of the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic.

Prime Minister Rajapaksa recalled that the Government did not halt development activities even during the height of the war from 2005 onwards.

The Prime Minister said that

the Government was committed to create a healthy society and a self-sufficient economy that gives priority to local agriculture and products. He reiterated that whatever comes, either war or pandemic, the Government will not curtail development projects.

The Prime Minister was speaking after inaugurating the construction work on the Mahakithula and Mahakirula

reservoirs of the North Western Province Maha Ela project at Kongaha Junction, Irudeniya, Yapahuwa yesterday.

The Prime Minister unveiled a plaque marking the commencement of the construction of this massive irrigation project that will supply Mahaweli water to the Wayamba Province.

A 90 km long canal, Mahakirula and Mahakithula reservoirs

with 25 meter high tank bunds, five tunnels, seven major tanks and 350 small tanks located in the Galewela, Polpithigama, Mahawa and Ehetuwewa Divisional Secretariats are to be developed under the North Western Province Main Canal Project.

These are expected to provide water for cultivation in both Yala and Maha seasons by 2024. **TO PAGE 02**



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Japanese Ambassador to Sri Lanka Sugiyama Akira handed over 31 jeeps, four buses and ten vans to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa for the use of the Sri Lanka Police Department at the Presidential Secretariat yesterday. Japan has made this donation to facilitate investigations by the Sri Lanka Police. Forty five vehicles worth Rs.775 million were handed over yesterday as the first step in a donation of Rs.1,250 million. In the second stage, more vehicles and state-of-the-art search equipment will be handed over in the near future. It includes 25 jeeps, 150 motorcycles, seven search gates, a total search machine and 80 handheld metal detectors. Public Security Minister retired Rear Admiral Dr. Sarath Weerasekera, Ministry Secretary retired Major General Jagath Alwis, Inspector General C.D.Wickramaratne and senior police officers were present. **Picture by President's Media Division.**



New Sri Lankan Embassies in Spain, Romania - Minister

Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena said approval has been granted for the establishment of Embassies in Spain and Romania.

The Minister addressing Parliament's Consultative Committee on Foreign Ministry, also announced to the Committee that approval has also been granted to establish a Consulate General office in Madagascar and to establish diplomatic relations with Liechtenstein.

Though the country's foreign policy may have debates within, Minister Gunawardena said everyone must unite under one voice when representing the country internationally. The Minister stated that many



countries including India represent their nation in one voice when in international platforms despite differences domestically.

Gunawardena stated that he is hopeful that all parties will unite in representing the country's foreign policy internationally as one nation. **TO PAGE 02**

BIA, Mattala landing fee concession extended till July 19

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

Cabinet has given its consent to the proposal made by Tourism Minister Prasanna Ranatunga to extend concessions

granted to the Mattala Rajapaksa International Airport and Colombo International Airport to attract airlines until July 19 this year. **TO PAGE 02**

Rise in road accidents, deaths

RAKSHANA SHRIYANTHA

The number of road accidents in Sri Lanka has risen to 120 per day. The number of road accidents daily in Sri Lanka in 2019 was around 84.

Also 11 deaths were reported in the 24 hours ending at 6.00 am yesterday (16), police said. Nine of the deaths were from road accidents on the 15th, while two others were hospitalised due to previous accidents. **TO PAGE 02**

Special Deposit Accounts allowed till May

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

The Cabinet of Ministers approved the proposal made by Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa as Finance Minister to submit the orders declared on the "Special Deposit Accounts" under the Foreign Exchange Act No. 12 of 2017 to Parliament. **TO PAGE 02**

LankaClear gets online prepaid transit card tender

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

Cabinet has approved Transport Minister Gamini Lokuge's proposal to introduce an online prepaid transit card for the public transport service of Sri Lanka and implement an electronic system for charging fees.

Co-Cabinet Spokesman Minister Udaya Gammanpila told the weekly Cabinet media briefing held yesterday at the Government Information Department that Cabinet approval has also been granted to offer this project contract to LankaClear (Pvt.) Ltd, a 100 percent local company affiliated to the Central Bank of Sri Lanka.

SJB will challenge PCOI report in Court - Kiriella



ASELA KURULUWANA

Chief Opposition Whip Lakshman Kiriella said the Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) will file a case in the Supreme Court against the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) into Political Victimisation.

He said that despite a request to provide copies of the report of the PCoI on January 28, MPs have not received it. **TO PAGE 02**

SSPs challenge WDIG's appointment

LAKMAL SOORIYAGODA

A writ petition filed by 33 Senior Superintendents of Police (SSPs) seeking an order staying the National Police Commission decision to appoint Bimshani Jasin Arachchi as acting Deputy Inspector General (DIG) was yesterday fixed for support by the Supreme Court.

The media recently reported that Sri Lanka Police had appointed SSP Bimshani Jasin Arachchi as its first woman Deputy Inspector General of Police. The Supreme Court three-judge-bench comprising Justice Murdu Fernando, Justice Shiran Gunaratne and Justice Achala Wengappuli fixed the petition for support on May 18.

Police Legal Division Director, SSP Ruwan Gunasekera and 32 other SSPs have filed this petition challenging the National Police Commission's



TO PAGE 02

Heroin, ICE worth Rs.100 mn found from Nugegoda

CAMELIA NATHANIEL



A 29-year old suspect was arrested by the Organized Crime Prevention Division (OCPD) at a guest house in Nugegoda yesterday afternoon along with a haul of heroin and ice narcotic pills with an estimated value of Rs.100 million.

Police Spokesman DIG Ajith Rohana told the media that the Colombo Organised Crimes Division had carried out a special anti-narcotics operation in Gangodawila area yesterday around 1.30 pm and searched a guest house in the Gamsabha junction in Nugegoda. **TO PAGE 02**

Full-face helmets allowed

AG instructs IGP not to implement law

LAKMAL SOORIYAGODA

The Attorney General has instructed the IGP not to take legal action against motorcyclists wearing full-face helmets as per the gazette notification issued in 2017, the Court of Appeal was informed yesterday.

Additional Solicitor General Parinda Ranasinghe PC appearing on behalf of the Attorney General informed court that the Attorney General has given instructions to the IGP not to institute legal action as per the provisions of extraordinary gazette notification (No. 2007/39) dated February 23, 2017. **TO PAGE 02**



Easter Report to Cabinet after printing - Minister

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

Co-Cabinet Spokesman Energy Minister Udaya Gammanpila stated that a special Cabinet meeting will be held soon after the completion of the printing of the copies of the investigation report on the Easter attack. The Minister was responding to a ques-

tion by a journalist at the weekly Cabinet media briefing held at the Government Information Department.

Minister Gammanpila said the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) probing the Easter Sunday terrorist attacks handed over their final report to President Gotabaya

Rajapaksa two weeks ago. It is a huge report and printing the report copies to be provided to 27 Cabinet Ministers is in progress.

So the President informed Cabinet that he will call a special meeting of Ministers soon after the completion of the printing.

WHO approves Covishield for Emergency Use

The World Health Organisation (WHO) yesterday listed two versions of the AstraZeneca/Oxford COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use, giving the green light for these

vaccines to be rolled out globally through COVAX. The vaccines are produced by AstraZeneca-SKBio (Republic of Korea) and the Serum Institute of India.

WHO's Emergency Use Listing (EUL) assesses the quality, safety and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines and is a prerequisite for COVAX Facility vaccine supply. **TO PAGE 02**

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Causing loss of over Rs.200 mn to three State Banks

AG wants Trial-at-Bar to try ten Bond scam accused

DILSHAN THARAKA

Attorney General Dappula de Livera is to file a case in the Colombo High Court against 10 accused including former Finance Minister Ravi Karunanayake, former Central Bank Governor Arjuna Mahendran and Perpetual Treasuries Limited (PTL) beneficiary owner Arjun Aloysius under 22 charges for allegedly causing a loss of over Rs.200 million to three State Banks on the second day of the second bond auction.

Attorney General's Coordinating Officer, State Counsel Nishara Jayaratne said that the Attorney General had requested the Chief Justice to appoint a High Court Trial-at-Bar to try the accused.

The Attorney General is preparing to file a case against the accused in the Colombo High Court regarding the losses incurred to the Bank of Ceylon, People's Bank and National Savings Bank on the second day of the second bond auction on March 31, 2016.

The indictments are to be filed against ten accused in the Colombo High Court by the Attorney General. They are; Perpetual Treasuries Private Ltd, former Finance Minister Ravi Karunanayake, CBSL former Governor Arjuna Mahendran, Perpetual Treasuries Limited (PTL) beneficiary owner Arjun Aloysius, PTL Chief dealer Kasun Palisena, Chairman



of PTL Jeffrey Joseph Aloysius, Chitta Ranjan Hulugalle, Muthuraja Surendran, Ajahn Gardiye Punchihewa, Badugoda Hewa Indika Saman Kumara.

The Attorney General alleged that the accused could be charged for conspiracy to commit criminal misappropriation in respect of treasury bonds to the face value of Rs.36.98 billion and 15 billion respectively in March, 2016.

PNB officers, suspects remanded till February 23

SHAVINI MADHARA

Seventeen suspects including 13 Police officers of the Police Narcotics Bureau who were arrested on drug trafficking

charges were further remanded till February 23 by Colombo Chief Magistrate Buddhika Sri Ragala yesterday.

When the matter was taken

up before the court, the Magistrate ordered prison officials to direct the three individuals to undergo PCR tests and produce them to the court to make con-

fidential statements on the next calling date. Investigations into the incident are being carried out by the Criminal Investigations Department.

Criminal Procedure Code to be amended

Magistrates to visit those in police custody

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

Approval of the Cabinet of Ministers has been granted to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure Act.No.15 of 1979.

This hopes to vest power to the relevant

magistrate appointed to a judicial division to visit a police station at least once a month in order to supervise a suspect in police custody.

Accordingly, the Legal Draftsman has

drafted a bill and the Cabinet of Ministers granted approval to the proposal tabled by the Justice Minister to publish the aforesaid Bill in the government gazette and subsequently submit it to Parliament.

No comment on BJP claims to expand here

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

Co-Cabinet Spokesman Energy Minister Udaya Gammanpila said the government cannot make any official comment on claims that the Bharathiya Janatha Party (BJP) was planning to expand political activities in Sri Lanka and Nepal.

The Minister made this observation responding to a question by a journalist at the Cabinet media briefing held at the Government Information Department. The Indian media had recently report-

ed that Indian Housing Minister Amit Shah has made a statement of a plan to form a branch of the Bharathiya Janatha Party (BJP) in Sri Lanka as well. But there is no definite evidence to prove Amith Shah made such a statement, Gammanpila said.

He said the media has not received any video footage confirming that he made such a statement. This statement was made by the Thripur Chief Minister claiming that such a statement was made by Amith Shah while having a meal.

"Even if such a statement is made, we firmly believe that the patriotic citizens of this country will not allow a foreign political party to expand in Sri Lanka," Gammanpila said.

The President pledged to 10 political parties last September, that the right for dual citizens to engage in politics in Sri Lanka, will be abolished through the new Constitution, Minister Gammanpila noted.

He said drafting of the new Constitution is progressing swiftly.

No decision to relax COVID regulations for tourists - Minister

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

Co-Cabinet Spokesman Energy Minister Udaya Gammanpila yesterday assured that the Government has not taken any decision to relax any COVID-19 health regulations for tourists visiting Sri Lanka.

The Minister said only the Health Director General had the authority to take any decision with regard to

COVID-19 guidelines issued by the Health Ministry and even the Cabinet had no authority to take decisions to relax any guidelines gazetted by him.

He was responding to a question by a journalist regarding the request made by Ukrainians to not conduct PCR tests on tourist children under 12.

Responding to another question

on whether the government has a plan to go for another lockdown, Minister Gammanpila said that the country has no economic strength to go for a lockdown.

"Even if we wanted to, we can't do it. Because we know how many people lost their jobs during the previous lockdown and the country's economy collapsed. So the challenge

we have to face is to somehow manage to live with COVID 19," the Minister said.

He further added that the Cabinet of Ministers will not intervene in the issue over the cremation of Muslim coronavirus victims and the final decisions regarding this will be taken by Health Services Director General Dr. Aseela Gunawardena.



Full-face helmets... From Page 01

which imposed certain restrictions on the use of full-face helmets by motorcyclists.

Counsel Dharshana Weraduwa also submitted to court that the relevant regulations is not valid in law since it was not approved by Parliament.

This petition had been filed by Namal Prasanga of Wellawaya, a motorcyclist and a businessman by profession. Prasanga alleged that the Wellawaya police had initiated legal action against him for wearing a full-face helmet in violation of the extraordinary gazette notification.

The Attorney General gave an undertaking not to take any further legal action against the petitioner at the Wellawaya Magistrate's Court as per the regulations.

Accordingly, Prasanga decided to withdraw the petition filed challenging the gazette notification banning the use of full-face helmets since he obtained relief.

Through this Extraordinary Gazette Notification No. 2007/39, February 23, 2017; then Transport Minister had imposed certain restrictions on the use of helmets by motorcyclists effectively prohibiting the use of full-faced helmets.

The Petitioner states that he had used a full-face helmet for a period of over a two and a half year period and on December 11, 2018 he was stopped on the roadside by a Police Constable attached to Wellawaya police at Warunagama, Wellawaya, alleging that the use of full-face helmets was banned. He was ordered to surrender his full-faced helmet together with his driving licence. He had handed over his helmet and driving licence and was issued with a permit in lieu of driving licence. However, he was not issued with a receipt for his crash helmet which was taken into custody and was directed to appear in the Magistrate's Court, Wellawaya on January 8 2019.

The Petitioner states that on December 19, 2018, Wellawaya police OIC had reported the facts of the said incident to the Wellawaya Magistrate's Court by case number 15879 and had sought orders from the Court to send the detained helmet to the Sri Lanka Standards Institute for a report on the helmet and clearly had submitted that they suspect a violation of the concerned regulations.

The Petitioner states that the action initiated against him is arbitrary and it violates the equal protection of the law and it also violates the health and safety measures afforded to motorcyclists to protect them from severe facial and other injuries.



SJB will challenge... From Page 01

Kiriella stated this at a media briefing held at the office of the Leader of the Opposition yesterday (16). He said that according to the Constitution of the country, the President is accountable to Parliament and therefore he has a responsibility to submit the relevant report to the Members.

"There is an accepted legal system in our country to punish anyone who has committed something illegal". Kiriella said that Maithripala Sirisena and Ranil Wickremesinghe, who were the leaders of the Good Government which came to power in 2015, made it clear that there is an accepted legal system in our country to punish those who have committed political revenge or anything illegal through the police, the Attorney General's Department and the judiciary.

Kiriella added that punishing political opponents through Commissions was an outdated and unacceptable process.



Special Deposit... From Page 01

Co-Cabinet Spokesman Udaya Gammanpila said approval has been granted to open "Special Deposit Accounts" to encourage foreign remittances into the country. Cabinet approval had also been granted to pay an additional interest in order to retain the deposits available in those accounts. Accordingly, orders have been issued in terms of the Foreign Exchange Act No 12 of 2017 to issue the extraordinary gazette No 2202/07 dated November 17, 2020 to extend the time allowed for opening the special deposit accounts by another six months commencing from October 8, 2020.

Ranasinghe gets new State Ministership

Prof. Jayasumana acting Health Minister

Prof. Channa Jayasumana has been appointed as the acting Health Minister until the Minister in charge of the subject returns to work. He was sworn in before President Gotabaya Rajapaksa at the Presidential Secretariat, yesterday (16). Prof. Channa Jayasumana is the Pharmaceutical Production, Supply and Regulation State Minister.

Roshan Ranasinghe has been appointed as the Provincial Councils and Local Government State Minister. He was the Land Management, State Enterprises Land and Property Development State Minister. Ranasinghe was sworn in his new State Ministerial portfolio before the President at the Presidential Secretariat, yesterday.



Development projects wil... From Page 01

The project will divert about 105,000 acre feet of water annually to the northern part of the Kurunegala District and irrigate 13,000 hectares of farmland for cultivation in Yala and Maha seasons.

To resolve the shortage of clean drinking water, 8,100 acre feet of water will be supplied to the target

areas annually. The contract cost for the project, which is expected to be completed in three years, is Rs.10.8 billion. Ministers Chamal Rajapaksa, Johnston Fernando and S.M. Chandrasena, State Ministers Anuradha Jayaratne, Siripala Gamalath and Dayasiri Jayasekara were among the gathering.

BIA, Mattala landing fee... From Page 01

Co-Cabinet Spokesman Energy Minister Udaya Gammanpila said Cabinet approval was granted in December last year to release the landing charges and aircraft parking charges of Mat-

tala Airport and Colombo International Airport as an encouragement for International Air Charter Operations implemented according to specific schedules prepared by the Tourism Minis-

try and the Sri Lankan Civil Aviation Authority.

The Minister was addressing the weekly Cabinet media briefing held yesterday at the Government Information Department.

Rise in road accidents... From Page 01

Five motorcyclists and four pedestrians were among the dead, Police Spokesman DIG Ajith Rohana said.

The police spokesman pointed out that 10 or 11 people die in road accidents every day, which is very high, and that people should

be more vigilant to prevent accidents.

The number of injuries due to road accidents has increased to 40 per day and speeding, drunk driving and disregarding traffic signs have been identified as the main causes of these accidents, the Police spokesman said.



Heroin, ICE worth Rs.100 mn found... From Page 01

"The officers had recovered 5 Kg of heroin and 5 Kg of ICE. The 29-year-old manager of the guest house was taken into custody by the officers and the productions were also taken into the custody of the Crimes Division."

The Police Spokesman said that the suspect will

be produced before the Gangodawila Magistrate today (17) and the CCD intends to obtain a detention order for seven days in terms of the provisions of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance for further interrogation. Further investigations are underway.

New Sri Lankan Embassies in Spain... From Page 01

At the Committee, when taking up the last meeting's progress regarding the repatriation of Sri Lankan refugees in India, a concern raised by MP Charles Nirmalanathan, Foreign Secretary Admiral Prof. Jayanath Colombage stated that there are a number of camps for asylum seekers in India.

He stated that more than 50,000 asylum seekers are in the camps of Tamil Nadu. He also pointed out that there are also people outside these camps whilst measures have been taken to repatriate a considerable number back to Sri Lanka.

Whilst stating that the Indian Government is providing food, shel-

ter, medication, education and the basic needs and welfare for the refugees they are also being monitored by Sri Lanka's Deputy High Commission in Chennai. The matter is also being followed on a priority basis by the Foreign Ministry amid the COVID-19 pandemic situation. MP Dr. Suren Raghavan thanked the Foreign Minister's efforts.

When inquired regarding the progress governing the presence of Indian fishing vessels in the Sri Lankan waters and its impact upon the local fishermen, the Minister stated that a special discussion will continue with the Indian Embassy in resolving the matter.



The Ministerial Consultative Committee was attended by State Minister Tharaka Balasuriya and MPs Harsha de Silva, Dilan Perera, Dr. Suren Raghavan, Chandima Weerakkody, Gamini Waleboda, Yadamini Gunawardena, Charles Nirmalanathan, Sivagnanam Shrirathar, Diana Gamage, Shanakyan Rasamanickam and Foreign Ministry officials.



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Pictures courtesy Sri Lanka Army

A brave mission in the misty mountains

Army Commander applauds courage of SF troops in the face of a daunting search operation

The bravery demonstrated by a group of Special Forces (SF) troops in the recent search operation concerning a missing person in Madulsima, off Little World's End, received praise and admiration from Chief of Defence Staff and Army Commander General Shavendra Silva when he met the group at the Army Headquarters on Monday.

Commander SF Brigade Brigadier Thushara Mahalekamge and Commanding Officer, 4 SF Major G. H. Amitha were also present when the Army Commander awarded the group laurels and certificates.

The daring mission by SF troops demonstrated many different aspects of their duties such as all time preparedness at the highest level, accomplishment of assigned tasks for best end-results, adoption of innovative and ad hoc measures for quick rescue moves and commitment for the greater benefit of own compatriots.

"Once you return to your Brigade, ensure the chain of your rappelling rescue movements along the cliff sans all required paraphernalia is well documented in your own handwriting, so that subordinates joining the Army after you could learn about the risks involved in such life-threatening roles and admire your efforts," General Shavendra Silva said.

"It would not only enlighten you

The Army Commander viewed a video clip on the entire operation and saw for himself how concerted efforts were made by the troops to go down the precipice, more than 1,200 ft in depth in search of the missing 35-year old media official, despite dark, misty, wet and windy weather.

about achievements in future, but would also help rectify lapses, mistakes and experience, associated with the whole operation. These symbolic commendation mementos and letters of commendation would further inspire your commitment to this noble profession of unmatched nature, setting examples," the Army Commander said.

"Your timely action once again endorsed the fact that SF troops are a

special breed, prepared to take on any challenge at any time of the day, no matter how difficult and demanding it would be," General Shavendra Silva, who is also the Colonel of the Regiment, SF remarked so to the 15-member SF team who called on him.

The Army Commander viewed a video clip on the entire operation and saw for himself how concerted efforts were made by the troops to go down the precipice, more than 1,200 ft in depth in search of the missing 35-year old media official, despite dark, misty, wet and windy weather.

Each soldier and Officer at the Commander's office was presented with a letter of commendation plus a symbolic memento by General Shavendra Silva towards the end of the meeting.

Troops of the 112 Brigade and Special Forces (SF) recovered the remains of Dinura Wijesundara, who had joined a camping excursion with 11 more persons, from a depth of about 1,200 ft of the precipice.

Major General Kumara Jayapathirana, Commander, Security Forces-Central, 112 Brigade Commander, Brigadier Anura Dissanayake and Commander SF Brigade, Brigadier Thushara Mahalekamge, together with respective Commanding Officers carried out the entire operation that continued for more than 65 hours.



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'Societies to be set up at schools to save students from drugs'

S.M.WIJAYATRATNE,
Kurunegala Daily News Corr.

Public Security Minister Rear Admiral Dr. Sarath Weerasekera said that anti-drug societies will be set up at schools to educate students about evils of

drug addiction. Education Minister Prof. G.L. Peiris has agreed to give his full support to this worthy cause. Over 10,000 societies will be set up at government schools in next two months.

Parents, past pupils, prefects, school teachers and school heads, religious leaders, police officers and well-wishers in each area will be involved in this attempt. About 5,345 students who have

been addicted to drugs and liquor have been rehabilitated during the past three years. About 1,200 anti-drug societies will be set up in the Kurunegala and Puttalam Districts. Rs. 12

million will be invested by the Government in this regard, Kurunegala Education Director B.M. Blalasoorya said at a meeting of school heads of the Kurunegala District yesterday.

'Laws to prevent excessive social gatherings soon'

SANDYA KARUNARATNE

Drug Production, Supply and Regulation State Minister Prof. Channa Jayasumana said that the decision to complete funerals in 24 hours will be implemented soon. The Minister said that the number of people

attending funerals will be reduced. The provision will be reintroduced to reduce the number of people attending parties including weddings to 50, he said.



The Minister said that night clubs will be under special focus and attending entertainments during the pandemic will be dangerous. He said that the public will be informed of the laws soon.

Arayampathy double murder case

TMVPP General Secretary further remanded

SIVAM PACKIYANATHAN,
Batticaloa Special Corr.

Tamil Makkal Viduthalaipuligal Party (TMVPP) General Secretary Poopalapillai Prasanthan, who is in remand for allegedly intimidating witnesses in the Arayampathy double murder case, was remanded till March 1.

When his case was taken up for hearing on

Zoom on Monday, Batticaloa Magistrate A.C.Rizwan ordered to remand him for another 14 days. Prasanthan was arrested on November 23 for the double murder that happened in 2008.

While on bail, he was ordered to be rearrested by the Attorney General's Department for intimidating the witnesses of the case.

Woman attempts suicide after poisoning two children

A.A.L.DIAS,
Matale Group Corr.

A mother has attempted to commit suicide by consuming poison after poisoning her two children. She was found lying near the Kandalama Mahaweli Reservoir and admitted to the Dambulla Hospital by a Suwaseriya ambulance on Monday, police said.

The mother has been identified as Kiraladeniya Gedera Lakmali, and her three year old daughter with 11-month-old son

are under treatment, hospital sources said.

The infant has been transferred to Peradeniya Children's Hospital.

They had come from Polonnaruwa and settled in Yapagama. On the day of the incident, the mother had informed her relatives that she was committing suicide along with her children. A family dispute may have led to the suicide attempt, police said.

Dambulla police are investigating.



The 33rd death anniversary of Vijaya Kumaratunga, film actor, playback singer and politician, the founder of the Sri Lanka Mahajana Party (SLMP) was commemorated yesterday with former President and late Kumaratunga's wife Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga, accompanied by family members, politicians, artistes and friends paying floral tributes at the Vijaya Kumaratunga statue in Seeduwa. Picture by D. Mihindukula, Kochchikade Corr.

Irrigation projects in Anuradhapura accelerated

NIMAL WIJESINGHE,
Anuradhapura Additional District Group Corr.

The construction work of the irrigation projects in the Anuradhapura District will be accelerated parallel to the Wari Saubhagya (Irrigation Prosperity) programme by the Irrigation Department.

Irrigation Minister Chamal Rajapaksa has instructed the Irrigation Director General and Senior Irrigation Engineers to accelerate the Irrigation Development Projects as delaying

these projects badly affects the economy.

Fourteen major irrigation schemes at a cost of Rs. 70,800 million will be accelerated. The Government has allocated Rs. 5,970 million for the project.

Supplying drinking and irrigation water, boosting agriculture and developing fresh water fisheries industry are some of the benefits that will be gained by completing the projects. Paying compensation for the properties acquired for

the Yan Oya Reservoir Project is not yet finalized and only Rs. 2,600 million has been settled so far, sources said.

The head construction work of the lower Malwathu Oya Reservoir in Thanthirimale has not commenced although the foundation stone was laid two years ago. The Project costs Rs. 20,000 million. Rs. 200 million has been allocated from the budget in this regard but it is not enough to start head work construction, the sources said.

FTX First Segment reaches Nayaru

The UN Mission Orientation Field Training Exercise (FTX) continuing its mission for the second consecutive day after completing the first segment of 158 km reached Nayaru on February 13 after it began on Friday from Mailay in the Jaffna Peninsula. It reached Thawul Wewa on Sunday.

The Army (FTX) 'Harmattan - 3' for Combat Convoy Company (CCC) duties in the UN Peace-keeping Missions that enables troops to develop orientation and competency before they undertake tasks in the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission (MINUSMA) in

Mali and Goa began the mock exercise with 20 officers and 223 Other Ranks of the Gajaba Regiment, Sri Lanka Armoured Corps, Sri Lanka Engineers, Sri Lanka Signal Corps, Mechanised Infantry Regiment, Corps of Engineer Service, Sri Lanka Army Service Corps, Sri Lanka Army Medical Corps, Sri Lanka Army Ordnance Corps, Sri Lanka Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, Sri Lanka Corps of Military Police and Sri Lanka Army General Service Corps.

As instructed by General Shavendra Silva, Chief of Defence Staff and Commander of the Army, the mock FTX, made up on

the directions of the Director General, General Staff Branch Major General Priyanka Fernando covering 457.2 km will traverse Mailay, Point Pedro, Nagar Kovil, Wettalakerni, Paranthan Visuvamadu, Pudukuduirippu, Mullaitivu, Nayaru, Welioya, Padaviya, Pulmodai, Thawul Wewa, Goankadawala, Trincomalee, Kinniya, Muttur, Seru Nuwara, Kandakadu, Pulathisigam, Polonnaruwa and Giritale under Phases 5 in 47 vehicles including six armoured vehicles, six unibuffels, 19 administrative vehicles before it reached Minneriya Infantry Training Centre yesterday.



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

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

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

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

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

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

THANK YOU
INDRICA

OBITUARY NOTICE



Born: 28.03.1926 Death: 04.02.2021

DR. VINASITHAMBY PARAMALINGAM

Dr. Vinasithamby Paramalingam was born in Tanniyuthu, Mulliyawalai, Sri Lanka and lived in Kanakkery, lately in London and passed away peacefully on Thursday the 4th February 2021 in London.

He was loving son of Late Vinasithamby and Pannamah, Son-in-law of Late Mr & Mrs Kathigamu. He was beloved husband of Thangamah. Loving father of Dr Lingathas (Australia), Ranjana(UK), Mr. Lingajothi(Linga - UK. Lawyer previously Linga & Co. currently of L & L Law solicitors), Gangadevi(Ganga- UK), Lingarajan (Rajan-UK), Lingavasan(Vasan - UK), Loving father-in-law of Karthiyayini(Australia), Buwanabala (Bala- UK), Emily(UK), Kulnathan(Kula- UK), Yamini (UK), Saraswathi(Saras- UK), Loving brother of late Santharamah(Navam), Thangamalar, Paventhiran & Jeyabalan and Kathiravellu(Sri Lanka) & Kanagamalar(USA). Brother-in-law of Late Thyagarajah, Sivapragasam, Ponmani, Sivakolunthu, Nallammah & Narikutam. He was loving grandad of Dr Jonathon, Jason, Dr Sharanya, Mayuran, Naveen, Kelvin, Malvin, Mervyn, Dylann, Aroon, Alvin, Sahana, Sathana, Abilash & Kevin. He was loving grand father-in law of Dr Santhya and great grandad of Nilasha.

This notice is provided for all family and friends.

Funeral is schedule to be held on Friday, 19th Feb 2021 at 4.15PM - 5PM at the City of London Cemetery & Crematorium, Aldersbrook Road, Manor Park, London, E12 5DQ.

Brief family history of Dr. V. Paramalingam

Dr Paramalingam's family comes from the most illustrious Vanni freedom fighters who fought the British in the early part of the 19th Century. From his father's side his family hails from the illustrious Vanni chieftain Pariyari Velon who remained the fiercest fighter opposed to the British rule in the Mullaitivu area circa 1807. The J. P. Lewis manual of Vanni makes mention of him at page 22 as a person sent by PandaraVanniyan to foment trouble and start a mass rebellion against the British rule in Vanni. Pariyari Velon's son, Pariyari Vinayar held sway in Vanni as the only known freedom fighter in the later part of the 19th Century. There has been a folk song in the name of Kamugamsandai that exists glorifying his exploits as a fighter/revolutionary leader against the British. This song remained as a folk song only by word of mouth until 1979 when it was printed for the first time when Dr Paramalingam's father Mr Vinasitham by died and to commemorate him the song was printed in his memorial leaflet. Mr Vinasithamby was the village chairman of Mulliyawalai village council from 1933 to 1947. He was also the registerer of births, deaths and marriages from 1938 to 1965. He was also co-founder of Tanniyuthu Hindu Board school along with Mr. S. Rajaratnam the Hindu development board chairman in 1934.

Although Vanni history has not been properly recorded, the new research from historians like Mr Ambalavanar Mayuran and Professor Indragala clearly confirm that the history of the last King of Vanni was not well researched until recently and the history books so far in existence are nothing more than drama narratives with many fictitious characters. Pariyari Velon is from the village of Kanukkerry, the research proves it is in this village that PandaraVanniyan's father's family also lived. According to late Dr. V. Pararajasingam of Vavuniya, later Canada, Pandara Vanniyan and Pariyari Velon were half siblings. There are two other illustrious families of Vanni chieftains who are represented in Dr Paramalingam's family. Ponar Vannichiyar of the Panankamam chief's family also had strong family connections to Pariyari Velon's family coming from the same village, Kanukkerry - reference J. P. Lewis manual of Vanni page 19.

From his mother's side Dr Paramalingam is a direct descendant of Senathypathy Theerar whose real name was Kanapathipillai who was a heroic military commander of the Vanni King who had assisted the Kandyan rulers in their fight against the British. Theerar Kanapathipillai according to anecdotal history has marched through the Vanni jungles with a contingent of cavalry forces towards the end of the 18th Century and the beginning of the 13th Century to provide support to the Kandyan King who himself was a Tamil. In that respect, Dr Paramalingam is a remnant of the Vanni aristocracy.

Contact:
Dr Lingathas - Son - +4412864021 | Rajana Buwanabala - Daughter - +44796405339 | P Buwanabala Son-in-law - +44797180250
V Vinayagobin - Son - +44177264841 | Gangadevi Kulnathan - Daughter - +44124839281 | Kulatharan Pottan - Son-in-law - +44796428300
V Vinayagobin - Son - +44794926281 | Lingavasan - Son - +44792030678

Police Officer dies in motorcycle-bus collision

THENNAKOON BANDARA,
MONERAGALA DAILY NEWS CORR.

A police officer died in a motorcycle-bus collision in

Kanulwela-Bibile on Tuesday morning. According to the police, the deceased B.L.B.K. Piyadasa (36), a father of two was a resident of

Nannapurawa, Bibile. The bus driver was arrested by Medagama police. Medagama police are investigating.

Navy nabs three suspects with 16kg of Kerala cannabis

The Navy apprehended three suspects with over 16 kg of Kerala cannabis in Uduthurei, Jaffna and Uppukulam in Mannar on February 15.

During a similar operation in seas off Uduthurei, the Northern Naval Command detected a dinghy reaching the Uduthurei beach and nabbed two suspects with five packages of 11.905kg of Kerala cannabis. Along with the two suspects, the



A stock of Kerala cannabis.

dinghy and cannabis were taken into Naval custody. Meanwhile, the North Central Naval Command nabbed another suspect with 4.460kg of Kerala cannabis in Uppukulam, Mannar.

The street value of the Kerala cannabis is around Rs. 5 million.

The accused were residents of Point Pedro and Mannar. The suspects and the Kerala cannabis were handed over to Palei and Mannar Police.

Foreign Ministry reintroduces OAS in Milan

The Foreign Ministry will be reintroducing the Online Appointment System (OAS) to the Sri Lankan public at the Consulate General of Sri Lanka in Milan.

The Consular Mobile Services will also be conducted in selected locations outside Rome and Milan, with the mitigation of the prevailing COVID-19 pandemic and adhering to

health precautions. The Sri Lanka Missions in Italy have continuously provided services to the public, even under the hazardous circumstances in the COVID-19 global pandemic.

'Rs. 1,000 mn in loans for dairy farmers'

S.M.WIJAYATRATNE,
Kurunegala Daily News Corr.

Livestock, Farm Promotion and Dairy and Egg Related Industries State Minister D.B.Herath said that the Government has decided to offer Rs. 1,000 million as loans to the dairy farmers this year to promote fresh liquid milk production.

The dairy farmers can obtain the loans from the Regional Development Bank (RDB) at an annual interest rate of Rs. 7.5 mn.

A farmer can apply up to Rs. 1 million. Providing of the loans was approved by the Budget 2021 presented by Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa under the 'Vision of Prosperity', State Minister D.B. Herath said when he was interviewed by Daily News yesterday in Kurunegala.

Obituaries

ARIF - Mrs SRIYANI KAMALINI (nee FERNANDO) - Beloved wife of Mohammed Arif (UK), loving mother of Saleem (UK), loving mother-in-law of Rachel, precious grandmother of Sophie and Charles, beloved eldest daughter of late Eric Fernando and late Amitha Fernando, loving sister of late Panini (P.S.), Lalani (UK), late Hemamali (Hema), Nirmali (UK), Nilandani and Rohini, loving sister-in-law of Janaka Silva and Ajith Tudawe, passed away in UK on the 4th February 2021. Cremation takes place today (17th) at Mortlake Crematorium, Richmond, London at 12 noon. 012674

WEERAWARDENA - BERYL nee JAYAWEERA - Beloved wife of Lucky, everloving mother of Harshini and Viraj, mother-in-law of Jerome and Amintha, grandmother of Ruchi, Marvan and Shinali, daughter of late Robert and Constance Jayaweera of Mt. Lavinia and sister of late Stanley, Sheila and Neville, sister-in-law of Kusuma and late Tissa, Eddie, Trixie, Seetha. Remains will lie at Mahinda Funeral Parlour, Mt. Lavinia on 17th February. Cortege leaves the Parlour on 17th February at 4.30 p.m. for Cremation at the Galkissa General Cemetery, Mt. Lavinia. 012610

Several parts of the old suspension bridge in Nagahaveediya over the Menik Ganga are getting corroded. The bridge was used by the villagers before the new bridge was set up. The Road Development Authority (RDA) has abandoned the valuable steel parts of the old bridge in the river. RDA officers said that the construction was carried out by a private contractor from the Uva Provincial Council. Picture by M. Nelson Piyaratne, Kataragama Group Corr.

PUCSL approves Kerawalapitiya Natural Gas Power Plant

The Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka (PUCSL), the electricity sector regulator, approved the power purchase agreement to build 300 MW Kerawalapitiya Liquid Natural Gas Power Plant in Sri Lanka under the new chairmanship and the board members last week. The agreement will be signed by the Ceylon Electricity Board (CEB) and the Lakdhanavi (Pvt) Limited.

"The agreement for the 300 MW Kerawalapitiya LNG that was approved by the PUCSL will be implemented with conditions more favourable to the electricity consumer, the CEB and the Government.

The PUCSL recommended the inclusion of 18 amendments, which were not included in the previous power agreement submitted for approval and the CEB and Lakdhanavi have agreed to include those favourable terms. The agreement approved by the PUCSL is more favourable to the consumers, the Government and the Ceylon Electricity Board. The CEB will purchase electricity for 20 years under this agreement," PUCSL Chairman Janaka Ratnayake said.

The unit price of electricity supplied by the power plant is Rs. 14.98. Both diesel and LNG fuels can be used to generate electricity, and the initial phase of generation will continue to use diesel fuel until LNG or natural gas supply begins, the PUCSL in a press communiqué said.

The CEB sought the approval of the PUCSL for the tendering of this LNG power plant on November 15, 2016, and the PUCSL approved the process within two days (November 17, 2016). The CEB is responsible for selecting the most suitable party to build the power plant through tendering and has taken about four years to complete the tender process for the power plant.

Following the completion of the tender process and the selection of the eligible party, the relevant purchase agreement was submitted for the approval of the PUCSL on October 9, 2020 by the CEB. However, it was revealed that there were discrepancies between the new agreement submitted by the CEB and the original agreement approved by the PUCSL. In particular, the 18 amendments contained in the original agreement were not included in the final agreement submitted for approval. The PUCSL recommended to the CEB to re-include these conditions in the agreement as the removal of these conditions will be detrimental to the consumer, the Government and the CEB. Subject to those amendments, conditional approval for the final agreement was granted on November 25 last year. Following the recommendations of the PUCSL, the CEB amended the final agreement and submitted the final agreement for the purchase of electricity on December 1 last year, for approval. However, by the time of the submission of the final agreement, the then members of the Commission had resigned from their posts.

The new members were appointed to the Commission in the first week of February and at the first meeting of the new board, final approval was given for the 300 MW LNG power plant agreement.

"The PUCSL expects the CEB will take actions to expedite the construction of this 300 MW LNG power plant to cater to the country's electricity demand," Ratnayake said.

Indian Housing Project commences in Galle



Plantation Minister Dr. Ramesh Pathirana unveiling the plaque to mark the commencement of the housing project. State Minister Jeevan Thondaman and others were present

The foundation stone for constructing 50 houses at the Walahanduwa Estate on grants under Indian Housing Project was jointly laid by Indian High Commissioner Gopal Baglay, Estate Housing and Community Infrastructure State Minister Jeevan Thondaman and Plantation Minister Dr. Ramesh Pathirana on February 15.

High Commissioner Gopal Baglay addressed the gathering through a special video message. He told the gathering that India will continue to support Sri Lanka during this challenging times within the limits of its capacity. He said that India is committed to assist Sri Lanka in its' overall socio-economic development focusing on the priorities areas of the Government.

The High Commissioner said that the project to construct 10,000 houses for the plantation area, promised by Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will begin this year. The project will start soon on new modalities of cooperation in line with the vision of late Minister Arumugam Thondaman.

The Indian Housing Project is part of India's flagship Indian Housing Project in Sri Lanka to construct 50,000 houses with a grant of US\$ 270 million. Of which, 4,000 houses will be constructed in the Central, Uva, Sabragamuwa and Southern Provinces.

These 50 two-bedroom houses will be constructed in an owner driven model. The project will be implemented in close consultation with the Estate Infrastructure and Community Infrastructure State Minister.

India's overall commitment of development assistance to Sri Lanka stands at US\$ 3.5 billion and among these US\$ 560 million is under grants.

Consul General of India, Hambantota Dipin P.R. represented the Indian High Commission in the event. Parliamentarian Rameshwaran, Senthil Thondaman, Office of National Unity and Reconciliation (ONUR) Member were present.

DEPARTMENT OF EXAMINATIONS, SRI LANKA

It is hereby notified that the Admission Cards and Timetables in respect of the following Examinations have been dispatched to the addresses given in the applications or to the Heads of Examinating institutes.

	Examination	Date of Examination	Venue
01	Written Examination to Test Computer Literacy and Efficiency Bar Examination for Grade III Officers of Grama Niladhari Service - 2019 (2021)	20th February 2021	All Island
02	Catholic Daham Pasal Final Certificate Examination - 2019 (2021)	20th & 21st February 2021	All Island

Candidates who have not received Admission Cards or those who require further information are kindly requested to communicate with the Institutional Examinations Organization Branch of this Department giving full name and address. Admission Cards can be downloaded from the Department's Website: www.slexams.com

Telephone : 011-2785230 / 011-2786150
Fax : 011-2784232

B. Sanath Pujitha
Commissioner General of Examinations

5/5/2/AD/2021
Institutional Examinations Organization Branch,
Department of Examinations, Sri Lanka,
Pelawatta, Battaramulla.
17 February, 2021



Request for Expression of Interest CONTRACTING OF AN ADVERTISING AGENCY

UNICEF, Sri Lanka Country Office wishes to call for EOI from qualified Advertising Agencies to develop and implement a national mass media campaign in support of the COVID-19 vaccine roll-out in Sri Lanka.

Interested bidders who fulfill below requirements, please submit an EOI including provision of the supporting documents/ evidence to prove their eligibility as per the following criteria.

1. Copy of Valid Business Registration Certificate in Sri Lanka (01 page)
2. Documents to prove 5-10 years' experience in developing communication campaigns for any of the social sectors including public health and medical care, education, water supply and sanitation and/or development programs at a national level. (05 to 10 pages)
3. Evidence that the agency has been affiliated with a global agency network within the past 5 to 10 years period (01 page)
4. Evidence of winning accolades at any of the top advertising agency awards including the Effie Awards, Epica Awards, The Chilies and Cannes etc. (02 pages)
5. Evidence of similar services done previously with social sector/ UN and/ or Non-Governmental sector. (02 pages)

EOI should be sent on or before 23rd February 2021 to:

Supply Officer
'EOI - Hiring of an Advertising agency to develop and implement a national mass media campaign in support of the COVID-19 vaccine roll-out in Sri Lanka, should be stated in the subject line.

Via electronic mail to: srilankasupplybids@unicef.org

Please note:

- We do NOT require prices at this stage, and we merely seek your expression of interest in participating in the bid.
- A response to this Request for Expression of Interest does not automatically ensure that you will be selected for Request for Proposal. The evidence/ documents provided by the advertising agencies will be used to shortlist firms which fulfil the requirements of the criteria after careful review of the evidence provided an invitation for bid will be sent respectively, hence please submit all relevant documents along with the EOI.
- For any clarification, you may contact Supply Section, UNICEF Office during office hours. Tel:0773-710645 (Mr. Kanchana)/ 0772-512910 (Ms. Leena)

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ADA KOTIPATHI - Wednesday
Draw No.: 1197 Colour: Pink
Date: 17.02.2021

Today's Jackpot
Rs. 108,812,850/-

Winning tickets are valid for 6 months.
Development Lotteries Board
356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Plaza, Colombo 2
Tel: 2 333 545-47 Fax: 2 333 545 4899 - www.dlb.lk
Hotline - 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778

Date: 15-02-2021
Draw Number: 3076
Colour: Yellow

Winning Numbers
14 35 38 58

English Letter
Leo

Development Lotteries Board
No. 356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Plaza, Colombo 2
Tel: 0112 333 54647-48 Fax: 0114 824 824
Hotline: 0112 333 778
Interactive Voice Response Number: 011 4 825 825

TOTAL VALUE OF PRIZES
Rs. 11,183,140/-

Monday
Date: 15.02.2021
Draw No.: 1195
Colour: Red

Total Value of Prizes
Rs. 4,697,940/-

Winning Numbers
01 27 48 76

English Letter
C

Development Lotteries Board
No. 356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Plaza, Colombo 2
Tel: 0112 333 54647
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778
Interactive Voice Response Number: 011 4 825 825

Winning tickets are valid only for six months

Draw Number: 1369
Colour: Purple
Date: 15.02.2021
Monday

Winning English Letter and Numbers
A 10 37 39 40

Total Value of Prizes
Rs. 3,799,200/-

Development Lotteries Board
No. 356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Plaza, Colombo 2
Tel: 0112 333 54647
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778
Interactive Voice Response Number: 011 4 825 825

Winning tickets are valid only for six months

Monday
Date: 15.02.2021
Draw No.: 3525
Colour: Blue

Total Value of Prizes
Rs. 5,402,680/-

Winning Numbers
01 36 40 64

English Letter
V

Development Lotteries Board
No. 356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Plaza, Colombo 2
Tel: 0112 333 54647
Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778
Interactive Voice Response Number: 011 4 825 825

Winning tickets are valid only for six months

Date: 15-02-2021
Draw Number: 1733 | Colour: Yellow

Super Jackpot
Rs. 21,606,920/-

Winning Numbers
02 05 15 44

ENGLISH LETTER
F

Total Value of Prizes
Rs. 2,958,820/-

Next Super Jackpot
Rs. 21,763,928/-

Development Lotteries Board
No. 356, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Union Plaza, Colombo 2
Tel: 0112 333 54647-48 Fax: 0114 824 824
Hotline: 0112 333 778
Interactive Voice Response Number: 011 4 825 825

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No.83, Negombo Road, Nagoda,
Kandana. 070 140 2955 / 0112248723

KANDY SHOWROOM
No.79, Katugasthota Road, Kandy.
081 2223756 / 070 2790830

BATTICALOA SHOWROOM
No.415/8, New Kalmunai Road,
Navatkuda, Batticaloa. 070 1402975

KOLLUPITIYA SHOWROOM
No.399, Galle Road, Colombo 03
070 1403219 / 011 2578921

PERADENIYA SHOWROOM
No.338, Colombo Road, Peradeniya,
071 325 4046 / 0812066585

PILIYANDALA SHOWROOM
No.76, Moratuwa Road, Piliyandala
071 325 4055 / 011 3423844

ATHURUGIRIYA SHOWROOM
No.120, Kaduwela Road, Athurugiriya,
071 0572150

GALLE SHOWROOM
No.152/154, Main Street Galle,
091 2 234 691 / 071 0 860 636

PANADURA SHOWROOM
No.309, Galle Road, Panadura
038 2 240 017 / 071 0 877 513

KALUTARA SHOWROOM
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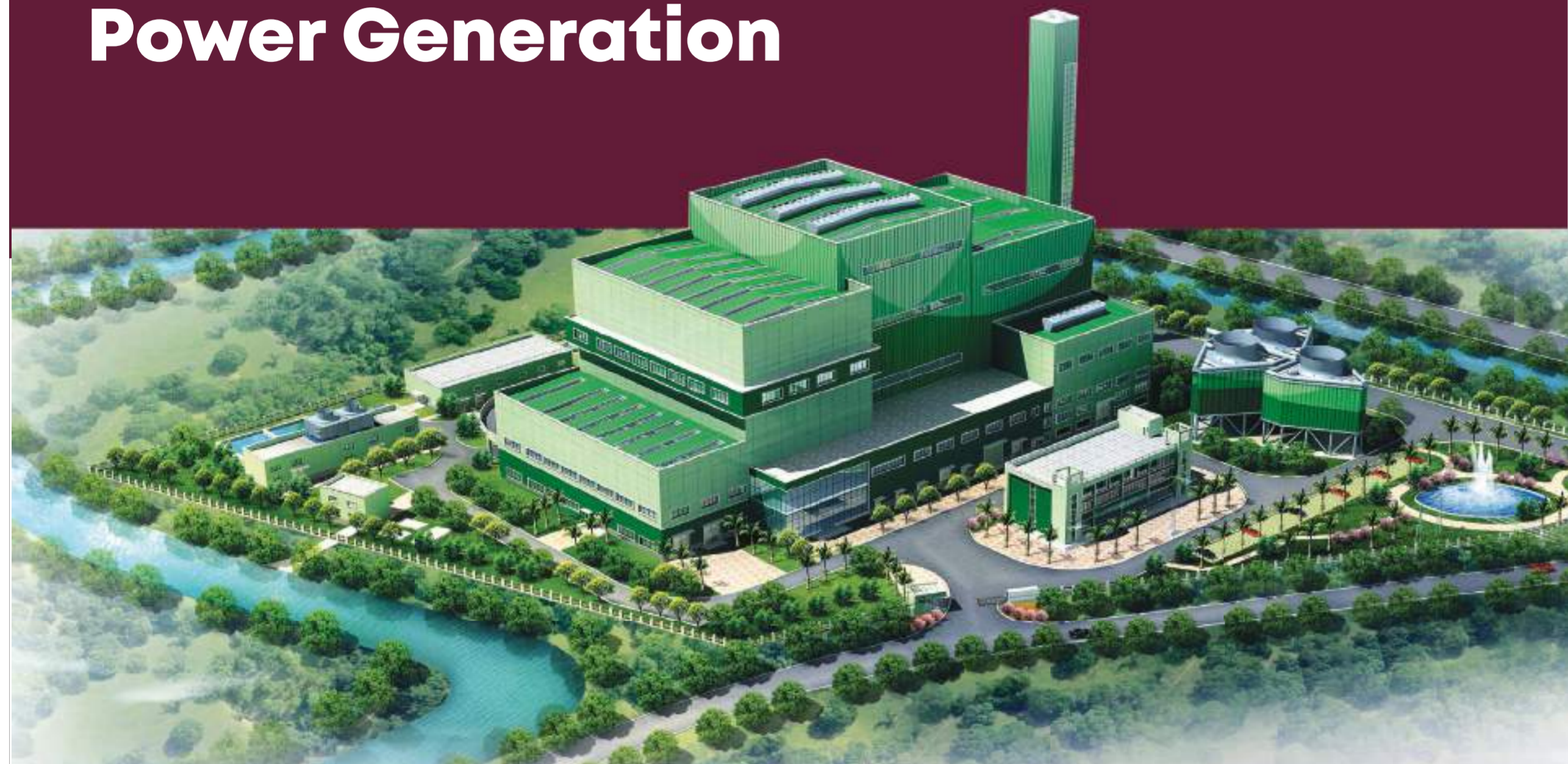
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M-Tile Super White	Rs.765/=
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COLOMBO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL | AITKEN SPENCE | CEYLON ELECTRICITY BOARD

WASTE TO ENERGY

A Sustainable Solution to Municipal Solid Waste Disposal and Renewable Power Generation



The ceremonial opening of the 10 MW Colombo Waste to Energy Power Plant will be conducted today

by the Hon. Prime Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Mahinda Rajapaksa, together with the Hon. Minister of Power, Dullas Alahapperuma, Her Worship the Mayor of Colombo, Rosy Senanayake, Chairman of Aitken Spence PLC, Deshamanya D.H.S. Jayawardena and other dignitaries.

Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) disposal has become a serious problem, especially in the Western Province, where over 3,500 metric tons of household waste is produced daily. MSW, if not disposed of properly, will cause an environmental disaster, contaminate the surroundings, and pose a critical health risk to citizens. This landmark project, which is the first of its kind in Sri Lanka, gives the country a progressive solution to the problem of MSW disposal with a state-of-the-art waste-to-energy power plant. The project was initiated by the Colombo Municipal Council (CMC) who invited bids for the implementation of an environmentally acceptable and sustainable mechanism for the disposal of municipal solid waste. Western Power Company (Pvt.) Ltd, a subsidiary of Aitken Spence PLC, emerged as the winner of

this competitive bidding process. Aitken Spence has since spearheaded the implementation of the project and its operation is the culmination of years of careful planning and an investment of over Rs.15 Billion.

Western Power Company (Pvt) Ltd (WPC) has consequently entered into a Waste Supply Agreement with the CMC and Standardized Power Purchase Agreement with the Ceylon Electricity Board, for a tenure of 20 years in 2017. WPC also entered into a contract with a leading Chinese engineering company, China Western Power Engineering Company, to design, build, and transfer a modern waste incineration plant. Renowned engineering consultancy firm, Ramboll AG, headquartered in Denmark, was appointed as the Owner's Engineer.

The waste-to-energy power generation project provides a sustainable and innovative solution to several problems including garbage disposal and overflowing landfills. As well as the increasing demand for reliable and renewable energy that is essential for the country's economic progress. Minimising the release of carbon dioxide and methane from landfills is critical to combating the problem of global warming. In fact, in keeping with Aitken Spence's diversified approach to business, the waste-to-energy generation project has immense potential as an energy diversification strategy for the future. This will help create a more beautiful, cleaner, urban environment and improve the overall quality of life for citizens.

The waste-to-energy plant will incinerate, MSW supplied by CMC that will otherwise end up as garbage mountains. The Power Plant is capable of incinerating 600 – 800 tons of

MSW per day and generating 10 MW of electricity to the national grid. In keeping with the Aitken Spence ethos of sustainability, social responsibility, and environmental stewardship, the plant will incorporate the latest technology to ensure clean energy and minimal impact on the environment. The residue ash, known as bottom ash, with some treatments, is a viable alternative to river sand in low grade concrete and can be used in the construction industry in various applications. The flue gas undergoes special catalytic treatment to remove all harmful particles before being released into the environment via a 60m tall smokestack. All dust particles in the flue gas will be collected in filter bags and the resulting fly ash will be disposed of in the sanitary landfill, constructed at Aruakalu by the Government of Sri Lanka.

The Non-conventional Renewable Energy produced by the project is compatible with the NCRE targets put in place by the Ministry of Power. Additionally, the power plant has been completely aligned with global benchmarks for social, environmental governance, and sustainability during its construction and is set to exceed these standards during operation. The project is also compliant with the UN Sustainable Development Goals as they pertain to the provision of sustainable, reliable, affordable, renewable, modern energy for all. The project provides resilient infrastructure, promotes inclusiveness, ensures sustainable industrialization, and fosters innovation. This farsighted venture is yet another progressive endeavor by Aitken Spence. As the conglomerate continues to diversify its business portfolio, it adds yet another critical development to urban infrastructure, which will pay rich dividends for all Sri Lankans, well into the future.



His Excellency President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Gotabaya Rajapaksa

The issue of waste management is a subject discussed in society for a long period of time. The disposal of waste generated in the City of Colombo, its suburbs and other cities has created several problems. The adverse impact it has on different fields of the country's life not only socially, economically, but also legally, cannot be overestimated.

As a viable solution for this longstanding issue, the National Policy Framework, "Vistas of Prosperity and Splendor" pledged to initiate a proper system for sustainable waste management. It has been identified that the rectification of waste disposal mechanisms and attitudes among the public is an essential factor towards initiating the proper waste management system.

Plans are afoot to streamline a waste disposal system through multitask programmes to be conducted by the local government authorities. One of the objectives of the 'Vistas of Prosperity and Splendor' is to strengthen the economy of the country by implementing a scientific waste management mechanism. The future plans of the government are designed based on scientific researches which includes the study of modern technological advances to innovate new technology that can be used to convert waste into resource.

The project for electricity generation using urban solid waste implemented by the Colombo Municipal Council and the private sector for the first time in the country is a giant leap towards establishing sustainable waste management. The practice of this method will address extremely sensitive as well as complicated issues faced by the local government authorities, the public and the environment.

I would like to extend my gratitude to researchers, intellectuals, as well as the Colombo Municipal Council and the Western Power Company (Pvt.) Ltd. for initiating a new move to divert the journey of waste management to the correct path.

I wish every success for the waste to energy Power Plant.



Hon. Prime Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Mahinda Rajapaksa

Establishing a sustainable policy and waste management system in Sri Lanka is one of the foremost objectives of our government, according to the policy statement, the Vistas of Prosperity and Splendor.

The solid waste management process in the city of Colombo has been going on for a long time, facing various challenges. The Kerawalapitiya Project to generate energy from waste, (Waste to Energy), which was launched as a result of a continuous efforts for that problem, is unique. It is a milestone in the solid waste management process not only in the city of Colombo, but in the entire Sri Lanka.

It has provided a long term solution to the entire garbage problem in the city of Colombo. It will also provide a successful waste management solution for a sustainable environment. Also, to contribute to the national grid through the electricity generated from this project is filling the deficit of the overall energy requirement of the country.

I extend my congratulations to the Colombo Municipal Council for giving pioneering support to this project, and the Aitken Spence Group for giving financial support and implementing the project, the Ministry of Power and the Ceylon Electricity Board.



Hon. Minister of Power Dullas Alahapperuma

May we as a country receive the many blessings that come with clean electricity.

Spearheaded by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, the Sri Lankan Government is determined to attain the goal of powering our Nation towards prosperity and splendor, with a sustainable, environmentally friendly, and an affordable supply of energy.

The National duty of the Ministry of Power is to accomplish this goal by making our country self-sufficient through measures such as renewable energy.

In order to achieve this noble mission, our government has opened the Nation's first Wind Power Park in Mannar, and constructed the inaugural Natural Gas Power Plant in Kerawalapitiya, the first Solar Village in Monaragala and first Bio Gas Power Plant in Matara, while setting up an action plan to provide one hundred thousand solar panels to low-income "Samurdhi" families, within a short period of time.

It's not only the National grid that will be powered by the opening of the Nation's first solid waste power plant in Kerawalapitiya, by the honorable Prime Minister today, but the hopes of our Nation, while the dream of a clean and beautiful country is also realised.

It is the Ministry of Power's intention, to find a sustainable solution to the waste management problem which is a complex and long-running issue. By generating cost-effective, renewable energy from something that would otherwise cause stench and disgust, we have provided an elegant solution to an age-old problem. This is just the beginning of what we intend to be a long and fruitful journey, with solid waste power plants planned for every district of the country.

As the Minister of Power, I'd like to extend my sincere gratitude to the Ceylon Electricity Board, the Colombo Municipal Council, Aitken Spence PLC, and all those who provided strength, power, and courage to make the Kerawalapitiya solid waste power plant a reality.

This is my wish for a garbage-free, empowered, Nation.



Hon. Governor of the Western Province, Marshall of the Sri Lankan Air force Roshan Goonetilleke

Firstly, I would like to convey my heartfelt wishes for the historical inauguration of the project "Generating Electricity from Waste"

According to the mandate given by HE the President for a stable environmental system, I, as the Governor of the Western Province highly believe this historical inauguration of the project for generating electricity by destroying 750 MT of solid waste per day in an eco-friendly manner would become a new era in solid waste management. This Project is established with the intention of transforming the Western Province into a healthy province. Introducing an international level waste management method of generating power by destroying waste discarded by the Western Province in an eco-friendly manner will pave the way to achieve successful solutions for the waste management issue. Further, the decrease of environmental pollution caused by it plays a great role in favor of the sustainable social environment policy.

Accordingly, we are capable of finding successful and long term solutions for the crisis of waste in the Western Province by establishing several waste disposal facilities like this with the support and dedication extended by His Excellency the President Mr. Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Honorable Prime Minister Mr. Mahinda Rajapaksa.

As the Governor of the Western Province, I wish all the success and best of luck to the Colombo Municipal Council and Western Power Company who pioneers this project in collaboration to create a productive and beautiful environment in the province.



Chairman of Aitken Spence PLC Deshamanya D.H.S. Jayawardena

Aitken Spence PLC is pleased to be the sole investor in this landmark project, bringing a sustainable and renewable solution to Colombo's municipal waste disposal.

As a company that is renowned for its pioneering spirit in sustainable investments, we have taken a courageous step in investing over Rs. 15 Billion in the first waste to energy project in Sri Lanka; despite all the risks involved.

The power plant under this initiative incinerates approximately 700 - 800 MT of municipal solid waste daily, dispatching 10 MW of electricity to the national grid. This Project enables the Colombo Municipal Council (CMC) to protect the environment by avoiding waste accumulation in landfills; and mitigate community, environmental, societal issues arising from and eradicating the recurrence of garbage mountains in Colombo.

The operation of the power plant complies with the rigorous emission standards of the Central Environmental Authority and global benchmarks for environmental and social sustainability.

I would like to thank the Colombo Municipal Council for the Waste Supply Agreement, the Ceylon Electricity Board for the Standardized Power Purchase Agreement; as well as the numerous State Agencies who supported this nationally important project.

I also take this opportunity to thank His Excellency the President, Hon. Prime Minister and the Hon. Minister of Power for their visionary quest towards creating a sustainable Sri Lanka; and supporting the completion of this solid waste management and renewable energy project.



Her Worship the Mayor of Colombo Rosy Senanayake

As a result of a prolonged and scientific study to find a lasting environmentally sound solution for waste management in the City of Colombo, the Colombo Municipal Council (CMC) initiated this Waste to Energy Project. The launch of Sri Lanka's first ever waste incineration power generation project (Waste to Energy), is a significant achievement for the CMC, which will be a milestone in the field of solid waste management throughout the country.

Accordingly, by implementing this project, the Colombo Municipal Council has been able to obtain a sustainable and environmentally friendly long-term solution for the solid waste collected in the City of Colombo and will contribute towards strengthening the economy of the country by supplying the electricity generated to the National Grid.

I would like to recognise everyone who contributed to make this project successful, including the staff of the CMC including the present Municipal Commissioner and the officials past and present, the Chairman of the Aitken Spence Group including its staff in undertaking this massive investment and implementing this project, the Ministry of Finance for its support and the Ministry of Power & Renewable Energy and the Ceylon Electricity Board for facilitating the connection to the national grid and purchasing the power generated by this plant.



Chairman Ceylon Electricity Board Vijitha Herath

I would like to extend my heartiest congratulations to the Kerawalapitiya Solid Waste Power Plant, which opens today to mark the beginning of a historic and new chapter in the Sri Lankan power and renewable energy sector and generates electricity using municipal waste.

This is supposed to generate 10 megawatts of electricity having operations around the clock and will be connected to the national power grid. The Ceylon Electricity Board (CEB), which contributes to economic development and public welfare, is working towards this noble objective of keeping the daily expenditure of the people to a minimum in view of making the national policy - "Vision of Prosperity", a reality.

Being a sustainable solution to the long-awaited problem of urban solid waste which has been a complex social issue and a serious environmental crisis, up to date, this solid waste power plant is also in line with the rapid economic development that is currently taking place in our country. The Kerawalapitiya Solid Waste Power Plant, will also actively contribute to the development process of our country through environmental protection, healthcare, and urban beautification. Further, this will also provide a sustainable solution to the solid waste discharged by proposed development projects such as; Port City, Techno City, and Administrative City in the near future.

The Kerawalapitiya Solid Waste Power Plant will be presented to the Nation today by achieving the desired objectives through the collective activism and international professionalism of the all public and private as well as local and foreign institutions, who extended a yeoman service to finish this project with a cheerful success, taking part in the overall process of its concept, design, financing and construction. I would also like to mention that the commitment of the general public will have a decisive impact on the future success of this project.

Accordingly, the Kerawalapitiya Solid Waste Power Plant will be handed over to the people of Sri Lanka from today and I express my heartfelt gratitude to all those who contributed to the successful completion of the project.



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COLOMBO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL



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Tackling unethical conversions

Archbishop of Colombo Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith has taken up the cudgels against Christian fundamentalist groups who resort to unethical conversions via financial and other material inducements. His Eminence quite rightly pointed out that the prevailing economic hardships and the rising cost of living, etc. make it easy for people to be lured to the blandishments of these Christian fringe groups who are mushrooming with vast funds at their disposal.

The Cardinal said the Catholic Church has no connection to these various pastors and Christian sects. In recent times a number of people who call themselves pastors had emerged and they had been targeting senior artistes, sportsmen and business persons. It would not be a bad idea if the bank accounts of these so-called preachers are perused to ascertain their sources of income and other assets as suggested by the Cardinal. The Catholic Church is thousands of years old and they have a coherent organization and structure. To become a Catholic priest, an individual has to go through a rigorous and prescribed process putting in many years of study and training.

In the past few decades a bunch of people have also started preaching and these people are not part of any organization of the established Church. We do not know if they have had any training. Cardinal Ranjith is not the first person from the Catholic Church to express such views against the conduct of these fundamentalist groups. There had been others, notably Bishop Emeritus Oswald Gomis who was a vociferous critic of such segments. These preachers have led to a situation where even the established Church is being viewed with a jaundiced eye by practitioners of other faiths particularly Buddhists and Hindus who are allegedly being lured by material inducements offered to enter the fold of these sects or to use a term in common currency – subjected to unethical conversions.

The Cardinal also rightly stated that if this state of affairs were to continue there was bound to be friction between the followers of the established Church and those of other faiths, which, needless to say, could snowball into religious conflict. Not long ago there were frequent reports in the media of attacks carried out on these so-called preaching centres in villages and also in certain urban areas where the pastors concerned were manhandled. Mercifully such incidents are no longer in the news, but the worst fears of the Cardinal could be realized if things get out of hand. This is because Christian fundamentalist groups are continuing to mushroom at a rate with even ordinary homes being converted into 'prayer centres'. Not just Buddhists, deep inroads are even made by these groups into the Catholic domain to snare away its followers through inducements which may also have prompted a concerned Cardinal to come out with his views.

The development also could impinge on the current efforts now being made to forge religious unity among all, particularly after the Easter Sunday tragedy that saw a deep alienation of the population on religious lines. His Eminence could also have had in mind the rallying support he received and the sympathy extended by members of the Buddhist clergy as one during the hour of peril to his flock and certainly would have wanted no misunderstanding to spoil the confidence built with Buddhists as a whole by setting the record straight as to the identity of the real culprits behind the unethical conversions, by taking pains to explain that Catholics had no hand in it. It is time that this whole issue of Christian fundamentalism is addressed by the established Church itself. The issue cannot be resolved by enacting laws banning conversions to another religion which is against democracy. The Catholic Church should also play a more pro-active role in protecting its flock from straying from the path. It ought to look more closely at means of alleviating poverty among the Catholics. Where these fundamentalist operators succeed is by tackling the core of the problem. There is also lively engagement of the audience in their preaching sessions which makes them attractive. Catholic services in the Churches should also strive to match this enthusiasm instead of the strict solemnity observed in most Services.

Be that as it may, every effort should be made to remove all impediments that stand in the way of religious unity. True, religious tolerance is a fundamental feature in a true democracy. But care should be taken not to cross certain borders that are bound to ignite tensions in a highly pluralistic society. Equally, issues pertaining to Christian fundamentalist sects, as unraveled by the Cardinal, should not be a cause for an open confrontation between groups. As mentioned, the country can well do without such diversions at a time it is neck deep in problems including the deadly pandemic now sweeping the nation. Ideally, all sides should come together in a healthy discussion to sort the problems and iron out differences. The last thing this country needs is a religious conflict.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Religion is everywhere. There are no human societies without it. - Octavia Butler



A session of the UNHRC in progress

A friend in need is a friend indeed

With barely five days left for Sri Lanka to step into the ring at the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in Geneva, Switzerland, the Government was reaching out to the Member countries of this UN organ through diplomatic channels to rope in their support to defend the country's position.

Foreign Ministry officials were drawing up last-minute plans to counter undue international pressure at the UN Human Rights body in close consultation with Government higher-ups. Articulating the country's position on the latest Report on Sri Lanka by United Nations Human Rights High Commissioner Michelle Bachelet, Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena is expected to address the high-level segment of the virtual meeting next week.

The Core Group on Sri Lanka led by the United Kingdom (UK), Canada and Germany has confirmed that it would present a fresh Resolution on Sri Lanka based on the recommendations of the UN Human Rights Chief's recent report, the contents of which have been widely published.

Coinciding with this Forum set to begin next Monday (22), Sri Lanka is to roll out the red carpet for Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan, the first State Leader to visit Sri Lanka since the COVID-19 pandemic hit its shores, on February 23. This two-day visit will also be his first foreign trip this year.

Tried and trusted bond

During the brief visit, former cricket star-turned-politician Imran Khan is scheduled to address Parliament. The last such occasion was six years ago when Indian Premier Narendra Modi addressed Parliament on March 13, 2015. The Pakistani PM will call on President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa and Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena for extensive bilateral talks. A number of bilateral trade, economic and defence cooperation pacts are also due to be signed.

The timing of this state visit is critical to Sri Lanka with the Sword of Damocles hanging over its head at the Geneva-based HR Council. Pakistan has been a long-time friend which has been with Sri Lanka through thick and thin. It provided much needed arms, ammunition and other military support in the fight against the LTTE. It has stood by Sri Lanka's side at the UNHRC all the time.

Pakistan is an influential member of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) consisting of 57 Member States. Sri Lanka looks towards Pakistan to lobby the Arab countries and other Muslim nations, which have a formidable clout at the 47-member UN Inter-Governmental body in Geneva, to act in favour of Sri Lanka. However, the Government's mandatory cremation policy of bodies of those who succumb to COVID-19 has become an Achilles' heel when it comes to lobbying the Muslim world.

Confusion reigned in Parliament and the public at large when Premier Mahinda Rajapaksa's recent assurance that the mandatory cremation policy would be relaxed was seemingly clarified by the Government the next day. Primary Health Care, Epidemics and COVID Disease Control State Minister Dr. Sudarshani Fernando told Parliament that a final decision on the matter would still be taken by the Expert Committee.

The Pakistani PM was one among the many who welcomed the initial announcement by PM Rajapaksa on lifting the ban on burials of the Muslims who die of COVID-19. The issue of mandatory cremation has also been raised in Geneva by Bachelet's report on Sri Lanka. Clarity on the part of the Government will help ease exter-



The PCoI on Political Victimization handing over its final report to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa



Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena addressing the UNHRC session last year



Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan



United Nations Human Rights High Commissioner Michelle Bachelet



Former Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe appearing before the PCoI on Political Victimization



SJB General Secretary MP Ranjith Madduma Bandara



JVP Leader MP Anura Kumara Dissanayake



media and social media have already leaked its contents. As per the information widely published, the Commission has recommended redress for individuals on whom it decided had been politically victimized by the investigations launched by the previous Government.

It has also accused a number of prominent members of the former Government of breaking the law and violating the Constitution mainly through the setting up of new bodies that did not fit into the existing legal framework such as the 'National Executive Council', which included political and civil society groups supportive of the Government change in 2015, 'Anti-Corruption Secretariat' at Temple Trees and the 'Financial Crimes Investigation Division' (FCID) of Police.

According to media reports, among the accused are former Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe, and former Ministers Dr. Rajitha Senarathne, Patali Champika Ranawaka, Mangala Samaraweera, Ravi Karunanayake, Arjuna Ranatunga, Field Marshal Sarath Fonseka, Rauff Hakeem and Malik Samarawickrema. Tamil National Alliance (TNA) Leader MP R. Sampanthan, TNA MP M.A. Sumanthiran, PC, and 'Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna' (JVP) Leader MP Anura Kumara Dissanayake have also been faulted by the Commission as they were members of the 'National Executive Council'. The report also includes the names of several prominent lawyers and investigators.

Opposition anxious

The report has recommended the appointment of a Special Presidential Commission of Inquiry (SPCoI), which would have wider powers, to determine punitive action for those accused. Following the Cabinet green

light to go ahead with the recommendations of the PCoI report, the President appointed a three-member SPCoI headed by Supreme Court Justice Dhammika Samarakoon late last month.

This move has created ripples in the Opposition camp as the first and the only SPCoI seen by the country until this latest appointment led to the stripping of civil rights of former Prime Minister the late Sirimavo Bandaranaike in 1980 under the then J.R. Jayewardene administration.

The SPCoI law dates back to 1978 and it has the power to subject a person found guilty to civic disability for seven years. An action or recommendation made by a SPCoI cannot be questioned in any Court or tribunal.

The agitation of the Opposition members could be discerned in the tone of JVP Leader MP Anura Kumara Dissanayake, when he raged against the recommendations of the PCoI report earlier this month at a public seminar titled 'Kekille Komisama' at the National Library auditorium.

He accused the PCoI report of being a "ruse to white-wash and exonerate" those supportive of the Government of the charges pending against them in Courts of Law. He went on to comment that the above report could be used to unseat a number of Opposition Members in an attempt to stifle their voices.

"What matters to us is championing our cause. We are a political movement that has lived through difficult periods. Losing civic rights for seven years will not stop us from engaging in politics," the seemingly irked MP remarked.

It could be seen that the report on political victimization has acted as a catalyst for fragmented groups of the Opposition to band together as their political survival is at stake. However, how far they can resist the newly appointed Special Commission or other follow up actions based on the report is yet to be seen.



President Gotabaya Rajapaksa participating in religious observances



The President at the meeting with the Buddhist Advisory Council



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi participating in religious observances

THE PRESIDENT'S POSITION PROBABLY HAS EMPATHY FROM ALL QUARTERS

RAJPAL ABEYNAYAKE

Writers, commentators and all types of Toms, Dicks, Harriets, Girigories and Haramanises have gone into a state of apoplexy over the President's Independence Day speech. They are levelling a charge of pan-Sinhalaism on the new government, particularly singling out the President for what they say are his exclusionary policies.

They say, predictably, that his pro-Sinhala stand which is simply a long overdue recognition of Sinhala Buddhism as being the fulcrum that holds together Sri Lankan nationalism, is hegemonic. 'Long overdue', because the previous Government so enjoyed kicking the Sinhalese around, period.

The President is on the one hand doing the necessary reset after the Sinhalese had their collective noses rubbed in the mud in the years between 2015 and 2019. Even those who decry the President's current stand and his Sinhala Buddhist orientation acknowledge that the abject mentality of the previous dispensation was reprehensible.

But yet, when the President tries to compensate for these five years of humiliation of the Sinhalese Buddhists, he is accused of 'Sinhala hegemonism', and being unable to read the political barometer. India wouldn't be impressed, we are also told, because we are relying on the Chinese to support us – the 'Chinese backstop' – with this hegemonic agenda that has turned the world against us, or so the story goes.

That is interesting. The last time I checked, India followed a 'Hindutva' or a Hindu majoritarian agenda. One would have thought, what's the sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander? "A spate of inquiries into the nature of rising India, specifically under the tenure of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has attempted to examine the role of Hindutva as the guiding philosophical framework for the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) foreign policy orientation," opined the *Diplomat*.

Liberal Interpreter

Writing in the *Hindustan Times*, Swapna Dasgupta, Rajya Sabha MP notes, "The test of success was not what Hindus thought but



President Gotabaya Rajapaksa with the Maha Sangha

how Muslims and other communities felt. Translated into secularist politics, this implied that Hindus must live in a state of permanent magnanimity, and, in the realm of competitive politics, never assert themselves as Hindus.

The Ayodhya movement challenged this pseudo-secularism – L.K. Advani's coinage that acquired popularity in the 1990s – frontally. I met Dasgupta in Colombo in 2011 or thereabouts. No Hindu chauvinist, he, Rajya Sabha MP Swapna Dasgupta is a liberal interpreter of the BJP's policies, states *The Wire*, a respected Indian web publication. He is widely considered to be one of India's foremost centre-right intellectuals.

He views the Indira Gandhi–Nehru secularism of India as a form of pseudo-secularism. Narendra Modi, the incumbent Indian Premier of today became a Premier – then a two-term Premier – and changed all that. The parallels with Sri Lanka couldn't have been starker. Notice that Dasgupta writes about Hindus in India having had to live in a state of permanent magnanimity. Dasgupta engaged the voluble Congress MP Sashi Tharoor in a debate and said, "The country has witnessed a fundamental change. There is a mirror reflection of the confident country. Narendra Modi has cap-

tered the process very well. In 1990, when the entire community was driven out of Kashmir, that was a weak India. The country's evolution into a strong nation is natural. In 1999, the Government had surrendered before the terrorists at the time of the Kandahar plane hijack. Liberalisation has helped India boost its self-confidence."

India as a strong country that harks back to its Hindutva roots, will be Modi's legacy. Premier Modi won a second term with these policies, it must be remembered. That is especially important because some of the pundits who decry President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's policies have already branded him a one term President with the Lankan President having barely completed one-fifth of his first term.

Hindutva Sentiment

If India is comfortable – and if Indians are feeling strong and empowered – after years of forced magnanimity under pseudo-secularist policies which have now been turned back under Modi, why should Narendra Modi or any current Indian leader grudge a reckoning on the same lines for Sri Lanka? Indians have by and large been proud and empowered rediscovering Hindutva roots.

It is obvious from the fact that Modi won his second term.

To be realistic, the Gotabaya version of Sinhala-Buddhist revivalism if one were to draw a parallel, is far less strident than Modi's version of Hindu revivalism in India. Dasgupta is forced to write about "the permanent state of magnanimity of the Indian Hindus." This writer has not heard of any pro-Gotabaya theoretician speaking of anything as patronizing as Sinhala Buddhist magnanimity or Sinhala Buddhist patronage that forces this majority community to be 'magnanimous to the minorities'. The President's views on his Sinhala Buddhist leadership can be distilled essentially to a single sentiment – no longer will the Sinhala Buddhists tolerate institutionalized neglect.

It is worth repeating clearly. What Premier Modi and his Government wants for India – which is the reemergence of the quintessential Indian identity as mirrored by the country's core Hindutva past – cannot be grudging by him or any in his Government, for neighbouring Sri Lanka, surely?

Can anybody be heard to say, "Well, that's good for India, because of the country's size – but we cannot aspire to be what Big Brother is to the North?" What has a country's collective sense of self-worth got to do with its geographical proportions? Will Premier Modi deem that the Hindutva that's good for Hindu-majority India under his leadership is fine, but the Sinhala Buddhist resurgence in the neighboring country that is majority Sinhala Buddhist, is abhorrent?

Quite apart from the fact that he will be seen as a tad hypocritical if he does so, it is worth noting that PM Modi is not a leader of the sort that cannot identify with the dilemmas of his fellow leader and President that are extremely similar to his own.

Remember that he has been excoriated in the West, and in liberal intellectual circles everywhere for his pro-Hindutva stance. Proof is hardly necessary for what's common knowledge, but if you need any or have been living under a rock, here are some jottings:

"Modi is going about the ugly business of consolidating a majoritarian idea of India," skulked the *Politico* published in the US.



President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Indian PM Narendra Modi

"Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi now joins the long historical list of tyrants ...," complained the *Washington Post*. "Hindu supremacist Narendra Modi should not be invited to the Commons," admonished the *British Guardian*.

It's the kind of coverage that is familiar from the Western media regarding matters closer to home, but yet we are told the Indians won't empathize and would be worried about our 'Chinese backstop'.

Great Mismatch

Maybe that is how realpolitik works. Unrelenting, projecting power – no matter the niceties. If that is the case, the less said about the optics of that the better.

Already, China uses Buddhist diplomacy far more effectively to project its soft power than India does. Our neighbourly relations with these two giants have far more complicated nuances than may be seen at a first glance. In the backdrop of this complex web, there is Premier Modi establishing a 'Hindutva first' State harking back to the country's historical origins.

Surely, he would see the compulsions in a country to the South of him, to do a somewhat similar reset? Surely, there should be more empathy from his Government for the stance for which the pro-Sinhala President here is excoriated so regularly in certain sections of the commentary? If there isn't, the mismatch between what Modi wants for India, and what Modi wants for Sri Lanka would be so glaring, it may look a tad surreal.

When UN elections were tainted by bribery, cheque-book diplomacy and luxury cruises

THALIF DEEN

When UN member states compete for the presidency of the General Assembly or membership in the Security Council or in various UN bodies, the voting was largely tainted by bribery, cheque-book diplomacy and offers of luxury cruises in Europe – while promises of increased aid to the world's poorer nations came mostly with heavy strings attached.

In a bygone era, voting was by a show of hands, particularly in committee rooms. But in later years, a more sophisticated electronic board, high up in the General Assembly Hall, tallied the votes or in the case of elections to the Security Council or the International Court of Justice, the voting was by secret ballot.

In one of the hard-fought elections many moons ago, there were rumours that an oil-soaked Middle Eastern country was doling out high-end, Swiss-made wristwatches and stocks in the former Arabian-American Oil Company (ARAMCO), one of the world's largest oil companies, to UN diplomats as a trade-off for their votes.

So, when hands, both from right-handed and left-handed delegates, went up at voting time in the Committee Room, the largest number of hands raised in favour of the oil-blessed candidate sported Swiss watches.

As anecdotes go, it symbolized the corruption that prevails in voting in inter-governmental organizations, including the United Nations – perhaps much like most national elections the world over.

Just ahead of an election for membership in the Security Council, one Western European country offered free Mediterranean luxury cruises in return for votes while another country dished out – openly in the General Assembly hall – boxes of gift-wrapped expensive Swiss chocolates.

So, it was not surprising that the



UN Headquarters

Ambassador of a middle-income developing country, who kept losing successive elections, jokingly told his Foreign Ministry officials: "Let's stop running for elections until we can practise the fine art of stuffing ballot boxes – as we do back home."

An age-old anecdote doing the rounds at the UN in the 1980s was characteristically male chauvinist. When a lady says no, she means maybe, when she says maybe, she means yes – and when she says yes, she is no lady.

But election time at the UN is no better – simply because diplomatic double talk is a way of life in an institution where hopes are shattered by false promises.

When diplomats say maybe, they probably mean no, when they say yes, they mean maybe – and when they eventually say no, the message is transmitted via secret ballot.

If you don't read the right signals way ahead of the polls, and if your numbers don't add up, the best strategy is an exit strategy.

During the voting time, ambassadors routinely stick to the advice or instructions from their ministries back home. But when the voting is by secret ballot it is difficult to enforce this rule.



Voting in progress at the UN

When Sri Lanka's Permanent Representative Ambassador Daya Perera's relationship with the Foreign Ministry soured, he told me: "My Government can give me instructions on how to vote. But my vote will depend on the relationships I build with other ambassadors here." The secret ballot ensured the voting was between him and the ballot box – and no one else was privy to it.



UN General Assembly

Fathulla Jameel, a former UN Ambassador and later Foreign Minister of the Maldives, recounted a story of how his resource-poor island nation, categorized by the UN as a Small Island Developing State (SID), would appeal to some of the richer nations to help fund some of the country's infrastructure projects.

At least one rich Asian country, a traditional donor, was the first to

respond – and magnanimously too, he said. The project would be fully funded – free, gratis and for nothing. But there was a catch: "If there is a vote at the UN, and it is not of any national interest to your country," said the donor country's foreign ministry, "we would like to get your vote."

Perhaps for life – either the life of the Foreign Minister or the life of the island nation itself which was threatened with sea-level rise and in danger of being wiped off the face of the earth. The offer was a clever political payback. Development aid with no visible strings attached.

There was at least once instance when the President of the General Assembly, the highest policy-making body at the United Nations, was elected, on the luck of a draw – following a dead heat.

With the Asian group failing to field a single candidate, the politically-memorable battle took place ahead of the 36th session of the General Assembly back in 1981 when three Asian candidates contested the presidency: Ismat Kittani of Iraq, Tommy Koh of Singapore and Kwaja Mohammed Kaiser of Bangladesh (described as the "battle of three Ks" – Kittani, Koh and Kaiser).

This article features excerpts from a just-published book 'No Comment - and Don't Quote Me on That', a collection of political anecdotes reflecting over 40 years of reporting from the United Nations

On the first ballot, Kittani got 64 votes; Kaiser, 46; and Koh, 40. Still, Kittani was short of a required majority – of the total number of members voting. On a second ballot, Kittani and Kaiser tied with 73 votes each (with 146 members present, and voting).

In order to break the tie, the outgoing General Assembly President – Rudiger von Wechmar of Germany – drew lots, as specified in Article 21 relating to the procedures in the election of the president (and as recorded in the Repertory of Practice of the General Assembly).

And the luck of the draw, based purely on chance, favoured Kittani, in that unprecedented General Assembly election. But according to a joke circulating at that time, it was rumoured that the winner was decided by the flip of a coin – but the tossed coin apparently had two heads and no tail.

In more recent years, however, the regional groups, including the Asian, African, Latin American and Caribbean and the Western and Other Groups (WEOG) have called for a virtual ceasefire as they took turns according to the geographical rotation. The Groups would name their candidates who gets elected without any opposition.

(IDN-InDepthNews)



THE IMPORTANCE OF SUSTAINING OUR VILLAGES

The sight of a pious devotee burning incense at a small shrine or a young woman carrying a pot of water as her hair gently blows in the wind or the smiling face of a child picking flowers has a way of making an impression.



DISHAN JOSEPH

If anyone was to ask me what my favourite 'go to place' in Sri Lanka is, the answer can be surmised in one word, villages. The rural villages are a naturally enchanting paradise. They teach us to calibrate our lifestyle, if we choose to. Whether it is the farmers in the paddy fields ploughing with their robust buffaloes, or an old woman selling fish at the pola or a solitary monk meditating amidst a thicket of trees, the magic of the village is absolutely alluring. The sight of a pious devotee burning incense at a small shrine or a young woman carrying a pot of water as her hair gently blows in the wind or the smiling face of a child picking flowers has a way of making an impression. Riding on a sturdy bullock cart or bathing in a river at sunset are all moments I have cherished, having travelled to every province in my country.

If there is one fundamental truth learnt during the long Covid containment curfew, it is the appreciation of the calm lifestyle in the village, and its unending freedom. Most phone calls I got or Whatsapp messages I read reminded me how all the 'Colombo people' were missing their villages, ancestral homes and old friends. We need the city life for various reasons, though some reasons have been induced with unrealistic values and needs. After the lockdown many were unanimous in their opinion that it was the villages that sustained the digitally dominated cities.

The Covid-19 pandemic impacted the world, and has changed our daily routines. But the rural villages continue their healthy lifestyles amidst neighbours and friends, having to make just a few basic changes. There are no apartments here to cause Covid clusters. During the containment curfew people living in modern apartments were going through old albums reminiscing lovely family trips taken to villages. I know many brave frontline staff who were longing for a break to rush to their villages for a quiet rest and stress relief. This is the charm and natural power of the rural village.

The prudent Mahatma Gandhi once declared, "The soul of India lives in its villages." We can agree that

the soul of any country lives breathes and is reborn in its lush green villages. In Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs theory, we see that humans need food. It is our beautiful villages that sustained us with food, for centuries. During the time of our ancient kings this island was proudly deemed the 'rice bowl' of Asia, with so much interest and investment in agriculture. Where have we come since then? Sri Lankan cuisine infused with our stellar spices has a special appeal in the global culinary arena.

For centuries our fruits, vegetables, pulses, grains and paddy (rice) were supplied from the village. It still happens that way, perhaps with a certain decline. Every rural farmer does an important job, this is why US President George Washington once stated, "Agriculture is the most healthful, useful and noble employment of mankind." During the early days of Covid-19 people were longing for the vegetable and fish vendors who came to every home. It was a stark (and should be a thought-provoking) reminder of how our lives were simple decades ago. Whenever curfew was lifted we all lined up at the old bakeries that operated consistently on firewood ovens and gave us bread, as they had done for decades. I was intrigued by manicured Colombo divas who were suddenly learning to make 'village curries' which they had once defiantly relegated as 'old fashioned cuisine'. Such is the false physical, emotional and social makeup of some ignorant city folk.

If there is one fundamental truth learnt during the long Covid containment curfew, it is the appreciation of the calm lifestyle in the village, and its unending freedom.

The villages not only provide us food. They are the pillars of our bio-diversity systems. They are the regional lungs of oxygen that balance, restore and



renew the ozone layer above Sri Lanka. Villages that border forests have an important role in coexistence and the protection of wildlife, including our magnificent elephants and leopards.

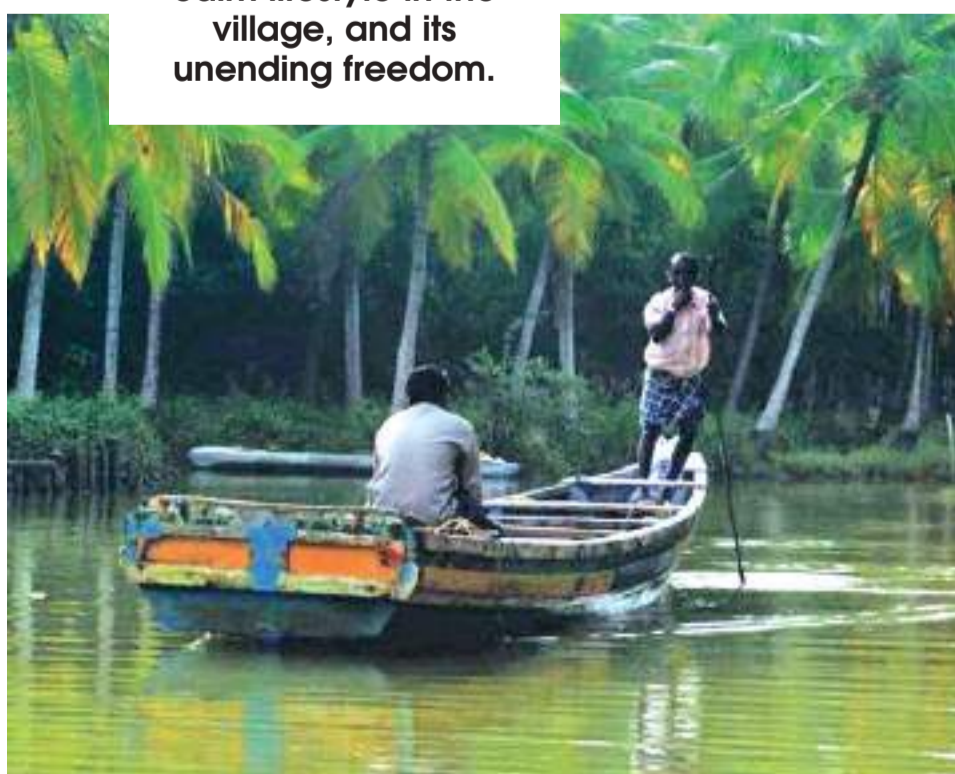
How many can say they are a nemophilist (a person who loves the forest, its beauty and solitude)? Our forest cover must be increased which in turn augments some villages. The Japanese have appreciated sunlight so much that they coined a word komorebi – the beauty of sunlight filtering through trees.

Villages are deeply connected to tourism in Sri Lanka. Where do tourists spend majority of a holiday? Except for the first and last day (to the Airport) of their visit the entire stay is spent touring our villages. So over the decades our villages laden with culture, history, religious tradition, ayurveda, ancient handicrafts, dance forms and multi-ethnic cuisine are the primary showcase of Sri Lankan tourism. Be it the Kandyan hills, the rice fields of Polonnaruwa, the citadels of Anuradhapura, the magnificent kovils of Jaffna, the blissful beaches of Matara or the salubrious tea plantations in Nuwara Eliya – all of these are village landscapes. There was a surge in eco-tourism a decade ago. On a long train journey to any part of the island, we enjoy the natural undisturbed landscapes. The present global trend is agro-tourism, where families (mainly domestic tourists) visit large farms and cultivations and stay on site, learning about all the activities. The menu is made mainly from all the harvested products on site. Does this not accentuate the importance of sustainability and protecting the village network?

I know many brave frontline staff who were longing for a break to rush to their villages for a quiet rest and stress relief. This is the charm and natural power of the rural village.



Most villagers buy their groceries in cloth bags or paper bags – no dramatic recycling. People cycle and pound their curry powder – they don't rely on aerobics. The village lifestyle firmly incorporates the teaching of religious doctrines moderately, in a more pragmatic manner and neighbours truly know each other by name. A stronger sense of community is important as it enhances mental well being. Ethnic unity is a vital part of national security. Incidentally villages have a lesser crime rate with most crimes amounting to petty theft or a land dispute. Children must have the chance to rear a pet and know the value of a life, like it happens in the villages. It is an envied fact that rural people live healthier and longer than city people. The village diet is full of natural ingredients and devoid of artificial additions. Since last year more people are choosing to spend their retirement in their ancestral villages, especially those who still have a house. It is our duty not to pollute the village lifestyle, especially in a social and moral sense. Strategic development in any sphere must preserve the rural beauty and hold the community together. Our villages are the foundation of Sri Lanka. All these elements of village life must be kept alive for future generations.



COPA to facilitate transporting goods via Railways

The Committee on Public Accounts (COPA) recommended to the Transport Ministry Secretary to implement a plan to streamline and promote transporting goods on trains.

The Committee highlighted the importance of streamlining the transportation of goods by rail to reduce traffic congestion and environment pollution caused by large containers.

A special Audit Report to evaluate the use of the Railway for goods transportation was considered at the COPA meeting on February 11 chaired by State Minister Dayasiri Jayasekara.

It was revealed that when the Railway was started, from 1867 to 1934, the freight revenue of the department was 57 per cent and it has decreased to 9.3 per cent in 2017, 8.5 per cent in 2018 and 7.1 per cent in 2019.

The Department of Railways, therefore, has moved away from transporting goods and it has been identified as a major cause of losses. The importance of taking steps to minimize this loss without placing a heavy burden on the Treasury was discussed at the meeting.

Railways General Man-

agere Dilantha Fernando said that the Railway is mainly engaged in passenger transport and the infrastructure should be developed for transporting goods.

Although there were three agreements with a major cement company to transport cement by Rail, it was revealed that due to the lack of infrastructure development of the Railway Department, only the agreement to transport limestone from Aruwakkuru to Puttalam is in effect now.

The committee said that the main customers of the

Railway have been lost in the recent past and in consultation with the relevant parties, action should be taken to reconnect them and retain the customers. The committee also drew attention to the lack of a proper scientific plan for goods transportation rates and recommended that a formal programme be prepared for the same.

The committee also discussed that a large amount of unused resources including lands and other equipment were at the Railways that had not been properly identified and utilised for the betterment of the insti-

tution. The committee instructed the Secretary to look into the matter and submit a report.

Officials of the Petroleum Storage Terminals Limited (CPSTL) revealed that 32 per cent of the fuel transportation is carried by trains and it is expected to increase it to 40 per cent in the future and they pointed out the need to enter into an agreement with the Railway Department to increase this to 40 per cent.

The Committee recommended to the Secretary that marketing strategies be introduced to suit the present by avoiding the

administrative and marketing issues of the Commercial Superintendent's Office of the Railways. The committee also emphasised the importance of changing the attitudes of the employees of the Railway Department.

State Ministers Lasantha Alagiyawanna and Duminda Dissanayake, Parliamentarians Tissa Attanayake, Prof. Ranjith Bandara, Dr. Upul Galapaththi, B.Y.G Ratnasekera, Niroshan Perera, Weerasinghe Weerasumana, Dr. Harini Amasooriya and government officials were present.

Man drowns

MAHINDA P. LIYANAGE, Galle Central Special Corr.

A man had drowned after falling into watercourse, while he was fishing, Pitigala police said.

He was identified as Godakanda Kankanamge Asoka Premalal (49), a resident of Pitigala. The victim had been draining water of a stream along with another seven persons using a motor pump to catch fish when he fell into it, police said.

He had died on admission to hospital. The post-mortem was to be held yesterday evening at the Elpitiya Hospital. Pitigala police are investigating.

Easter Sunday bomber's father further remanded

SHAVINI MADHARA

The father of suicide bomber Aludeen Ahmed Muaad, who detonated a bomb at the St. Anthony's Church in Kochchikade on Easter Sunday in 2019, was further remanded till March 2 by Colombo Chief Magistrate Buddhika Sri Ragala yesterday.

Ahamed Lebbe Alaudeen, who was arrested over the alleged links to the Easter Sunday bomb attack is now in remand custody. The Criminal Investigations Department (CID) informed the Magistrate that they have initiated an investigation on the relatives of the suicide bomber.



Seventy two third year students from the Wayamba University Medical Faculty joined clinical training at the Kuliypitiya Teaching Hospital on Monday. They were the first batch from the University to join clinical training. Picture by W.Ranasinghe, Kuliypitiya Special Corr.

COVID-19 vaccine given for 142 Police Officers in Galle

MAHINDA P. LIYANAGE, Galle Central Special Corr.

Galle District Regional Epidemiologist Dr. Venura K. Singarachchi said that 142 Police Officers in the Galle District have been given the COVID vaccination.

One hundred and thirty five male police officers and seven women Police

Officers have been vaccinated in the Galle and Elpitiya Division.

So far 7,507 persons including health workers in the Galle District have been vaccinated, the Regional Epidemiologist said.

The COVID vaccine has been given to 1,509 people including 792 doctors and

717 women doctors. Among the COVID jab injected health staffers are 1,815 nurses, 435 paramedics, 103 Public Health Inspectors, 581 hospital administrative staff members, 370 Family Health Workers, 1,775 junior health staff, 777 cleaners and security guards, the Epidemiologist said.

CABINET DECISIONS TAKEN ON DECEMBER 15

Summit Housing for promoting construction of housing apartments

The Government has paid attention on identifying lands to construct apartments to cater the rising demand for houses due to the land scarcity in the Colombo urban area. The Summit Houses comprised 176 housing units and 15 bungalows in Keppetipola Road, Colombo 5, controlled under the State Services, Provincial Councils and Local Government Ministry have entered into an agreement to implement 400 official quarters for government officers on two acres of the 12-acre land as the first phase.

Under the project, the State Services, Provincial Councils and Local Government Ministry will be entrusted with 100 houses of the middle-class housing schemes under construction by the Urban Development Authority. The remaining 10 acres will be transferred to the Urban Development Authority for development. The Cabinet granted approval to the proposal jointly submitted by the Prime Minister as the Urban Development and Housing Minister and the State

Services, Provincial Councils and Local Government Ministry to implement the project.

MoU between Colombo University and Lahore School of Economics in Pakistan
A proposal was raised to enter a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the University of Colombo and Lahore School of Economics in Pakistan to exchanging research materials, publications and information that bestow mutual benefits to both parties,



encouraging for consolidated and individual research projects of the two institutes, providing opportunity for obtaining experience through exchange of students with skills and capabilities. An intellects committee has forwarded recommendations on the MoU. The Cabinet has granted approval to the resolution submitted by the Education Minister for signing the MoU.

100 kW Solar Power Generation Program under Private Sector investment
In line with the Government Policy Statement "Vistas of Prosperity and Splendour," it is planned to derive the maximum capacity of the total electricity requirement from renewable energy sources by 2030. These projects are designed to be implemented under private sector investments. It is planned to implement a project to generate renewable electricity by connecting ground-mounted solar power plants for 7000 power distribution transformers owned by the Ceylon

Electricity Board and Lanka Electricity Company (Pvt.) Limited. Under this program, one solar power project will be implemented for each identified transformer. Investors will be selected on a competitive bidding basis from individuals and institutions registered in the Business Register of the relevant Divisional Secretariat of the area. The investment for the construction of one solar power plant is around Rs. 12 million and the relevant solar power system should be installed on a 40 perch land by the transformer. Taking in to account the proposal by the Power Minister, the Cabinet approved the implementation of the project in 18 months as an accelerated project.

Traditional and Rural Industries Promotion Projects
Rs. 2,000 million has been allocated in the Budget 2021 to

assist industrialists in traditional industries to expand their product range and to facilitate access to specific commodity markets. The Rattan, Brass, Pottery, Furniture and Rural Industries Promotion Ministry has designed a program to be implemented during 2021-2025. The Ministry had designed the projects and the Cabinet approved the proposal by the Industries Ministry to implement the projects including a raw material cultivation program for rural projects, to set up National Raw Materials Bank, Program to create one entrepreneur from one village, to set up Wood Products and Design Centre, a Rural and Traditional Industrial Village Integrated Development Program and a Rural and Traditional Industries village combining project, Local and Foreign Market Promotion Program for Rural Industries.

15.02.2021- TOTAL PRIZE WINNERS PRODUCED BY NATIONAL LOTTERIES BOARD 768,100
TOTAL PRIZE MONEY DISTRIBUTED AMONG WINNERS 32,419,120.00
Rs.2,000,000.00 PRIZES 02 Rs.1,000,000.00 PRIZES 02 Rs.1,00,000.00 PRIZES 28

MAHAJANA SAMPATHA
DATE: 15-02-2021
English Letter: V Winning Numbers: 9 8 0 1 8 6

Prize	Winning Numbers	Prize Money	No. of Winners
1st Prize	9 8 0 1 8 6	Rs. 2,000,000/-	02
2nd Prize	8 0 1 8 6	Rs. 100,000/-	12
3rd Prize	0 1 8 6	Rs. 10,000/-	125
4th Prize	1 8 6	Rs. 1,000/-	1,284
5th Prize	8 6	Rs. 100/-	12,816
6th Prize	6	Rs. 20/-	127,183

Value of prizes won in this draw - Rs. 13,590,420.00

The Super Prize of next draw: Rs. 17,427,824.00

Govisetha
DRAW NUMBER: 2694 DRAW DATE: 15/02/2021
English Letter: L Winning Numbers: 11 29 38 59

Prize	Prize Money	No. of Winners
1st Prize	Rs. 1,000,000.00	01
2nd Prize	Rs. 100,000.00	07
3rd Prize	Rs. 2,000.00	187
4th Prize	Rs. 1,000.00	403
5th Prize	Rs. 100.00	18119
6th Prize	Rs. 40.00	6704
7th Prize	Rs. 20.00	103005
8th Prize	Rs. 20.00	38262

TOTAL WINNERS OF THIS DRAW: 213,588
TOTAL PRIZE MONEY WON IN THIS DRAW: Rs. 7,680,400.00
SUPER PRIZE FOR THE NEXT DRAW: Rs. 63,690,686.00

Mega Power
DRAW NUMBER: 706 DATE: 15.02.2021
Winning Numbers: 04 21 40 43 59

Prize	Prize Money	No. of Winners
1st Prize	Rs. 1,000,000.00	-
2nd Prize	Rs. 100,000.00	06
3rd Prize	Rs. 1,000.00	90
4th Prize	Rs. 400.00	225
5th Prize	Rs. 100.00	5101
6th Prize	Rs. 40.00	3368
7th Prize	Rs. 20.00	84384
8th Prize	Rs. 20.00	15206

Next Mega Super Prize: Rs. 116,414,995.60
Next Grand Super Prize: Rs. 32,869,777.60
Total Prizes Won in This Draw: Rs. 3,341,320.00

Dhana Nidhanaya
Official Results
Date: 15/02/2021 Draw Number: 436
English Letter: B Winning Numbers: 28 31 33 43

Prize	Prize Money	No. of Winners
1st Prize	Rs. 1,000,000.00	01
2nd Prize	Rs. 100,000.00	02
3rd Prize	Rs. 3,000.00	04
4th Prize	Rs. 1,000.00	243
5th Prize	Rs. 100.00	5,423
6th Prize	Rs. 60.00	3,712
7th Prize	Rs. 20.00	91,583
8th Prize	Rs. 20.00	17,403

Total prize money won in this draw: Rs. 4,677,740.00
Number of Prize Winners in this draw: 113,861
Next Draw Super Prize: Rs. 82,172,814.40

Vasana Sampatha
Official Results
Draw No. 1667 Date: 2021.02.15
English Letter: Z Winning Numbers: 04 31 42 81

Prize	Prize Money	No. of Winners
01 Prize	Rs. 500,000.00	-
02 Prize	Rs. 100,000.00	02
03 Prize	Rs. 1,000.00	52
04 Prize	Rs. 200.00	153
05 Prize	Rs. 100.00	4,455
06 Prize	Rs. 40.00	3,628
07 Prize	Rs. 20.00	91,821
08 Prize	Rs. 20.00	28,958

Total prize money won in this Draw: Rs. 3,129,240.00
Next Super Prize: Rs. 26,815,860.30



New WTO Chief decries 'Vaccine Nationalism'



New WTO Chief

The World Trade Organization's (WTO) incoming chief has warned against "vaccine nationalism" that would slow progress in ending the COVID-19 pandemic and could erode economic growth for all countries — rich and poor.

Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala told the Reuters news agency that her top priority is to ensure the WTO does more to address the pandemic, saying members should accelerate efforts to lift export restrictions slowing trade in needed medicines and supplies.

The former Nigerian finance minister and senior World Bank executive was appointed on Monday in a consensus process and starts her new job on March 1.

"The WTO can contribute so much more to helping stop the pandemic," Okonjo-Iweala said in an interview at her home in a suburb of Washington, DC.

"No one is safe until everyone is safe. Vaccine nationalism at this time just will not pay, because the variants are coming. If other countries are not immunised, it will just be a blowback," she said. "It's unconscionable that people will be dying elsewhere, waiting in a queue, when we have the technology."

Okonjo-Iweala said studies showed that the global economy would lose \$9 trillion in potential output if poor countries were unable to get their populations vaccinated quickly and about half of the effect would be borne by rich countries.

"Both on a human health basis, as well as an economic basis, being nationalistic at this time, is very costly to the international community," she said.

"A very top priority for me would be to make sure that prior to the very important ministerial conference ... that we come to solutions as to how the WTO can make vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics accessible in an equitable and affordable fashion to all countries, particularly to poor countries."

Need to reform
Okonjo-Iweala said she was heartened by the administration of US President Joe contribution to the World Health Organization effort to ensure broader distribution of vaccines, and what she called a "fantastic" conversation with trade advisers in the US Trade Representative's office.

"I think our interests and priorities are aligned. They want to bring the WTO back to [its] purpose," she said. "It's about people. It's about inclusivity. It's about decent work for ordinary people," she said. She said she shared the Biden administration's concerns about the need to reform the WTO's Appellate Body, but said that would not be a quick or easy process.

"This is the jewel in the crown of the WTO, and we really need to restore it," she said. The dispute settlement body has been paralysed since last year after the administration of former US President Donald Trump refused to approve the appointment of more judges.

Okonjo-Iweala said there were clearly differences among members but progress was possible, especially given the shift in tone and approach of the Biden administration.

"I'm not daunted. I see a way forward," she said. "With the US administration being willing to engage ... I think the way of working to try and get a solution will be different."

(Al Jazeera)

Some COVID-19 patients end up with brain damage

A new study shows some COVID-19 patients end up with damage to their brains, shedding new light on how the virus impacts the human body.

"I think it is critically important that we study this population properly," said Dr. Avi Nath, the lead researcher on this study and clinical director of the National Institutes of Neurological Disorders and Stroke. "We hope these results will help doctors understand the full spectrum of problems patients may suffer so that we can come up with better treatments."

Some COVID-19 patients report non-respiratory symptoms after contracting the virus, including headaches, delirium and mental fog.

Nath and his team at the National Institutes of Health used special, high-powered brain scans to look at the brains of people who died after contracting COVID-19. This was the first study of its kind in the country, published in the New England Journal of Medicine. The researchers examined the brains of 19 people who died anywhere from several hours to two months after reporting symptoms. They ranged in age from five to 73 years old.

"Some were found dead in bed by their partner or spouse, some were found dead in a nursing home, one guy was found dead on a subway," Nath explained.

Nath said he was surprised to find almost all of the patients had abnormalities in the brain.

He said bright spots visible on their brain scans represented areas of inflammation. Dark spots represented bleeding in the brain, which Nath said



was likely a result of blood vessels leaking.

"If these patients had survived, let's say, could they have had long-term consequences? And the answer is yes. If you've got that kind of pathology in the brain, you've got damage to the brain," Nath explained.

Nath said he did not discover any signs of COVID-19 in the brain tissue itself, suggesting the damage was not caused by a direct viral attack on the brain, but instead came from the body's inflammatory response to the virus.

"When I sit back sometimes and think about it, I'm just shocked at what this virus does to us," said Dr. Farha Ikramuddin, a physical medicine rehabilitation physician at M Health Fairview and assistant professor at the University of Minnesota Medical School.

Dr. Ikramuddin works firsthand with so-called 'COVID long-haulers,' people who have mysterious, lingering

symptoms long after recovering from the virus.

"Anywhere from impaired cognition such as not being able to remember things to absolute hallucinations and delirium to death. I have seen a few patients with what we can call 'phantasmia,' which is basically hallucinations of smell, so they smell things that are not there," Ikramuddin explained. "Patients do not need to be admitted to the hospital to have significant post-COVID-19 symptoms."

Ikramuddin believes it is extremely important to keep looking at the brain, in an effort to understand COVID-19 symptoms and outcomes.

The National Institutes of Health recently launched a new Neuro-COVID Project, which will allow doctors across the country to send data and specimens to a central databank/biobank, in the hopes of tracking neurological symptoms associated with the virus.

(SABC)

Antibody doses for high-risk COVID cases

Tens of thousands of high-risk Israelis can now get an antibody treatment as hospital outpatients as soon as they are diagnosed with COVID-19, in the hope that it will prevent deterioration to serious illness.

The Health Ministry has a supply of thousands of doses of the US-made Bamlanivimab, which is intended specifically for non-serious patients. It has started distributing them to doctors, who are now offering the two-hour infusion-based treatment to outpatients in certain high-risk categories who test positive for the virus.

Jerusalem's Hadassah Medical Center became the first institution to start giving the treatment on Monday, administering it to four outpatients, and other hospitals are expected to follow.

Bamlanivimab is composed of monoclonal antibodies, which are laboratory-made proteins that mimic the immune system's ability to fight off harmful antigens including viruses.

"We hope to see this treatment changing the course of illness, and preventing people from deteriorating," Hadassah director-general Zeev Rotstein told The Times of Israel. "We want, ideally, to administer it before people have symptoms or while symptoms are still light — the earlier the better."

"We know that if we give it it widely, for some people it will be in vain, but we think it can prevent



many from getting sicker," he said. "It is believed to slow the growth of the virus and reduce the chances of serious illness."

Ian Miskin, an infectious diseases doctor who heads coronavirus care for the Clalit healthcare provider, was more circumspect. He told The Times of Israel that his doctors will refer patients for the treatment at Hadassah — and possibly other hospitals in due course — but is reserving judgment about its performance. "It's not a magic bullet," he said, adding that while the extent of its benefits are still unclear, it "doesn't do any harm." The FDA reported that while the safety and effectiveness of the drug were still being evaluated, it had been seen to "reduce COVID-19-related hospitalization or emergency room visits in patients at high risk for disease

progression within 28 days after treatment when compared to a placebo."

Hadassah's Ein Kerem campus is offering the treatment to COVID-positive patients who arrive by ambulance arranged by their healthcare provider, as required by virus isolation rules, and who are on immunosuppressive drugs, chemotherapy, dialysis, or who have had organ transplants or who take medications or inhalers for lung disease.

It is primarily intended for residents of the Jerusalem area, but if healthcare providers offer to bring people from other areas in Israel, they will be accepted.

Rotstein said he has high hopes for the antibodies, but stressed: "This treatment does not take the place of vaccines."

(Times of Israel)

Kent variant may be 70 percent more deadly: UK study

The highly infectious variant of the novel coronavirus that is predominant in the United Kingdom may be up to 70 percent more deadly than previous strains, according to a report by the government's scientific advisers.

The findings from the New and Emerging Respiratory Virus Threats Advisory Group (NERVTAG), published on Friday on the government's website, underscored concerns about how mutations may change the characteristics of SARS-CoV-2 — the virus that causes COVID-19 — and alter the course of the pandemic.

NERVTAG's report was based on a dozen studies that found the so-called Kent variant, named after the county where it was first identified, is likely 30 percent to 70 percent more deadly

than other versions of the novel coronavirus in circulation.

Those studies compared hospitalisation and death rates among people infected with the B.1.1.7 variant and those infected with other strains.

NERVTAG includes experts from universities and public agencies across the UK.

The results of the group's analysis are worrisome, said David Strain, a clinical senior lecturer at the University of Exeter Medical School and the clinical lead for COVID-19 at the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital.

"The higher transmissibility means that people who were previously at low risk of catching COVID (particularly younger fitter females) are now catching it and ending up in hospital," Strain said.

"This is highlighted by the latest figures for hospitalisation that now suggest almost 50:50 male-to-female ratio compared to this being predominantly in men during the first wave."

To date, the UK has recorded more than four million cases of COVID-19. The virus has killed more than 117,000 people nationwide, marking one of the world's worst death tolls.

Experts have previously said the B.1.1.7 strain could be between 30 and 70 percent more infectious than other variants.

After first being detected in September, it quickly became the dominant variant in the UK.

It is thought to have been the spark for a rapid rise in the country's COVID-19 caseload in recent months, sending the death toll spiralling and

forcing UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson to enforce a third national lockdown on January 4.

The variant has also spread to other parts of the world, and quickly.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), 83 countries have reported cases of the strain. It has been detected on every continent on Earth except for Antarctica.

Research suggests the two COVID-19 vaccines in use in the UK — developed by Pfizer/BioNTech and AstraZeneca — offer some protection against B.1.1.7.

But the variant's spread has nonetheless added to fears over emerging mutations of the novel coronavirus.

Concern has been heightened by two other highly infectious strains in circulation — the so-called Brazilian and South African variants, known by sci-



entists as 20I/501YV2 or B.1.351 and P.1 respectively.

Those variants possess the E484K mutation, which occurs on the spike protein of the virus. The mutation is

believed to help the virus evade antibodies and slip past the body's immune defences. Scientists have warned it could weaken the effectiveness of vaccines. (Al Jazeera)

Commission proposed to probe Capitol riot



House Speaker Nancy Pelosi

Nancy Pelosi, the House speaker, said on Monday that the US Congress will move to establish an outside, independent commission to review the "facts and causes" related to the deadly 6 January insurrection at the US Capitol by supporters of Donald Trump in the waning days of his presidency.

Pelosi said in a letter to members of Congress that the commission would be modeled on a similar one convened after the 11 September 2001, terrorist attack on Washington and New York.

Establishing such a body, were it to resemble the commission that reviewed the 9/11 crisis, is expected to require legislation.

Democratic and Republican lawmakers had called for a bipartisan 9/11-style commission to investigate why government officials and law enforcement failed to stop the attack on the Capitol, while both

chambers of Congress were engaged in the process of certifying Joe Biden's election victory. The calls followed Trump's acquittal in his second impeachment trial, in which he was accused of inciting the insurrection after months of stoking his supporters with exhortations to try to overturn the election result and an inflammatory rally on the day itself, outside the White House, when he urged angry supporters to march on the Capitol.

Pelosi said on Monday that the panel will also look at the "facts and causes" behind the catastrophe, in which five people died on 6 January, including a police officer, many were injured, and two police officers died by suicide in the days that followed.

There were renewed calls from both parties on Sunday for such a commission.

"We need a 9/11 commission to find out what happened and make sure it never happens again, and I want to make sure that the Capitol footprint can be better defended next time," said Lindsey Graham, a Republican senator of South Carolina and close Trump ally who voted to acquit the former president on Saturday. "His behavior after the election was over the top," Graham said of the former president on Fox News Sunday.

Democrat Chris Coons of Delaware agreed. Speaking on ABC's This Week, he said that a bipartisan commission would "make sure we secure the Capitol going forward and that we lay bare the record of just how responsible and how abjectly violating of his constitutional oath Trump really was".

Pelosi's statement on Monday referred to a review that has been under way, led by the retired US army general Russel Honoré.

Pelosi said: "For the past few weeks, General Honoré has been assessing our security needs by reviewing what happened on January 6 and how we must ensure that it does not happen again ... It is clear from his findings and from the impeachment trial that we must get to the truth of how this happened."

She continued: "Our next step will be to establish an outside, independent 9/11-type commission to 'investigate and report on the facts and causes relating to the January 6, 2021, domestic terrorist attack upon the United States Capitol Complex ... and relating to the interference with the peaceful transfer of power, including facts and causes relating to the preparedness and response of the United States Capitol Police and other Federal, State, and local law enforcement in the National Capitol Region."

More than a month after the attack, the Capitol complex remains guarded by more than 5,000 national guard troops and ringed with eight-foot fences rimmed with razor wire. The troops are expected to remain through mid-March.

Last month, the US Capitol police head urged lawmakers to add permanent fencing and back-up security, noting a 2006 security assessment recommended installation of a permanent perimeter fence around the Capitol. But many members of Congress and the Washington DC mayor, Muriel Bowser, have urged congressional leaders not to adopt permanent fencing or military security.

More than 200 people have been charged with federal crimes in the bloody assault on Congress and a huge investigation is ongoing. (The Guardian)

Leonard-the cricketer turned ruggerite

ALTHAF NAWAZ

St. Peter's College, Colombo is one of the pioneer Catholic institutions in the country which has a proud history of producing several outstanding persons both in education and sports who have reached the pinnacle in their respective fields. Leonard de Zilwa was one of them who made his 'Alma Mater' proud by engaging in the game of rugby gradually transforming to be the cynosure of all eyes as a player and coach.

Leonard was born in 1974 and his father was Melvin de Zilwa also a Peterite who worked as a Pharmacist while Chithra de Zilwa is his mother who is a housewife. He has three other siblings with two elder sisters Rochelle and Rozabelle who schooled at Holy Family Convent, Dehiwala are housewives while his elder brother Lucian who is also a Peterite is a Pharmacist living in the USA.

Leonard gained admission to St. Peter's College, Colombo primary in 1981 and excelled in his studies and completed his higher education in 1993. His first passion as a sportsman was to play cricket and went on to represent the college in the under-13 and 15 cricket teams.

While playing cricket, he was drawn towards handling the oval shaped ball at the age of 12 years. It was his junior rugby coach B.K. Ramachandran who was handling the under-13 who encouraged him to take up rugby, to which Leonard responded positively. From his younger days he was a great follower of rugby witnessing the college matches hosted at college grounds. He then enrolled himself in the under-13 team and mingled with some top players until he played in the first XV team in his favourite position of scrum half. He became a key player and the link man

between the forwards and the back division imbibed with tactical moves and kicks from the base. He was finally rewarded for his indefatigable efforts to lead the college side in his final year which was an unforgettable moment in his school rugby career in 1993.

He was blessed to have a coach with values and determination retired senior DIG Nimal Lewke, who transformed him and the team to reach some milestones like defeating S. Thomas' and St. Joseph's Colleges and obtaining several championships after a lapse of six years which enabled him to receive the prestigious college colours in rugby. He played under the captaincy of Manoj Bakshani in 1991 and was coached by Angelo Wickremaratne while in 1992 under the leadership of R.D. Fredricks they were coached by Orville Fernando.



Leonard de Zilwa

Soon after his school career, he was given the opportunity to represent Havelock Sports Club from 1995 to 2002. His mentor and club coaches were Ana Saranapala and Y.C. Chang. He was fortunate enough to obtain the advice of some legendary rugby players like Michael Jayasekera, brothers Roger and Ronald Rodrigo who are his first

cousins who really inspired him. While donning the Park Club jersey he was a key player of the winning team in 1995 and 1999 of the Club Sevens Championship. He was elevated to captaincy of the team in 1999 and received the 'Best Sevens Player of the Tournament' award. He represented several champion sides under various captains at Park Club for which he is very honoured and privileged while sticking to one club during his tenure at club rugby. In 1992, he was called for National duty and locked horns against Chinese Taipei in the fifteen-a-side tournament. He represented the Sri Lanka team in 1997 at the Asian Quadrangular Tournament beating Thailand, Singapore and Malaysia. Some other achievements were playing in the Dubai International Sevens in 2012, Captaining the Sri Lanka Sevens team on various occasions, at the HSBC Asian Rugby Sev-

ens Series at Brunei Sevens and emerged Bowl champions at the 15th Asian Junior Championships in Sri Lanka in 2012. In the XV-a-side competitions he played in the Commonwealth Games held in Manchester in the United Kingdom in 2012. Represented the Sri-Lanka rugby team when they were ranked fourth in the 'Plate' Championship.

With his illustrious career as a player he took up coaching and obtained the following qualifications including the IRB Coaching level-2, IRB Coaching level-1, IRB Officiating level-1 He was contracted as head coach of Navy Sports Club in the year 2021. He launched the junior rugby development programme at S. Thomas' College in 2019. He assumed duty as Rugby Coach of Sri Lanka Air Force Sports Club in the 2015 and 2016 seasons. He was promoted as head coach of Sri Lanka

Air Force sports club from 2013 to 2015, Head Coach of Sri Lanka Navy Sports Club in 2012, Assistant Coach of Sri Lanka National Rugby sevens team from 2008 to 2012, Head Coach of Havelock Sports Club sevens team, assistant coach at Havelock Sports Club in the XV-a-side team in 'A' division in 2011. He also coached the Western Warriors team at Carlton Super Sevens from 2010 to 2013. He coached the MAS rugby team and guided them to annex the Mercantile Rugby Cup Championship from 2007 to 2009. He was the Head Coach of S. Thomas' College under 17 rugby team.

He served as the General Manager-Marketing and Merchandising Eskimo Fashions from February 2017 to June 2019, General Manager - Customer Service Manager / Sales & Marketing /Merchandising, BAM Knitting (Pvt) Limited from 2008 to 2017.

Ishan Chamika Appuhamy -a karateka par excellence

DILWIN MENDIS
Moratuwa Sports Special Correspondent

Fourteen year old Karate Gold Medalist and Black Belt Holder. Ishan Chamika Appuhamy has brought honour and fame to his Alma Mater Sri Bodhi Madya Maha Vidyalaya Thaththiripitiya, Welipannagahamulla. He was admitted to this school when Anura Ratnayake was the Principal and his first class teacher was Mrs. Kusum. Upto grade five he did not participate in any game but as he was keen in karate his parents Roshan Chaminda Appuhamy and Nimali Sagarika admitted their son to ISKU Karate Academy and the coach was Sugath Kumara.

In 2015 he attended Karate practices and in the under 10 age group he participated in the Puttalam District Meet and won a Gold for Kata and in the following year at the fifth Semi Contact Karate Championship he claimed a Gold for Kata and in the same year he got a Merit Certificate for Kata and in Kumite he came up to Best Eight in the under 12 age group.

In the same year at the Sri Lanka Karate Championship



Ishan Chamika Appuhamy is seen here after receiving the Black Belt with his coach at the ISKU Shotokan Kumite Grading Ceremony in 2020. (Picture by Dilwin Mendis Moratuwa Sports Special Correspondent)

he won a Gold for Kumite and in 2018 he received a Merit Certificate for participating for Kata and won a Bronze at the North Western Province Karate Meet and in the same meet and in another under 12

N. W. P. Meet he got a Bronze for Kata and in the Puttalam District Karate-Do Association meet he won a Bronze for Kata and in the same age he won Silvers for Kata and Kumite



Ishan Chamika Appuhamy

In the Fifth Open International Semi Contact Shotokan Karate Championship he won a Bronze for Kata and received a Merit Certificate for Kumite, in the under 12 and in 2019 Sri Lanka-Do Puttalam Meet he got Bronzes for Kata and Kumite and in the same year at the Sri Lanka 2nd All Island Shotokan Karate Meet he won a Gold for Kumite and Silver for Kata at the N. W. P. Meet he won a Bronze for Kumite and a Merit Certificate for Kata for participation in the under 14 age group. With all these performances under his belt he was awarded a Black Belt at the ISKU Shotokan Kumite Grading Ceremony in 2020.

Thenuka Navaratne one of the finest gymnasts

UPANANDA JAYASUNDERA
Kandy Sports Special correspondent

Thenuka Bandara Navaratne is a Grade Eleven student of St. Sylvester's College, Kandy and he is one of the finest gymnasts in the Central Province at school level. He was coached by Amal Rasanaga, the International Level one Coach and Thenuka started gymnastic at the tender age of eight years and was placed first in Floor Exercise and second in vault exercise. In the Under 10 age group he won the Vault event and became one of the Best eight gymnasts and he came first in vault and second in Floor event at the Kandy District Meet. Thenuka repeated his performance in the year 2018 to become first in Vault, Pommel Horse and Parallel Bar and Rings at the Provincial Gymnastic Meet.

The year 2019 was also a successful year for Thenuka when he participated at the District Level Gymnastic Meet and won the Pommel Horse and became second in Floor, Horizontal Bar, Parallel Bar and became third in Vault Exercise. In 2020 again he showed his class at District Level when he won the first place in Pommel Horse, Parallel bar and Floor Exercise and came third in Vault, Rings and Horizontal bar in his age group. When he contested at the All Island Gymnastics Meet from 2014 itself he won



Thenuka Bandara Navaratne in action at a meet. Picture by Upananda Jayasundera-Kandy sports Spl. Corr

the Sri Lanka Schools Junior Meet in floor event and in the same year in the same meet he became first in floor and second in Parallel Bar at the Under 12 age group and in 2019 he came second in Parallel bar and third in Floor Exercise.

At the Junior National Gymnastic Tournament in 2016 he won rings and second in Parallel Bar in Under 14 age category. In 2017 he won the third place in Parallel Bar and Pommel Horse, became second in Rings and third in Vault and Floor at the Junior National Meet. He went

on to win Floor, Parallel Bar, Pommel and Vault at the first Invitation Sonny International Gymnastic Championship held in Philippines in the year 2016. He attended a common Training Camp for Men's Artistic Gymnastics in Dhaka, Bangladesh from 21st to 25th July, 2018.

Thenuka's intention is to represent Sri Lanka in gymnastics at International Meets and bring fame to his country and he is thankful to his coach Amal Rasanaga for his dedication to bring him up to the International Standard in gymnastics.

Ranga Wimalawansa launches athletic talent hunt



Ranga Wimalawansa with some of the young athletes



A training session in progress

Former Sri Lankan Olympic athletic star Ranga Wimalawansa has started his own training academy with the intention of finding Sri Lanka's future athletic stars.

The 41-year-old Sydney 2000 Olympic athlete is currently coaching a group of young athletes at the Sports Ministry Grounds in Torrington Avenue, through the courtesy of Ranga Wimalawansa Sports Foundation.

Wimalawansa has already obtained the IAAF Level One and Level Two Coaching certificates and has also followed a course on High-Performance Decision Making in Australia.

"My target is to build up a solid foundation for these young athletes and anyone could join these sessions because it is

absolutely free of charge," said the former schoolboy of St. Peter's College.

"I am focussing more on the 100m, 200m, 400m and relay events and I hope to expand this programme to other areas as well," added Wimalawansa.

Wimalawansa built up a reputation as one of the finest exponents in relay events and he proved it when he anchored the Sri Lanka 400X4m Relay Team to win the Bronze Medal at the 1998 Asian Championships in Japan while still a schoolboy.

He won a Bronze Medal in the 400m event at the 2002 Asian Championships and was a member of the Sri Lanka 400X4m Relay Team which won a Gold Medal at the 2006 South Asian Games. (C.D)

Second Sri Lanka Women's Chess Grand Prix 2021

Sanudula Dahamdi takes the lead



Sanudula Dahamdi

DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Sanudula Dahamdi of Musaeus College took the lead with 5 points out of six games when she beat Naduni Abeywardena in the sixth round of the second Sri Lanka Women's Chess Grand Prix yesterday at the halfway mark at the Chess Federation headquarters, Nugegoda. She beat Gaveshi Wickremaratne in the fifth round. Sanudula, who is one of the strongest young girl chess players in Sri Lanka will face her challenges in the next session which will begin on Friday.

Tharushi Niklesha of Visakha Vidyalaya obtained a draw with Gaveshi Wickramaratne, an upcoming player to stay in 4 1/2 points, just a half a point less than the leader. She beat her school

mate Pasindi Wijesuriya in the fifth round. Former women's National Chess Champion, Dasuni Hansika Mendis and Sri Lanka Women's National No 2 Sandeepani Tharushi are sharing the third place with 4 points. Dasuni beat Oshini Gunawardena and Sandeepani beat Esha Pallie in the 5th round.

The second Sri Lanka Women's Chess Grand Prix 2021 is conducted by the Chess Federation of Sri Lanka from February 13 to 21 with total prize money of Rs. 70,000. Only 12 top players in the country are participating in this event which is conducted on a Round Robin Basis for 11 rounds.

The next round will be held on February 19 (evening only) and 20 and 21 at the same venue.

Sri Lankan Olympic stars of yesteryear

Geoffrey Marks was a Sri Lankan superstar in swimming

Geoffrey Charles Marks qualified to represent the country at the 1952 Helsinki Olympic Games following a series of good performances at home and at international level.

He won the popular Two-Mile Sea Swim eight times and had also set a record by winning the event with a time of 53 minutes and 10 seconds.

During the same period, Marks set a number of Ceylon records in the 100, 200, 440, 880 yards events and One-Mile races to emerge as a superstar in swimming.

At a swimming meet held in Bombay, India in 1952, he had exhibited standards of International level. This

event was held between teams of Bombay, Calcutta, Allahabad, Osmania, Aligarh and Lucknow Universities.

Marks who was an undergraduate of the Colombo University, won the 400m freestyle swimming event in five minutes 28.4 seconds - a new All-India record improving on the existing record by 2.2s.

The earlier record had been established by the acclaimed Indian swimming champion Bimal Chandra.

As a result of his success both at National and at International level, he was provided with the opportunity of participating in the



Geoffrey Marks

Olympic Games in Helsinki, Finland in 1952.

He ended in sixth place in the Men's 400m freestyle event in five minutes and two seconds. Nevertheless,

this was an improvement on his Ceylon record.

Although he participated in the second Asian Games held in Manila, Philippines in 1954, he could not win any of the events.

However, at the Inter-University Swimming Meet held in Calcutta, India in 1955, he won the 1,500m freestyle in 21 minutes and 35.8 seconds while shattering the All-India record of 21 minutes 40.5 seconds.

The challenge which he experienced from the Indian champion Sri Chand Bajaj in this event cannot be ignored as he improved on the existing record.

Marks left the Island after obtaining his Degree

from the Colombo University and found employment in Japan in 1959.

In Japan he won a scholarship to study crop diseases at the University of Wisconsin, USA, from where he graduated with a M.Sc. in 1961 and PhD in 1963.

He then arrived in Australia in July 1963 when he was appointed to the position of Forest Pathologist with the Forests Commission of Victoria.

Marks had wide interests and he was an active member of the Australia-Ceylon Fellowship and he passed away on August 30, 1990 at the age of 58 years in Melbourne. (C.D)



Dushan Mudalige in action

Dushan Mudalige shines at Kanway Circuit Meet

Versatile motorcycle champion Dushan Mudalige stole the limelight when he secured a podium finish despite a handicap in the Super Motard event at the Circuit Meet worked off at the Kanway Auto-

drome in Mirigama recently.

Mudalige, who was the fastest rider at the Eliyakanda Meet last year, fought his way into recognition and finished in second place having experi-



Dushan Mudalige with the Trophy and certificate

enced trouble with his bike throughout the race.

Meanwhile, S. Fernando won the race while Isuru Maduranga was placed third in this six-lap event which was the main highlight at this circuit meet.

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Axar Patel celebrates a dismissal

Ashwin stars as India thrash England to level Test series

WORLD OF SPORTS

Today (Feb. 17)

TENNIS (LOCAL EVENTS)

Colombo Open Tournament at Green Path

(Foreign)

Australian Open at Melbourne (10th Day)

FOOTBALL (LOCAL EVENTS)

(Pre-League Tournament) New Young FC vs Sea Hawks SC, 5.00 p.m. Red Star SC vs Blue Star SC, 8.00 p.m. (Both matches at Sugathadasa Stadium)

(Foreign)

(Premier League) Burnley vs Fulham Everton vs Manchester City (Champions League) FC Porto vs Juventus Sevilla vs Borussia Dortmund (Spanish League) Levante vs Atletico Madrid

BADMINTON (LOCAL EVENTS)

Senior Nationals at SLBA, MBA, Otter AC Indoor Stadium

CHENNAI, TUESDAY: India captain Virat Kohli said Tuesday his side showed more "grit" and "determination" to thrash England in the second Test, playing down complaints about the difficult pitch.

With local hero Ravichandran Ashwin claiming eight wickets in the match and scoring 106 in the second innings, India completed a 317-run victory inside four days in Chennai.

Left-arm spinner Axar Patel claimed a five-wicket haul on his Test debut as England were out

for 164 while chasing an unlikely 482 on day four.

Some said the Chennai pitch, which crumbled from nearly the first day, was not fit for a Test.

But England made no public complaint and Kohli rejected the criticism and said his side played a "perfect game".

"I think our application with

the bat was outstanding," said the India captain.

"The conditions were challenging for both sides but we showed more application and grit and determination to battle it out. "We didn't panic out there looking at the hard turn and bounce on that pitch," Kohli highlighted that India

scored 600 runs over two innings despite the conditions, and winning the toss made no difference.

"So if you put up that kind of batting performance and you string in those important batting partnerships then we know that our bowlers are going to do the job."

England captain Joe Root conceded that his side were "outplayed in all three departments this week" and had to learn quickly before the third Test in Ahmedabad. But he added: "I would say it was a challenging wicket. I do think that it was an important toss to win."

England, he said, now have to be "honest" and learn quickly to adapt to conditions in India.

England, struggling since the opening day, kept losing wickets after resuming on 53-3 on day four.

Root departed for 33 soon after lunch, falling to Patel.

Left-arm wrist spinner Kul-

deep Yadav joined in to finish off the innings, taking Moeen Ali after he smashed 43 off 18 balls.

The last wicket partnership of 38 between Ali and Stuart Broad, unbeaten on five, was England's highest of the match.

England, who have been resting and rotating players, said Ali would be returning home after the Test.

Ali had coronavirus in Sri Lanka but recovered to take a total of eight wickets in the second Test against India.

Ashwin's five wickets to help bowl out England for 134 in the first innings in response to India's 329 set the tone for the host's dominance.

England conceded a lead of 195 and then struggled on a pitch that offered turn from day one.

"This wicket was very different to the one we played on in the first game," Ashwin conceded, but he added that the wickets had not fallen from the balls he expected.

"It was the mind of the batsmen that got us wickets." Opener Rohit Sharma hit an attacking 161 to set up India's big innings after they won the toss and elected to bat first.

Sharma's seventh Test century and his first against England raised the pitch of the returning Indian crowd - present in a stadium for the first time since the coronavirus pandemic.

Kohli made 62 in the second innings, putting on a key 96-run seventh-wicket partnership with Ashwin on day three.

Both sides need to win the series to take the second place in the World Test Championship final against New Zealand later this year.

The third Test - a day-night match - will begin in Ahmedabad on February 24.

Authorities have not said if fans will be allowed into the world's biggest cricket stadium - with a 100,000-plus capacity - for the game. AFP

SCORECARD

INDIA 1ST INNINGS

(329, R. Sharma 161; M. Ali 4-128)

ENGLAND 1ST INNINGS

(134, B. Foakes 42 not out; R. Ashwin 5-43)

INDIA 2ND INNINGS

(286, R. Ashwin 106; M. Ali 4-98, J. Leach 4-100)

ENGLAND 2ND INNINGS

(target 482 - overnight 53-3, Lawrence 19, Root 2)

R. Burns

c Kohli b Ashwin..... 25

D. Sibley lbw b Patel..... 3

D. Lawrence..... 26

st Pant b Ashwin..... 3

J. Leach..... 0

c R. Sharma b Patel..... 0

J. Root..... 33

c Rahane b Patel..... 33

B. Stokes

c Kohli b Ashwin..... 8

O. Pope..... 12

c I. Sharma b Patel..... 2

B. Foakes..... 12

c Patel b Yadav..... 0

M. Ali..... 43

st Pant b Yadav..... 0

S. Broad..... 5

not out..... 7

Extras (b6, lb1)..... 164

Total (54.2 overs, all out)..... 164

Fall of wickets: 1-17 (Sibley), 2-49 (Burns), 3-50 (Leach), 4-66 (Lawrence), 5-90 (Stokes), 6-110 (Pope), 7-116 (Foakes), 8-116 (Root), 9-126 (Stone), 10-164 (Ali)

Bowling: Sharma 6-3-13-0, Patel 21-5-60-5, Ashwin 18-5-53-3, Siraj 3-1-6-0, Yadav 6.2-1-25-2

Three SL cricketers pass '2 KM' fitness test for West Indies tour

INDIKA WELAGEDARA

Sri Lanka Cricket poolists for the upcoming West Indies tour Kusal Mendis, Dhanushka Gunathilaka and Bhanuka Rajapaksa successfully completed the 'Two kilometre' mandatory fitness test yesterday, which they had failed last week. All the pool players were asked to run the 'Two kilometre' distance within a time frame of eight minutes and 35 seconds last week.

Newly wed Sri Lankan cricketer Kusal Mendis who couldn't participate in last week's test due to his wedding also did his fitness test yesterday. Mendis finished the two-kilometre distance in eight minutes and 18 seconds while Dhanushka Gunathilaka ran the distance in eight minutes and 23 seconds and Bhanuka Rajapaksa did it in eight minutes and 27 seconds. Speaking to the Daily News Sri Lanka opener Dhanushka Gunathilaka said "I got through the new two kilometre test in 8.23 minutes and I wanted to thank everyone who had supported me," concluded Gunathilaka.



From left: Dhanushka Gunathilaka, Kusal Mendis and Bhanuka Rajapaksa

Meanwhile Kusal Janith Perera who failed last week's fitness test is expected to do the test again by next week, along with opener Avishka Fernando - who missed last week's test due to an ankle injury.

The Sri Lankan cricket team which could not leave for the West Indies on the scheduled date due to player Lahiru Thirimanne and head coach Mickey Arthur having tested positive for Covid-19. They will now most probably will leave for the Caribbean by end of the month.

Pre-League Football Tournery kicks off today

ALTHAF NAWAZ

Four top teams will battle it out for supremacy in the opening two matches of the Football Sri Lanka (FSL) conducted Pre-League Football Tournament, which begins at the Sugathadasa Stadium in Colombo today.

The first match will kick-off at 5.00 p.m. However the pick of the two matches would be the clash between New Young FC and Sea Hawks SC, scheduled for 8.00 p.m.

New Youngs FC have won several championships in the recent past and would look to make a winning start follow-



ing their excellent performances in the President's Trophy Invitational Tournament last year. Meanwhile, Sea Hawks SC led by former Sri Lanka captain Subash Madushan will have the services of three foreign players and a coach from Japan who

arrived in the country in January.

This is the first time in the history that Sea Hawks SC are coached by a foreigner holding a PRO license. They have also contracted another player from Ghana who is set to join the club at the end of this month.

Meanwhile two leading clubs from Kalutara District, Red Star SC and Blue Star SC will clash in the opening fixture.

Red Star SC coached by M. H. M. Hamsa will have the services of three Nigerian players in their ranks.

Defender M. H. M. Rameez will lead the team in this tournament.

Blue Star SC, also possess a number of talented players and are expected to create an upset in this tournament.

The team will include two promising Under-19 players, Senal Sandesh and Mohamed Ammar, two great prospects



Red Star SC captain M.H.M. Rameez

for the future National Team.

All matches will be worked off under strict health guidelines under closed doors. All players, team officials and match officials underwent PCR tests yesterday and a further Antigun Test will be executed five hours before the commencement of the game.



New Youngs FC captain Tharindu Madushanka



Sea Hawks FC captain Subash Madushan



Blue Star SC captain Lahiru Tharaka

Cricketers should be mentally strong - Murali

DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Former legendary Sri Lankan spinner Muttiah Muralitharan believes that cricketers should be mentally strong and should be in a good frame of mind before representing the country at the highest level.

The 48-year-old spin wizard made these observations while delivering a motivational speech to the National players at the SSC in Maitland Place on Monday.

"Without a proper mentality you can't do anything on the field and you should develop your mentality first to perform well in this game," he explained.

"Even if we get the best coach, that is useless, if your mind is not in a good frame. The players should realise they are the ones who are playing in the middle. The change of cricket administration or appointing more committees is not the answer."

"There is no issue with the talent you all possess. We have plenty of options today like never before in all formats. It's high time that you'll become world beaters now," he stressed.

"Actually there is a lot of difference between today's cricket and when we played cricket those days. There is different thinking and attitudes but the principals have not changed."

"The most important fact is that you have to build-up your talent and skills. When a batsman ends his career he has to get around 30-40 centuries and we had a good plan those days," he concluded.



Muttiah Muralitharan

Prasad to quit int'l cricket

Sri Lanka fast bowler Dhammika Prasad has decided to retire from international cricket and he is set to make an official announcement tomorrow (18).

"I think this is the correct time for me to retire from International cricket and provide a chance for the youngsters," the 37-year-old right-arm paceman told the Daily News yesterday.



Dhammika Prasad

"I have decided to continue playing domestic cricket and already I have played for 19 years for the SSC giving my best," added the former schoolboy of De Mazenod College.

Prasad has represented the country in 25 Tests, 24 One Day Internationals and in one T20I and his last series was in 2015 against the West Indies. (D.R)

Ruvi powers into Girls' U-14 final

Ruvi Lewkebandara defeated Melesha Randini to secure her place in the final of the Girls' Under-14 Singles of the Colombo Open Tennis Tournament, which continued at the SLTA Courts in Green Path yesterday.

Lewkebandara lived up to expectations as the favourite while recording a convincing 6-2, 6-4 straight set win in the first semi-final encounter.

The results:

Boys' Under-14

Singles (semi-finals): Sandaru Guruge beat Ganuka Fernando 6-1, 6-4. Lisal Goonathilake beat Methwan Wijemanne 7-6, 7-5.

Boys' Under-12 Singles (quarter-finals): Lithum Jayabandu beat Abdul Cader 6-2, 6-3. Gehash Tissera beat Aahil Kaleel 6-7 (4), 6-1, 10-5. M. Wickramasinghe beat Jayin De Saram 7-5, 6-4.

Girls' Under-14 Singles (semi-



Ruvi Lewkebandara

final): Ruvi Lewkebandara beat Melesha Randini 6-2, 6-4.

Boys' Under-18 (third-round): Kavisha Rathnayake beat Hasal Ahangama 4-6, 7-5, 10-5. Chathuraya Nilaweera beat A. Abeywickrama 6-0, 6-1. Thehan Wijemanne beat Vichintha Nilaweera 6-0, 6-5. Zaidh Zihar beat Janith Munasinghe 6-0, 6-0. (A.M)

Trinity- Sylvester friendly ends in a draw

HAFIZ MARIKAR

The inter school friendly cricket match between Trinity college and St. Sylvester's college ended in a draw yesterday at the Asgiriya stadium. On the first day St. Sylvester's College taking the first lease of the wicket after winning the toss wereskittled out for 201 runs. Trinity College in reply did well with the bat and were 148 for 1 at the end of the first day.

Resuming from the overnight score Trinitians dominated day two with Abhishek Anandakumar and Umari Raizan hitting 146 and 139 runs

respectively while Pawan Pathiraja adding 75 to the total. These three batsmen paved a solid platform for Trinitians and helped their side to post a huge 501 total for the first innings. St. Sylvester's College in their second innings were 55 for 1 at close of play.

St. Sylvester's College 1st innings: 201 all-out and 55 for 1 at close of play

Trinity College: (148 for 1 overnight) 501 all out: Abhishek Anandakumar 146, Umari Raizan 139, Pawan Pathiraja 75, Deemantha Bandara 29, S. Akila 3 wickets.

Williams, Osaka into semis as Russian fairytale continues

MELBOURNE, TUESDAY: Serena Williams blasted past Simona Halep to set up an Australian Open semi-final showdown with Naomi Osaka on Tuesday, as Russian qualifier Aslan Karatsev extended his fairytale run. Williams took a step towards a record-equalling 24th Grand Slam title with a 6-3, 6-3 dismantling of second seed Halep, the American's nemesis in the 2019 Wimbledon final.

Williams, 39, said her level was improving ahead of her meeting with Japan's Osaka, who came out on top in their tempestuous 2018 US Open title match.

"Definitely think this is the best match I have played this tournament, for sure," said the 10th seed.

"Obviously I had to, going up against the number two in the world, so I knew I had to do better."

Their semi-final promises much after Osaka, the reigning US Open champion, looked in great touch in her 6-2, 6-2 win over Taiwan's Hsieh Su-wei.

Displaying great focus against the awkward Hsieh, ranked 71 and playing her first Slam quarter-final aged 35, Osaka hit 24 winners and was detained on Rod Laver Arena for only 66 minutes.

"I told myself just to be really intense

from the beginning," said the Japanese star, the reigning US Open champion.

"I felt like I knew what to expect and that I couldn't afford to be lazy with my footwork or anything."

Elsewhere, 114th-ranked Karatsev became the first man to reach a Grand Slam semi on debut when he ousted a hobbling Grigor Dimitrov 2-6, 6-4, 6-1, 6-2. The 27-year-old has knocked out three seeds on his run to the last four, where he will face world number one Novak Djokovic or US Open finalist Alexander Zverev.

"It was tough at the beginning for me to hold my nerves, but I tried to find a way to play." Karatsev becomes only the second qualifier to reach the Australian Open semi-finals after Bob Giltinan in 1977.

He is also the lowest-ranked man to make the semis at a Slam since 125th-ranked Goran Ivanisevic at Wimbledon in 2001. After a five-setter with Felix Auger-Aliassime in round four, Karatsev had an easier ride against Dimitrov who was winning with pain from the third set.

The Bulgarian 18th seed, who was barely able to serve because of back spasms, took a medical timeout, but his movement was always hampered and he limped off the court after Karatsev's win. AFP



Naomi Osaka

Daily News Business

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Milco operating profitably

Milk processing capacity outstrips supply

DINESH PERERA

The milk processing capacity of the country is currently much larger than the milk output of the local livestock. The Milk Corporation (Milco) under the Ministry of Agriculture is currently operating profitably after reforms at the company following new management in 2020. Milco made a profit of Rs 441 million in 2020 as opposed to a loss of Rs 619 million in 2019. The corporation was last profit-making in 2016 where it made a profit of Rs 339 million. Chairman Milco Lasantha Wickramasinghe said that Milco had revised the policy of offering the lowest possible price to both farmer and customer and begun a policy of offering better prices to the farmer with a moderate price to the consumer.

The corporation has increased the price paid to customers by 15%. Wickramasinghe was speaking to Daily News at the Milco Headquarters yesterday. Milco has historically faced problems retaining farmers due to the low prices paid and the lack of certainty in payment. Under the new 'Agile Management' system the company has ensured that the industry is more viable for all stakeholders. The corporation is confident of contributing to the government's goal of having self-sufficiency in milk and milk by-product production. Under the agile management system, bottom-up discussions have begun with the workforce. Through suggestions alone and with no capital expenditure the Milco Corporation has been able to increase yoghurt production by 10% in the Naraheipita facility. Milco monthly revenue has exceeded Rs 1 billion for the last 6 months of 2020. The company has reduced milk output to the ministry of education under the advice of health professionals who feel excessive consumption of milk is harmful. Milco is aiming to pay down longstanding debts with recent profitability. The company is also focusing on creating an ecosystem for increased dairy production. The company has invested in the backbone infrastructure for cattle feeding, breeding, sharing of best practice, and networking. The company has shared feed production techniques with local

farmers and also created large purchase orders through its network. The company is also bringing techniques of artificial insemination to the local livestock. The company plans to invest in 10 more chilling centres, 103 more milk collection centres, and 200 more farmer societies. The company looks to spend Rs 8.5 million for bringing about recognition of best practice. Wickramasinghe said the issue of cattle diseases though present was not as big as the media was making it out to be. Milco pays out Rs 500 million a month to local farmers. Wickramasinghe said there was scope to make milk production a more lucrative enterprise than certain office jobs.

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Chairman Milco Lasantha Wickramasinghe. Picture by Dinesh Perera.



SRI LANKAN REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY ON A ROLL | PAGE 19

ADBI retains World's No. 1 'Government Affiliated Think Tank Ranking'

The Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI) has been named the world's "best government affiliated think tank" for a second consecutive year, according to the newly released 2020 Global Go To Think Tank Index Report from the University of Pennsylvania Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program. The annual ranking assessment identified ADBI, the Tokyo-based think tank of the Asian Development Bank, as the number one think tank among those "that situate in the government and are considered a part of the government body," citing its "outstanding policy research." ADBI placed 24th in the worldwide think tank ranking and 6th among international development policy think tanks, holding its position in these categories as well for a second straight year. ADBI's think tank network is also ranked 5th among all think tanks.



Lanka Institute of Packaging's 'Lankapak 2021 Exhibition' was launched by Minister of Industries, Wimal Weerawansa last week at the BMICH with Minister of Tourism Prasanna Ranatunga and other officials



Minister of Industries Wimal Weerawansa visits a stall of 'Lankapak 2021 Exhibition' at the BMICH. Pictures by Dushantha Mayadunne.

Air Arabia to resume Colombo flights

Air Arabia, the Middle East and North Africa's first and largest low-cost carrier (LCC) has announced the resumption of direct flights between Sharjah and Colombo, starting March 2, 2021. Customers can now book their direct flights between Sharjah and

Colombo by visiting Air Arabia's website by calling the call centre or through travel agencies. The airline ensures the highest standards of safety at every step of the journey by following all health and safety protocols. Arabia has also added to the convenience and confidence of passengers by introducing free COVID-19 insurance coverage. The insurance coverage is automatically included as part of the booking and no additional documents are required from passengers.



LOLC Group records Rs. 45 bn PAT for 9 months

LOLC Holdings PLC (LOLC) releasing its nine months results recording a PAT of Rs. 45 billion after adjusting for corporate tax on a PBT of Rs. 48 billion. The Group records a Rs. 4 billion as profits for the quarter, a healthy performance considering the COVID-19 pandemic situation negatively affecting the financial services and leisure sector directly and other sectors indirectly. The Group's Financial Services Sector contributed Rs. 3.5 billion as profits and these results were achieved allowing a strong level of risk mitigating provisions amounting to Rs. 23

billion (Rs. 10.3 billion in 2019) for bad and doubtful debts being made, over and above the regulated levels. Conservative provisioning was made considering the potential risks arising from the pandemic and the dull economic environment across all countries in which the Group operates. LOLC Finance PLC (LOFC) recorded a PAT of Rs. 4.2 billion compared with Rs. 961 million achieved in the comparable period last year. Commercial Leasing and Finance PLC (CLC) recorded Rs. 1.9 billion as PAT for the current nine months compared

with Rs. 1.2 billion made in the previous year. The profit of LOLC Development Finance PLC (LOLCDF) was Rs. 216 million compared with a Rs. 124 million recorded in the last year. LOLC's foreign Financial Services entities contributed well to the profits of the Group, with LOLC Cambodia leading the way with a Rs. 5.7 billion PAT, followed by LOLC Myanmar Micro Finance Ltd, the greenfield business operation of LOLC, making a profit contribution of Rs. 554 million as PAT. The rest of the companies also made healthy progress, despite



Ishara Nanayakkara - Deputy Chairman and Kapila Jayawardena - Group Managing Director/CEO, LOLC Group

the global impact of COVID-19. The three finance companies in Sri Lanka experienced a strong level of deposit inflows despite the all-time low interest rates. LOLC currently operates in Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Myanmar, Indonesia, Philippines, Pakistan, Nigeria and Zambia in Financial services, Maldives and Sierra Leone in Non-Financial Services businesses. Despite the global economic downturn, LOLC Group has a strong pipeline of multilateral funding available to LOLC and its operating companies both locally and globally. **TO PAGE 18**

Sampath Bank posts Rs. 8 bn PAT against COVID-19 backdrop

Sampath Bank recorded a decline in Profit After Tax (PAT), from Rs 11.1 billion in 2019 to Rs 8 billion for year 2020. Despite this being a 28% decline, it is nonetheless a noteworthy result against the backdrop of the COVID-19 induced economic slowdown locally and globally. Meanwhile, the Bank registered a Profit Before Tax (PBT) of Rs 11.2 billion compared to Rs 15.5 billion recorded in 2019, a decline of 27.9%. The PBT and PAT of the Group for the year ended December 31, 2020 stood at Rs 11.9 billion and Rs 8.4 billion respectively, denoting a decline of 27.2% and 27.6% respectively. With the government-led economic stimulus package and interest caps introduced by the regulator bringing pressure on the Bank's Net Interest Margins (NIM), in 2020 the Bank registered a



Harsha Amarasekera, Chairman, Sampath Bank PLC (left) and Nanda Fernando, Managing Director, Sampath Bank PLC

NIM of 3.3% which was 116 basis points lower than the year 2019. Total Interest Income for the year 2020 decreased by Rs 14.9 billion to Rs 88.6 billion compared to Rs 103.5 billion registered in the previous year, reflecting a dip of 14.4%. Total Interest Expenses too reported a decline of 11.6% to Rs 54.8 billion in 2020 from the Rs 61.9 billion recorded in 2019. Meanwhile as per the 'Modification Method' prescribed in the Sri Lanka Accounting Standards (SLFRS - 9), the Bank recognised a 'Modification loss' of Rs 3.1 billion against the interest income, on account of the debt moratorium phase I. The combined impact of the lower interest regime and the concessional interest rates charged during debt moratorium phase I drove down the Bank's NII by 18.6% from Rs 41.6 billion in the previous year to Rs 33.8 billion in 2020. The Bank continued to closely monitor all variables affecting the NII supported by necessary follow up action to prudently manage the same throughout the year.

Sampath Bank reported net fee and commission income of Rs 8.5 billion in 2020, a decline of 15.7% against the previous year. The Bank's ability to generate fee based income was adversely affected by the 2 month long island-wide lockdown as well as due to region-wise mobility restrictions imposed by the authorities from time to time in order to control the spread of COVID-19. The resulting low level of economic activity and restricted hours of business operations, had a sizeable impact on the volume of fee based transactions carried out by the Bank during the year. Further, suspending or refunding of certain charges by the Bank, considering the current difficulties faced by customers due to the COVID-19 pandemic, also negatively impacted the Bank's fee based income.

Industrial production volume increases by 2%

The volume of industrial production has increased by 2% in December, 2020 compared to the same month in 2019. Among the manufacturing industries; volume of products of 'manufacture of basic pharmaceutical products and pharmaceutical preparations (46.8%), manufacture of machinery and equipment (n.e.c.)' (40.1%) and manufacture of textiles (35.9%) have shown remarkable increases meanwhile the manufacture of fabricated metal products (except machinery equipment) (17.7%) has reported decrease during this period, according to the Department of Census and Statistics. The industrial production of the manufacturing sector for the fourth quarter of 2020 has decreased by 1.1% compared to the same quarter in 2019. Among the manufacturing industries; volume of products of manufacture of machinery and equipment' (27.7%), has shown a remarkable increase in production during the 4th quarter of 2020, compared to 4th quarter of 2019 and volume of products of 'manufacture of wood and products of wood and cork except furniture; manufacture of articles of straw and plaiting materials' (32.3%), reported a decrease during this period.

Table 1: IIP for the 4th quarter 2020

Month & Quarter	IIP ^a
October 2020	108.1
November 2020	106.9
December 2020	110.7
2020 4 th Quarter	108.6

has reported decrease during this period, according to the Department of Census and Statistics. The industrial production of the manufacturing sector for the fourth quarter of 2020 has decreased by 1.1% compared to the same quarter in 2019. Among the manufacturing industries; volume of products of manufacture of machinery and equipment' (27.7%), has shown a remarkable increase in production during the 4th quarter of 2020, compared to 4th quarter of 2019 and volume of products of 'manufacture of wood and products of wood and cork except furniture; manufacture of articles of straw and plaiting materials' (32.3%), reported a decrease during this period.

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Producer's Price Index up by 2.2 points

The Producer's Price Index (PPI) in December 2020 compared on a month to month basis has increased to 147.7 from 145.5 reported in November 2020. This shows an increase of 2.2 index points or 1.5 per cent as compared to November 2020. Out of the three major economic activities, manufacturing and agriculture activities

reported positive changes of 1.6 percent and 1.4 percent while electricity and water supply activity reported negative change of 2.8 percent compared to the previous month, according to the Department of Census and Statistics. Both sub activities of the agriculture sector, farming of animals (5.3%) and growing of crops (5.0%) reported positive percentage changes on a monthly basis. The sub activities related to farming of animals egg production (8.2%) and production of dairy (0.7%) reported positive percentage changes on a monthly basis. The sub activities related to, growing of crops, growing of vegetables' (26.7%), growing of cereal crops (4.6%) and growing of fruits,

nuts and beverage crops' (2.9%) reported positive percentage changes on a monthly basis. In the manufacturing sector, the sub activities, Manufacturing of wearing apparel, dressing, and dyeing of fur (5.2%), manufacturing of textiles (1.8%), manufacturing of rubber and plastics (0.8%), manufacturing of furniture (0.4%), manufacturing of

other non-metallic mineral products (0.3%), manufacturing of basic metals' (0.2%) and manufacturing of tobacco products (0.1%) reported positive percentage changes on monthly basis. Both sub activities of the utility sector, collection, purification and distribution of water and generation and distribution of electricity reported negative changes of 2.9

per cent and 2.8 per cent in the month of December 2020 on a monthly basis. The Producers Price Index (PPI) for all economic activities: agriculture, manufacturing and water supply & electricity, for the month of December is 147.7. The annual change in the PPI has been compiled as 3.6 per cent. **TO PAGE 18**

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SHARES - COLOMBO STOCK EXCHANGE

Market Statistics on 16.02.2021

Table of market statistics for the Colombo Stock Exchange, including columns for Security, Volume, V.W.A. Previous Close, and Change (Rs.).

Table of market statistics for the Colombo Stock Exchange, continuing from the previous table with columns for Security, Volume, V.W.A. Previous Close, and Change (Rs.).

COCONUTS

Coconut Products - Prices on 16.02.2021

Table of coconut products and prices, including categories like Fresh Coconut, Locally Traded, and various coconut oil and husk products.

EXCHANGE RATES

Table showing international operations department exchange rates for various currencies like AUD, CAD, EUR, etc.

COLOMBO STOCK EXCHANGE - STOCK MARKET STATISTICS

Table providing detailed stock market statistics for the Colombo Stock Exchange, including turnover, market capitalization, and indices.

LOLC Group records Rs. 45 bn... From Page 17

LOLC's two insurance companies, LOLC General Insurance Ltd. and LOLC Life Assurance Ltd., recorded a strong level of business growth contributing Rs. 970Mn and Rs. 325Mn respectively...

Producer's Price... From Page 17

The PPI reported for the three major economic activities, agriculture, manufacturing and electricity and water supply are 178.6, 140.2 and 86.1 respectively...

Sri Lankan Real Estate Industry on a roll

Property buyers flocking back to market

"Since the turn of the year there has been an increase in real estate activity by property buyers and sellers", said Sri Lanka's leading property portal LankaPropertyWeb.

The company stated that a comparison between the number of visits to lanka-propertyweb.com during the month of January in 2020 and 2021, showed an increase of 23% while leads generated to advertisers on the site increased by 20%. LankaPropertyWeb (LPW) also saw an acceleration in visitors by 22% and leads by 20% when compared with December 2020 and January 2021. According to the site, January 2021 saw the highest number of visitors to the site since the start of the pandemic.

This trend seems industry wide as another property site, house.lk reported a 26% jump in its visits during January in comparison with December 2020. House.lk also reported an all-time high

number of visits to the site in January of this year.

With restrictions around COVID-19 easing and confidence returning to the market, property buyers are increasingly positive over closing sales since the start of this year. In fact, the recently published data by LankaPropertyWeb revealed that only 8% of its 63,250 advertisers had reduced advertised prices during 2020, with an average reduction of 11%. In some cases, these reductions result from the seller's urgency to sell and further discounts being offered to buyers when closing a sale.

88% of property advertisers did not change their initial advertised price, while 4% of the advertisers increased their initial tagged price by 12%. This shows that despite the pandemic, the real estate market in Sri Lanka has remained stable last year.

Meanwhile, high reduc-

tions in commercial property were seen by advertisers who reduced their property prices by 13% in the last year. This is mainly credited to the price fluctuations and the shift to working from home policies that many businesses have adopted now.

Commenting on the market, Naveed Zaveer, Director at Menavid Realtors said, "There has been an improvement in the property market since December 2020, with inquiries being made. The opening of the Sri Lankan airport on January 21, 2021 to tourists is also a positive step towards revitalizing the economy. We stay positive and hopeful that this will create a positive mindset in the minds of the investors, motivating them to invest further in the property market".

A study on people's search trends revealed that last year Colombo ranked as the No.1 city in rental property searches. This was followed by Kandy and Dehiwala that

ranked 2nd and 3rd, respectively. While in 2019, Colombo ranked 1st, Dehiwala ranked 2nd, Nugegoda was 3rd and Kandy was in the 4th place in rental searches ranking. This shows that metropolitan areas are yet in demand in renting, irrespective of the pandemic hit.

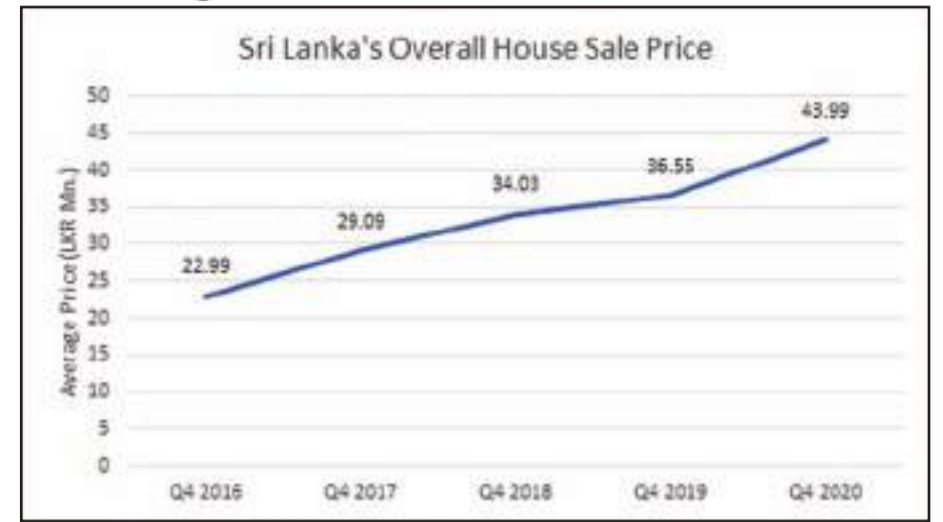
In the 2020 sales property searches, Colombo ranked number 1 again, maintaining its 2019 position for the same criteria. Kandy and Negombo placed 2nd and 3rd respectively in the sales property search. While the ranking in land searches revealed that Kandy, Kurunegala and Nuwara Eliya placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd respectively.

Overall, since January 2021, the positive sentiment towards real estate has been rising consistently among sellers and buyers. This was especially seen with the number of properties advertised on the site increasing by 54% in January 2021 when compared to January 2020. This

is a 21% growth from last year's December to this January, bearing evidence to the rising trend of advertising property online.

There was also a hike in land searches amounting to 55.8% in January 2021, when compared to last year's January. This shows an increasing trend of people shifting to searching property online versus traditional methods. It is a significant improvement considering that January 2020 saw very little restrictions and impact because of COVID-19 when compared to the last month.

According to the company, based on the feedback they have received from agents and property sellers, the market is seeing a significantly higher number of sales being closed since last month. Therefore, it stated that this would be the ideal time for buyers to finalise their sales and take advantage of the lower prices before they increase.



Property seen as stable investment

Over the years, property has been known to be a stable long-term investment. According to LankaPropertyWeb's market report, during this period it has specifically increased investor confidence when compared with other investment options that have been generating low returns or seen as volatile. Sri Lanka Overall House Sale price has grown by 91% in the last 5 years, and

20% when compared to Q4 2019 and Q4 2020. While the Weighted Average New Fixed Deposit Rates of Commercial Banks in December 2020 were at 5.07%.

Housing loans at 7%, lowest in a decade

"Lower home loan rates could be attributed as another factor for the buoyancy of the market. Taking a loan now for Rs. 5 million for 5

years would save you an interest payment of about Rs. 0.4 million when compared to last year's January. You would also be saving about Rs. 0.6 million when compared to January 2019. This is because of the low interest rates offered in a decade."

With many banks extending housing loans from 7%, according to the government's directive, home buyers have shown a keen interest to take advantage of the current low rates.

Coca-Cola leads in green energy through rooftop solar project



One of the largest single location rooftop solar projects in Sri Lanka at the Coca-Cola Beverages Sri Lanka Ltd. plant in Biyagama

Coca-Cola Beverages Sri Lanka Ltd. (CCBSL) successfully installed one of the largest single location rooftop solar projects in Sri Lanka at its facility in Biyagama, as part of the company's pledge towards sourcing renewable energy, and combating climate change through the reduction of its carbon footprint by approximately 1.94Mt per annum.

The solar project showcases a significant investment of over Rs 200 million and comprises the installation of over 5000 solar panels covering as much as 80% of the roof at its bottling premises. This capacity enhancement enables CCBSL to generate 2,733 MWh/yr of renewable energy to contribute to the national grid and is expected to produce 1.9Mw of electricity.

Managing Director of CCBSL, Mayank Arora said, "Our commitment to sustainable manufacturing has inspired our foray into generating renewable energy through rooftop solar panels, which will not only assist us in achieving carbon neutrality status in due course, but also contribute renewable electricity to the national grid. Energy security is a critical requirement for the country's sustainable future and we are proud to play a proactive role in helping Sri Lanka achieve this. Coca-Cola Beverages is pioneering a host of

social and environmental stewardship projects in local communities such as water stewardship, women's empowerment and PET plastic recycling. This solar rooftop project is yet another instance of our long-term commitment to sustainability in Sri Lanka."

The installation process took five months and was executed by reputed project partner and vendor, Hayleys Solar, and in partnership with the Ceylon Electricity Board (CEB). CCBSL's pioneering solar rooftop project is a part of the Soorya Bala Sangramaya (Battle for Solar Energy) project scheme under CEB and the Sustainable Energy Authority, to mainstream renewable energy development, enhance power generation capacity and improve the environmental conditions in the country. It is also aligned to the national vision of using 100% renewable energy by the year 2050 and Sustainable Development Goal 13: Climate Action.

Globally, more and more environmentally-conscious corporates are adopting the responsibility of shifting to cleaner energy, which is mirrored in Coca-Cola's ambitious Climate Action programme, with a target to reduce total Green House Gas emissions across its full global value chain by 25% by 2030 from a 2015 base-year.

Sri Lanka@100 helps to accelerate expansion of 7 mid-market firms with U.S. Support

Funded by the United States, Sri Lanka@100 (SL@100) selected its first round of seven high-potential companies to receive cutting-edge business advisory services to accelerate their growth. SL@100, a private sector-led platform focused on the growth of mid-sized firm, will equip the seven companies with skills to optimize operations, increase profitability, and expand markets.

"These seven firms are the first of many that the United States will support on their journey to rapid growth," said U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Mission Director Reed Aeschliman. "By helping Sri Lanka's mid-market firms access the

business services they need to thrive, SL@100 is fueling a transformation in Sri Lanka's economy."

Stax Managing Director and SL@100 co-founder Dr. Kumudu Gunasekera added that "Sri Lanka's growth is very much dependent on SMEs and their ability to accelerate their growth trajectory."

Launched in September 2020, SL@100 promotes equitable and inclusive economic growth in support of Sri Lanka's journey to become a high-income country within 100 years of independence. This initiative brings together advisors, investors, trade groups, and business development service providers to strengthen the capacity of

mid-market firms in areas such as marketing, operations, financial management, exports, and access to capital.

SL@100 will run two selection cycles per year to help small and medium enterprises (SMEs) scale up operations. Co-founder of SL@100 & Stax Managing Director Ruwindu Peiris commented on the impressive pitches these companies made, noting that he is "excited to be partnering with these companies that reflect the soul of Sri Lanka's ingenuity and the hunger to rise to our full potential."

The seven companies selected represent a wide range of goods and services from throughout Sri Lanka,

including (in no particular order):

DD Atukorala, a nearly 100-year-old business in Kegalle that grew and diversified from a bakery into restaurants and fashion stores;

Industrial Stainless-Steel Fabrications, which supplies sophisticated process machinery to global markets including India, Nigeria, and Turkey;

InsureMe, a one-stop destination to purchase any kind of insurance, which was selected for the 2020 Stanford Seed Transformation Program;

Lanka Spice, the manufacturer and retailer of the McCurrie brand of spices and value-added jar products that is currently export-

ed to Australia, Europe, Middle East, and North America;

Randeepra Agrarian, an agricultural equipment provider based in Polonnaruwa, which has been certified as a Great Place to Work;

Saaraketha Holdings, the first e-commerce platform for 'farm-to-table' fresh produce delivery in Sri Lanka that now links over 2,500 local farmers to non-conventional markets globally; and UHE Exports, the manufacturer of Halpé Tea packaged in organic teabags from the tea leaf itself, which exports fair-trade tea and herbal products.

SL@100 is accepting applications for Round 2 at www.srilanka100.lk through Friday, February 19, 2021.

'Pick A Book for Corporates' accelerates growth momentum

Inculcating the habit of reading among corporates

Pick A Book Global which has expanded in to India, United Kingdom and Singapore, launched a brand new initiative aptly titled 'Pick A Book for Corporates' with the goal of ensuring professional development of corporate.

"Today, we are in a point in history where there is so much information readily available. And yet, those in the corporate world are some of the worst offenders when it comes to reading; finding so little time to dedicate to books," opines Pick A Book Global Co-Founder, K. V. T. Ramesh, who overlooks over 13 regions across India.

"Pick A Book for Corporates" was created with this in mind. The root of the book club started as a fun



Co-Founder of Pick A Book Global – Ragulan Tharmakulasingam



Pick A Book Global Co-Founder K. V. T. Ramesh



National President of Pick A Book Sri Lanka - Herman Gonsal

office activity and it started to flourish with great gusto, with multiple clubs operating across the island as well as in select locations across the globe. It broadens your mind, helps with your written and verbal communication skills, and gives you a certain level of understand-

ing and empathy," he added.

"At Pick A Book, we believe books are crucial to personal and professional development. Organizations that want to grow and succeed are increasingly utilizing books as an invaluable resource to build a strong

and educated workforce. With Pick A Book, that goal is very much possible," opines Co-Founder of Pick A Book Global – Ragulan Tharmakulasingam.

Along with the National President for Pick A Book Sri Lanka - Herman Gonsal, the Pick A Book

Team is working tirelessly to make this concept of Pick A Book go mainstream and encourage more individuals and companies become more successful versions of themselves.

Pick A Book currently operates nine Clubs in Sri Lanka with over while Pick A Book India is spread across 13 regions with its active club locations covering Vijayawada, Visakhapatnam, Nagpur, Kakinada, Rajahmundry, Chennai, Surat, Bengaluru, Mysore, Goa, Calicut and Jaipur.

In 2021, Pick A Book network expanded to the United Kingdom and Singapore as well. More information could be obtained from <http://www.pickabook.club> or email reading@pickabook.club

SLIIT Business School hosts Soft Skills+ 2021

Soft skills encompass a wide variety of skills that are necessary to be successful in school and in the workplace. Understanding its importance for secondary school students, the SLIIT Business School has once again organised its eagerly anticipated 'Soft Skills+ 2021' programme.

Hailed as one of the flagship CSR Projects of the SLIIT Business School, the SLIIT Soft Skills+ 2021 programme is organised with the primary objective of expanding the soft skill abilities of secondary school students. A range of skills fundamental to success such as positive thinking, leadership, teamwork, communication skills, creativity thinking and critical



thinking, self-discipline, time management, networking skills, adaptability and motivation are cultivated among the participants.

The SLIIT Business School acknowledges that soft skills are often not explicitly taught in school curriculum. Instead students are inundated with mainly



syllabus related knowledge, aimed at achieving high grades at exams. Through a series of practical and innovative sessions, the participants of the SLIIT Soft Skills+ 2021 programme are introduced to these vital skills.

Commenting on this year's programme, Dr. Nisha Jayasuri-

ya, a Senior Lecturer (Higher Grade) and the official coordinator for Soft Skills+ 2021 from, SLIIT Business School said, "Developing lifelong skills are vital for students today to succeed in school, at their future workplace and in life. Recognising its importance, the SLIIT Business School has once again

come forward to host the SLIIT Soft Skills+ 2021 programme to ensure our students have the skills they need to set them apart, and fulfill their potential."

This year's program not only promises to be more interesting but will be rewarding participants with exciting prizes. While the Champions of the programme will receive laptops, the 1st runner-up will be presented tabs and a portable hard drive followed by tabs also being awarded to the 2nd runner-up. Additionally, all participants including students and teachers will receive valuable prizes.

This year's programme is based on an upgraded structure, to encourage and increase more students to participate. The entire

event will be held via an online platform, which will include a Soft Skills-based online quiz and an online workshop for both students and teachers.

The event which comprises three rounds is scheduled to begin on February 17. The programme is set to continue until March 17.

The programme for students will be conducted in all three mediums i.e. Sinhala, Tamil and English while the workshop for teachers will be conducted only in Sinhala and Tamil.

The success of programme is showcased through its vast coverage i.e. reaching over 350 schools islandwide when conducting session during the previous years.

Notice Under Section 7 of The Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460) As amended by Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act No. 28 of 1964

My Reference No :- 3/2/1/55

I hereby inform the public that the below mentioned lands have been acquired by the Government under Section 9 of the Land Acquisition Act. All compensation inquiries will be conducted by me on 03.03.2021 at Haldummulla Divisional Secretary's Office. All persons interested in the below mentioned lands are hereby requested to appear personally for the compensation inquiries. Please see the Government Extraordinary Gazette No. 2214/09 dated 08.02.2021 for further information.

Province : Uva
District : Badulla
Divisional Secretary's Division : Haldummulla
Minor Division : Kandapalla Korale
Grama Niladhari Division : Uvatenna (158 C)
Village : Welegama
Preliminary Plan No. : F.V.P. 287, Sup. No. 13, Sheet No. 15
Lot : 01
Extent : 0.4047 Hectare

V.P. Suneth Jinendrasena, Divisional Secretary, Haldummulla.

Divisional Secretary's Office, Haldummulla.
11.02.2021

Land Acquisition Act Chapter 460 (Amended) by Act No. 28 of 1964 Notice under Section 33.

My No - Wa/18/71/2005

I, P.D.T.C. Rajika, Divisional Secretary, Wattala of Gampaha District do hereby give notice, under Section 33 of the Land Acquisition Act (Chapter 460) that the statutory compensation of Rupees One Thousand only (Rs. 1,000/=) for the land acquired for the state and for which no claimant appeared, as described in the following schedule is deposited in the District Court of Gampaha against the case number 945/LA.

For details, please see the Gazette No. 2112/24 dated 27th of February 2019.

P.D.T.C. Rajika, Divisional Secretary, Wattala.

16.01.2021

Schedule

Location : Located in the Matagodha Village in Wattala Divisional Secretary's Division in Gampaha District in the Western Province.

Name of the Land : Not found

P.P. Number : P.P. 3768

Lot Number : 80

Extent : 0.0188 Hectare

Deposited Account Details :
National Savings Bank - Gampaha
Account No : 10037-07-045018



**State Ministry of Batik, Handloom Fabrics and Local Apparel Products
Sri Lanka Handicrafts Board - LAKSALA**



Calling Quotations for A Distribution System Covering Purchasing & Delivery Method

We are a leading Government owned commercial organization dealing with uplifting of local Handicrafts & the intention of creating market opportunities & sale of handicrafts locally & catering to foreign market requirements.

Quotations are called from reputed software developing companies and experienced individuals who are authorized by the relevant principals.

A Pre-bid meeting will be held on **Monday, 22nd Feb 2021 at 10.30 a.m.** at the below mentioned address prior to submitting quotations. Interested parties are requested to participate in a pre-bid meeting which will be mandatory when submitting quotations.

Key Requirements will be discussed in the pre-bid meeting & based on the outcome, sealed quotations could be submitted by interested parties by post or hand delivered on or before **03rd March 2021 at 2.30 p.m.** addressed to:

The Chairman (Procurement) - Sri Lanka Handicrafts Board - Laksala No. 215, Buddhaloka Mawatha, Thummulla, Colombo 07.

The Tender Board of Sri Lanka Handicrafts Board has the right to accept or reject any Quotations. Further information can be obtained from the Head of IT Department 070-3453970.

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Design, Supply, Installation E-Health Network for Public Health Institutes for 02 Years Period
Contract No: HP/HI/H/01/2020

- The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee "C2" (MPC) on behalf of Ministry of Health, now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders Design, Supply, Installation E - Health Network for Public Health Institutes for 02 years period.
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB). Two envelopes system of public procurement method is followed.
- To be eligible contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and bidder shall have been incorporated under companies Act No. 7 of 2007 and have been obtained PCA3 Certification as a registered contractor.
- A complete set of bidding documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders from the Additional Secretary (Procurement) on working days from **2021.02.17 to 2021.03.02 between 9.30 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.** on the submission of a written request and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Rs. 12,500.00**. A non-refundable bid document fee should be paid to the Taprobane Branch of the Bank of Ceylon to the Credit of Account No. 7040244 of the Director General of Health Services and a copy of the receipt as proof of payment should be submitted with the bid.
- Bidding documents can be inspected free of charge.
- The Technical Proposal and Financial Proposal (Bid submission form and price schedule) should be submitted in separate envelopes. Should clearly mark as "Technical Proposal" and "Financial Proposal" on relevant envelopes (Two envelopes system of public procurement method is followed). Duly filled Technical and Financial Proposals marked "Original" and "Duplicate" on the relevant two sealed envelopes and enclosed both in one sealed envelope marked "Bid for the procurement of (Name of the Procurement)" on the top left hand corner of the separate envelope should either be sent by Registered Post or deposited in the tender box kept at the address, Meeting Room, Procurement Division of the Ministry of Health (Medi House Building), 2nd Floor, No. 26, Sri Sangharaja Mawatha, Colombo 10 at or before **10.00 a.m. on 2021.03.30**. The late bids will be rejected.
- All bids must be accompanied by a Bid-Security of Sri Lankan Rupees 665,000.00 obtained from a commercial bank of Sri Lanka, registered under the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. Bid-Security should be valid for 119 days. **Bid Security should be submitted with Technical Proposal.**
- Pre-bid meeting will be held at **10.00 a.m. on 2021.02.25** at the office of the Director (Health Information), Planning Division, Ministry of Health, Suwasiripaya, No. 385, Rev. Baddegama Wimalawansa Thero Mawatha, Colombo 10.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Additional Secretary (Procurement), 2nd Floor, No. 26, Sri Sangharaja Mawatha, Colombo 10. (Tel: 011-2112713/011-2112717) from **9.30 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.** during working days.

Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee "C2", Ministry of Health (Medi House Building), 2nd Floor, No. 26, Sri Sangharaja Mawatha, Colombo 10.

Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka



SRI LANKA

**MINISTRY OF TOURISM
SRILANKA TOURISM PROMOTION BUREAU**

Invitation for Bids

SELECTION OF CAMPAIGN DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT UNIT FOR THE GLOBAL COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN 2021 -2025 OF SRI LANKA TOURISM

Bid No : SLTPB/GCC/2021/001

- The Chairman, Standing Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee of Ministry of Tourism, invites sealed bid proposals from reputed and experienced agencies for selection of a campaign development and management unit that shall serve as the campaign manager to develop and deliver the Global Communication Campaign 2021 - 2025, in coordination with Destination Management Companies, Creative Agency and Digital Agency on behalf of Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau (SLTPB).
- The purpose of the proposed integrated global marketing campaign to promote Sri Lanka as a tourist destination to achieve national target of the tourism sector.
- The maximum total contract value over the period of five years will be LKR 500 million and the required funds shall be allocated by Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau.
- Selected bidder shall not have been blacklisted, in terms of the provisions of Government Procurement Procedure - 2006.
- Prospective bidders shall have following Qualifications and experience;
 - Company duly registered in Sri Lanka as a legal entity and having an operational office in Sri Lanka, or; Joint ventures (JVs), that duly registered in Sri Lanka and having operational office in Sri Lanka, or that intended to enter into such an agreement supported by a letter of Intent;
 - Minimum 10 years of experience in Project Management specialized in project planning, monitoring, execution and performance evaluation and in case of joint ventures, 10 years of experience in Project Management specialized in project planning, monitoring, execution and performance evaluation for the lead partner and seven (07) years' experience for the other partner/s;
 - Proven track record in handling minimum of Three (03) accounts in strategy development, marketing and/or tourism related projects of the value over LKR 100 Million (each project) for local or international clients during last five (05) years and in case of joint ventures particular experience could be proved jointly;
 - The company should have minimum annual turnover of LKR 100 million per year for last three years and in case of joint ventures LKR 100 million the lead partner and LKR 50 million for the other partners
- Bidding will be conducted adopting National Competitive Bidding Method through Two Envelopes
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Managing Director of the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau and inspect the bidding document at the address given below or via sending a request to **gcc2021@srilanka.travel**.
- Bidding documents can be inspected at the address given below from **9.00am to 4.00 pm till 16th March 2021** (except Saturday, Sunday and public holidays) or via sending a request to **gcc2021@srilanka.travel**.
Finance Division
(Basement)
Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau
No 80, Galle Rd.,
Colombo 03
- 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 Rs 15,000/= (Rupees fifteen thousand only) in cash to the Director (Finance) of SLTPB.
- A Pre Bid Meeting in this regard will be held on **24th February 2021 at 10:00 am** at the Board Room, Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism and Hospitality Management (Hotel School) No 80, Galle Road, Colombo 03. Interested bidders are invited to join the pre bid in person.
- Bids must be delivered or deposited in the tender box at the Finance Division (Basement), **Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau, No. 80, Galle Road, Colombo 03** at or before **2.00 pm on 22nd March 2021**. Bids will be opened immediately after the bid closing time at the Finance Division (Basement), **Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau, No. 80, Galle Road, Colombo 03** in presence of the bidder's representatives who choose to attend in person.
- Late bids will be rejected.

**Chairman,
Standing Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee
Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau
No. 80, Galle Road,
Colombo 03**

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**Procurement Notice
Wayamba University of Sri Lanka, Kuliyaipitiya
Obtaining AC/ Non AC Van on Rent**

Sealed quotations are entertained by the Chairman, Procurement Committee for the purpose of obtaining the services of air conditioned /non air conditioned vans, for a period of one year, to facilitate the transport requirements of this University.

Tender documents and applications can be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar (General Administration) Wayamba University of Sri Lanka from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. from 16.02.2021 to 09.03.2021 during the working days by producing of a receipt from the shroff in respect of the payment of a non-refundable tender fee of Rs. 500.00.

Duly filled sealed Bids clearly marked "Obtaining AC/ Non AC Van on Rent" on the top left hand corner of the tender envelop, should be submitted to the undermentioned address by registered post or put into the Tender Box available at the Registrar's Office before 2.00 p.m. on 09.03.2021. Bids will be opened soon after closing of the tender in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives.

**Registrar
Wayamba University of Sri Lanka
Kuliyaipitiya**

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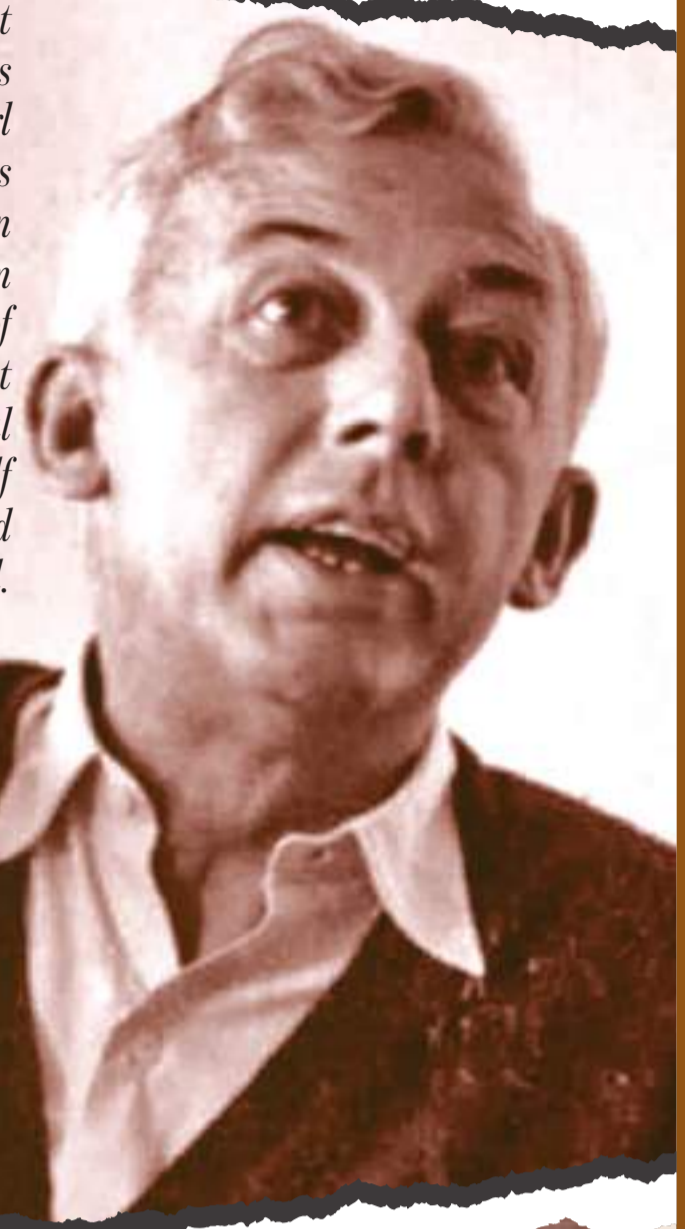


T'ING

To re-kindle the passions of town & country folk

FEATURES EDITOR : (011) 242 9216 Fax : (011) 234 3694 Email : features.dailynews@lakehouse.lk

His attitude to acting and to the cinema became most evident in *The Trial*, for the simple reason that it was his only film whose story had been shot before – by Carl Theodore Dreyer in 1928. Bresson was not spare in his criticism of Dreyer's version of Joan of Arc's trial: he even described its acting as "buffooneries." For him Expressionism was a thing alien to the cinema. Most of these views on film were captured in a book that can only be described as part-memoir, part-movie-manual – *Notes on the Cinematographer*. The title itself caught the gist of the whole thing: films should be cinematographic, not theatrical.



ROBERT BRESSON

TO BREAK WITH CONVENTIONS

MADAPATHA CHINTAKA

Robert Bresson was 98 when he died in 1999. By that time, during a career spanning 50 years, he had made 13 films. His last, *L'argent*, was made in 1983; his first, exactly half a century before. Considered the definitive patron saint of the cinema, Bresson was nearly the most difficult. So difficult, that within 50 years he changed very little.

Bresson hailed from an inconsequential if not altogether mysterious childhood. After leaving school and college, he briefly turned to painting. That, coupled with his encounters with Catholicism, would prove to be the biggest influence on him later on. It was during the Second World War that he made his first film – *Les Anges du Péché*. Two years later he made *Les Dames du Bois du Boulogne*. In both he experimented with the conventional cinema he would, to the point of obsession, evade for the rest of his life.

He began this crusade with *Diary of a Country Priest* in 1951, and from then on – *A Man Escaped*, *Pickpocket*, *The Trial of Joan of Arc*, *Au Hasard Balthazar*, *Mouchette*, *A Gentle Woman*, *Four Nights of a Dreamer*, *Lancelot of the Lake*, *The Devil Probably*, and *L'argent* – his main preoccupation would remain the divorce of cinema from the theatre.

JUDICIOUS HANDLING

How did he achieve this? Firstly, in my view, with the narrative structure, and the type of stories, that he employed. With the possible exception of *Les Dames*, none of his stories was based on a "chain-link" that called for plot and event over character. In *Pickpocket*, surely his masterpiece, the plot, though decidedly like clockwork, is superseded by an acute if not altogether observation of its antihero. The sequence of events which begins at a horserace and ends at a prison is handled so judiciously, that it is impossible at times to attribute to it any dramatic structure. For Bresson the plot was not expendable, but justifiable only in how it revealed its characters. This is why most of his films have such short lengths – *Pickpocket* runs for around 75 minutes, while *The Trial*, his shortest, runs for 65.

Secondly, there was his attitude to acting. In no other instance in the history of the medium did a director revolutionise the whole approach to acting as did Bresson. Sometimes – as with *Pickpocket* or *L'argent* – one is never sure as to whether the person playing a

role onscreen is acting. In *Pickpocket's* case it may well be because Martin LaSalle, who played the protagonist, was a relative unknown who had never taken part in a film before. Bresson called his actors "models" – a far less derogatory title than "instruments", which was what another French director called his actors – owing to the stony, sphinx-like expression he got them to maintain on their faces throughout an entire production.

Notorious for his technique, he would sometimes shoot up to six or eight takes of a scene before he would be confident that his actors would perform without the least semblance of emotion registered on their faces, the kind of emotionless, un-theatrical acting only to be found in movies. Interestingly enough, in *Diary of a Country Priest* he retained somewhat to his chagrin a theatrical, emotion-ridden type of acting in many of his characters, everyone except the chief player: a perfect enough juxtaposition between the Bresson to come and, in the characters whose rage issue in fits of pomposity, the Bresson past.

ALIEN EXPRESSION

His attitude to acting and to the cinema became most evident in *The Trial*, for the simple reason that it was his only film whose story had been shot before – by Carl Theodore Dreyer in 1928. Bresson was not spare in his criticism of Dreyer's version of Joan of Arc's trial: he even described its acting as "buffooneries." For him Expressionism was a thing alien to the cinema. Most of these views on film were captured in a book that can only be described as part-memoir, part-movie-manual – *Notes on the Cinematographer*. The title itself caught the gist of the whole thing: films should be cinematographic, not theatrical.

The fourth, and perhaps the most

important reason, was the wide esteem with which he was held. Like Hitchcock and John Ford, and pretty much like Spielberg, Bresson was widely recognized for his worth by the critical fraternity of his time. Unlike them, his films did not find much favour with audiences. His career coincided with the rise of the second biggest film movement in history after Italian neo-realism – the French New Wave, the most free-wheeling, lively thing to happen to movies since the coming of sound. Understandably enough the critics of the magazine after Italian neo-realism – the French New Wave, the most free-wheeling, lively thing to happen to movies since the coming of sound. Understandably enough the critics of the magazine after Italian neo-realism – the French New Wave, the most free-wheeling, lively thing to happen to movies since the coming of sound. Understandably enough the critics of the magazine after Italian neo-realism – the French New Wave, the most free-wheeling, lively thing to happen to movies since the coming of sound.

These reasons, combined, gave Bresson the type of fame few experimenters could aspire to. If ever an image of the artist as an iconoclast could be conjured, two filmmakers could have been



Diary of a Country Priest



Au Hasard Balthazar

used as examples, and both were from France: Alain Resnais and Robert Bresson. But while Resnais's dazzling iconoclasm came out from an avant-garde approach to cutting and editing, Bresson's fame was derived from his persistent, almost hermit-like attitude to life itself. The spiritual asceticism in his work is decidedly Catholic: salvation and redemption are two themes that constantly run through all of them.

EXPRESSIONIST CRIES

And yet this is not of the sort of chamber music austerity of some of Bergman's films, or the Expressionistic cries of pain of Dreyer's. If Bergman's *Through a Glass Darkly* or *Winter Light* remain slightly contrived and preconceived, even manipulative, it is because of a naked austerity that leaves little to make up for the thinness of plot that is the hallmark of these films. In *Winter Light*, surely Bergman's most austere, the 90 minute, real-time journey of a small-town pastor on a Sunday seems too preoccupied with words, dialogues, monologues – words, however well scripted they may be, are not enough. This is something Bresson knew, which is why words never seem to transcend plot in his work.

Also central to Bresson's distinction from these two filmmakers was his refusal to dabble in worldly themes. *The Trial* is probably the closest he ever got to such a theme. Even in Bergman's best, we see an almost constricting use of words or images to highlight mundane subjects – the interplay between art and real life in *Through a Glass Darkly*, the fear of nuclear war in *Winter Light*, or the foreshadowing

of war and chaos in *The Silence*. Dreyer too showed this quality from time to time – in *Ordet*, *Gertrud*, and *Day of Wrath*. Bresson was distrustful of both introspective speech and excessive action. His refusal to dabble in mundane themes stemmed from this distrust, and it gave him endless opportunities to experiment with things he considered to be more important – like acting.

The aims he set for his career and the sheer determination that went with them narrowed his preoccupation with the mechanics of film down to one goal: the separation of cinema from theatre. The only other mainstream director who devoted his career to the pursuit of a single aim was Alfred Hitchcock. Bresson's pursuit would appear, to discerning film lovers, more noble than Hitchcock's at times callous compromises with the box-office.

With Robert Bresson we lost cinema's truest patron saint, a filmmaker who was not afraid of flouting convention if that served the purposes of his art. Few filmmakers ever sought to divorce the cinema from other art forms, notably the stage. Few filmmakers sought to strike at the heart of the cinema with as much success. And few filmmakers ever had their conception of the medium so recognised, and applauded, as did his. Godard once described his contribution to cinema as akin to Mozart's in music and Dostoyevsky's in literature. No filmmaker can equal him, even after all these years. He was, and, even after his death, still remains, the most unique artist in the history of the film medium.



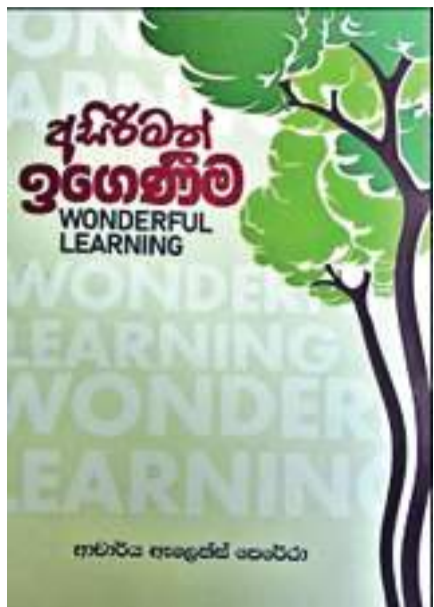
Pickpocket



Mouchette

Wonderful concept of learning with freedom

● **TITLE:** *Asirimath Igeneema*
● **AUTHOR:** Dr Alex Perera



The cover of a book is a symbol that represents the content of the book. The title of the book states that the concept of 'learning is a concept covered in different aspects' is given the shade of two trees of different sizes and colours. At the same time, it is clear that the subject should be viewed with an open mind, without the shadow of the two trees, to the right of the title.

The book also illustrates the concept of learning from different perspectives, as illustrated by the different sizes of English letters on the light green cover. The term 'learning' is expressed in a fixed font. The word 'wonderful' is used in italics to indicate that there are various aspects to the concept of learning.

The letters in the name of the book itself are intriguing. The term we are most familiar with is 'igeneema or learning'. But 'igeneema or learning' is the correct word,



as it is grammatically analyzed and confirmed in the first chapter. Thus, the first thing to be done in the book is to analyze the term learning according to the rules of expression. Secondly, it is an analysis based on the five hindrances of Buddhism and the four Brahma commentaries and other related concepts of Buddhism.

Thirdly it is the analysis of the history of education, the principles of education, the objectives of education, the formal-informal-informal concepts, and the overall field of education.

The following is an explanation of what is being done by balancing the concept of wonderful learning with the concept of freedom.

As readers of the book, we have already come to realize that any concept can be interpreted and understood through different disciplines and that the horizons of our knowledge cannot be expanded without it. The reader is enlightened by a profound phi-

losophy, such as the Buddhist philosophy, and by philosophers representing different cultures and disciplines, such as Krishnamurti and Rousseau. Then the reader will be amazed to enter a totally different field on the theme. That is the learning of the Vedda people.

An interpretation of the concept of learning in association with the Vedda people, who can be considered a hidden part of the Sri Lankan society, reveals another perspective that is clear from the book. As pointed out by Dambane Gunawardena, the table on page 95 comparing formal education and Vedda learning should be considered as a significant aspect when considering modern education reforms.

The book concludes by emphasizing the need to look at education with an open eye and the need to address educational issues in the light of the various currents expressed in the book. The references for each chapter are also included at the end of the book, giving the reader the opportunity to pursue further research on the subject.

Reviewed by Dr Godvin Kodituwakku (Former Deputy Director General, National Institute of Education)

Spiritually impeccable

In the narrative form, the reader is made to encounter the areas of miracles and make-believe experiences like taming the poisonous and flaming serpents by the Buddha through the dissipation of compassion. This too heightens the fact that though the world is a place of evildoers and hateful creatures, they could be nevertheless tackled or conquered with the spread of Metta or a deep sense of compassion.



Professor

SUNANDA MAHENDRA

Shines forth blissfully, the dispensation or the order of the Gautama Buddha

(Asirimath Gauthama Budu Sasana Bebaiei)

is the title of the series of Buddhist books as written by Damayanthi Jayakody and published by Dayawansa Jayakody Publishers. The central intention of the writer is to highlight the widespread of the Buddha Sasana initially in its birthplace known as Dambadiva or India as it is popularly known.

As a reader, I felt that quite a lot of material pertaining to the subject of the growth and spread of the Buddhist system of doctrine is unearthed. As cited by this writer, the source materials are culled from Tripitaka as well as other works both rare and resourceful.

The attempt on the part of Jayakody is to express the growth and spread via a narrative form of expression handed down the generations in various forms of narratological means, resembling indigenous fairy tales, miracles, legends myths and tales. They all in all go into the making of good reading for the younger generation of school-goers who are not only interested in the doctrinal areas but also the creative and literary areas alike. This intention of the writer is interspersed with doctrinal material in a lighter vein enabling the young mind to investigate more and more further details from other allied sources.

Deep sense of compassion

The writer sensitively captures the historical factors pertaining to the formation of Gautama Buddha's order of monks, and the function of the first five monks or Pasvaga Mahanun whose number increased as time goes by to sixty. These sixty monks became the foremost missionaries (Duta) who traverse to sixty directions imitating the value of the doctrine of the Buddha. As a reader, I felt that the factors pertaining to the mission are sensitively handled enabling the reader to delve deeply into the interlinked areas of more findings.

In the narrative form, the reader is made to encounter the areas of miracles and make-believe experiences like taming the poisonous and flaming serpents by the Buddha through the dissipation of compassion. This too heightens the fact that though the world is a place of evildoers and hateful creatures, they could be nevertheless tackled or conquered with the spread of Metta or a deep sense of compassion.

As such, the central theme of the mission of the monks who wander in sixty directions as to impart the great and noble sense of compassion or loving-kindness. This theme of loving-kindness is even spread into our soil at a time when it was infested by a retinue of

BOOKMARK

Yakkhas or devilish creatures, who come in the guise of evildoers. Some of the material cited is observed to be taken from the age-old chronicles like Mahawamsa.

Storytelling barriers

These facts are though known as historical realities, come in the form of ingredients that go into the making of a readable narrative that transcends the narrow barriers of storytelling.

One another factor that is underlined in the narrative reaches the reader as the techniques utilised by the Buddha in the process of reaching the minds of some individuals. This area I felt as a reader embraces some of the modern psychotherapeutic nuances that had gone into several subject disciplines.

One good example as cited by the writer is the example of ruling doctrinal plans of King Dutugemunu in the conquest of foreign forces that came to be disastrous. The doctrine as laid down by the Buddhist discipline had been shown as the guiding power of the beacon light. But the reader, I am sure, is not misguided by mere historical events, but sensitively feels the necessity to eradicate the evil forces.

The serious sense of the meditative and/or contemplative mind too is underlined in the narrative factors as a guiding concept in good living on the part of the rulers as well as the advisors to the said rulers. An attempt is made to depict the sensitive and blissful nature of adhering to the necessity to conquer oneself in order to know what is happening around. Moreover, several factors pertaining to the lives of great disciples of the Buddha such as Sariputta and Maha Moggallana are presented as interlinked narratives.

These narratives are not presented as mere profiles, but as guiding forces that help the clergy as well as the laity to reconsider their stance as noble humans who are willing to feel and understand this likes and dislikes as well as good and events of others who live with them.

The embedded or accompanied picturesque illustrations lavishly utilised provide an extra dimension to the events that flow in the narrative.

The language used is more poetic and pave the way for the reader to consider the work as a prose poem.

All in all, this is a timely gift not only to the younger generation of readers but also an enlightening gift for the pious adult as well. As the writer emphasises in the last page of the work, rare is the birth of a Buddhist order in the world. Rare is also the human who could perceive the doctrine thus emerged.

Ms Janice

Doubtful comedy

RAVI PERERA

At the Liberty Cinema last week, I watched "Miss Janice", a Sinhalese movie, offered as a comedy, a slapstick. The plot leaves no room for imagination.

A middle-aged man is summarily fired from a commercial establishment, as we presently learn, for committing fraud. In a subsequent dialogue he justifies the crime, he stole money from his employer in order to "assist" his family, consisting of a son, a daughter and his wife.

At no time in the movie is his family portrayed as desperately in need; they lead relatively comfortable lives, in a middle-class house, a plump stay-at-home wife, if somewhat nagging in her ways. The grumpy wife with a sharp tongue is a common theme in local movies, same as the inevitable "Hamu Mahathmaya", a well-endowed man wholly occupied in causing trouble to the less endowed. Rarely in our films is the characterisation of the elite ("Hamu Mahathmaya") convincing; the traditionally powerful man, supposedly rich, is often trivial and insipid in the portrayal.

The filmmakers attempt to give him a certain sophistication, achieving only a gross caricature: in culture, in posture, and apparently, there is no superiority,

he only mocks the concept of a social hierarchy.

SHAMELESSLY UNSCRUPULOUS

Our middle-aged man's son, perhaps in his late teens, though not employed, gets about on a powerful motorcycle, with some style, casually chic. His daughter, who is 'going for classes', is not wanting in teenage hip either.

Fired from his job, the main character (the middle-aged man) turns to a close friend, who is shamelessly

unscrupulous (As the story unfolds we learn that the hero is no more scrupulous, although of a milder make-up). The friend suggests a ruse, as a way of finding employment. There is a well-to-do widow, a "Hamu", looking for a manageress for her domestic establishment and also to act as a guardian for her young daughter.

Why doesn't our hero impersonate a woman and by that deception get the job? Very conveniently, the friend's wife is a make-up specialist, she could manage a convincing transformation of the elderly man to 'Ms. Janice', an elderly woman.

Persons with means are trusting, even naive. The widow is taken in by the charade and after some haggling hires Ms Janice for a monthly salary of



Rs. 35,000 and she/he (Ms Janice) moves into the mansion and is asked to share the bedroom of her charge, the Hamu's daughter. Meanwhile, the mother (the Hamu), is looking for a suitable marriage for the girl and there is an arranged visit by a prospective bridegroom. But it is too late, unknown to both mother and Ms Janice, the cupid's arrow has already done its work, the girl is in love. With whom? Ms Janice's son!

DUTY-BOUND

What does Janice do when he learns of this liaison, the moral crisis of his employment? He so arranges that the heiress, who he was duty-bound to protect, elopes with his own son!

For good measure, the filmmaker repeats the theme. There is this wealthy widower who chances upon a photograph of Ms Janice and is smitten by the mature "woman". He courts 'her', laying bare his soul, his disappointment with his only son, who he will disinherit. A tantalizing prospect, this clown's wealth is there for the taking! Schemes are

hatched with his unscrupulous friend to dispossess the fool in the love of his possessions. Enter then the fool's son, a physical 'culturalist', in a powerful four-wheel vehicle, with some unsavoury looking men, to warn Ms Janice- 'keep away from my father you scheming woman!'

Yet another stunning revelation. Janice's daughter has a secret lover. Who else but Mr Muscles, whose father is besotted with Ms Janice! Again a moral crisis, Janice resolves it to the maximum benefit of his family. He advises the fool to make up with the son and of course, pass on all his wealth to the young man. Matter, of course, the young man marries Janice's daughter!

OBVIOUS DUNCE

Ms Janice is a comedy; the purpose of a comedy is to make the audience laugh. While we laugh do we suspend judgment, can art ignore life? True, this is only a story, but a story that is ultimate, ignoble.

A weak man, fired from his job for committing fraud, assumes a female identity, Ms Janice, to commit further frauds on a widow and later a widower. We witness the facile betrayal of a widow's trust; she employs him, lets him in her house and entrusts her daughter to his care. The widower, an obvious dunce, falls for the "female" charms of Ms Janice. Before the fool could uncover the masquerade, that the object of his passion is a middle-aged man, things are arranged beneficially for the Janice family.

The moral; there are no ethics, mendacity pays, family interests come first. A slapstick that leaves you drained of all moral sense; flawed men, with little good in them.

Hindu influence during the Polonnaruwa period

Dr SUBASHINI PATHMANATHAN

According to history, Sri Lanka was conquered by the Cholas during the early part of the 10th century. The major part of the island was under their rule for more than five decades. During the period, Polonnaruwa was the centre of administration. Opening years of Polonnaruwa period in Sri Lankan history started with the Chola regime. The recoveries of Chola inscriptions from Mantai have provided some important clues and valuable information about the expansion of the Chola Kingdom from South India to ancient Sri Lanka. It seems that often Cholas sent their officials to the occupied areas in ancient Sri Lanka to coordinate the administration. The Chola areas of ancient Sri Lanka were referred to as Mummudi Chola Mandalam.

When Sri Lanka was under the Chola period, the native artisans including painters had very limited scope to exhibit their own art and culture. During that time no monuments or any native architectural designs were seen. Chola invaders had built typical Hindu temples according to the Dravidian architecture.

Buddhist architecture

During the Polonnaruwa period, the Chola regime or dynasty was dominating South India. Yet it could be noticeable that the ancient architectural style which was based on certain exclusive patterns was found. They had links with Buddhist architecture. Hindu temples of Polonnaruwa were built only during this period. Numerous Saiva bronze statues with excellent images were installed in the Saiva temples in the Polonnaruwa period.

Chola kings dominated during the Polonnaruwa period after conquering and consolidating their presence in 993 A.D. As soon as they captured Polonnaruwa, it was renamed Janatha Mangalam. After the expiry of the Chola period, one of the Kalinga (Odisha) kings ruled Polonnaruwa for around three decades. The Great



Based on the texture of the material, the statues of the Polonnaruwa period could be divided into two categories. They are made of bronze as well as with various kinds of stones including granite and sandstones. All the Sri Lankan Hindu statues were more or less found in and around the ancient archaeological sites at Polonnaruwa. Generally, the Hindu sculptures of the Polonnaruwa period are popularly categorized as Pancha Deva Sapai or Saba. They include Sivan, Vishnu, Parvathi, (Ma Sakthi), Suriyan and Ganesh.

Chola Chakaravarthies (Majestic or Great Kings) who built the great Thanchai Bragatheswarar temple in Tamil Nadu also built numerous temples in Polonnaruwa with excellent architecture. They not only built the magnificent temples in Polonnaruwa, but they also built some excellent temples in North West of Sri Lanka.

In memory of Rajaraja's queen, the 2nd Devala was built by the Cholas, and the presiding deity of the temple was Vanava Madevi - Iswaram Udayar. The inner sanctum of the Devala is devoted to Siva Lingam. According to Annada K.Coomaraswamy, it was one of the excellent creations in stone. According to the ancient historical records, another Siva temple

known as Kailasm was built by Vijaya Bahu in Kantale. During the period of Vijaya Bahu, the Hindu religion was well preserved in the country.

Construction plaster

Siva Devala 1 at Polonnaruwa was built with carved stones brought from far off places. The binding agent of construction plaster was not used for the building. The beautification of the external architecture had the lotus design. It has been found that during the periods of Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa, there was an admixture of Buddhist and Hindu architectures.

Kalinga princes who came after the Cholas ruled the island with Polonnaruwa as the capital. The Chola period was considered the golden period in the history of Tamils of Tamil Nadu. During the period, the Cholas built excellent and huge Hindu temples that reflect Dravidian architecture. The bronze statues of the period were considered as one of the best in the world.

During the Chola occupation of ancient Sri Lanka, art, culture and religion were influenced by the Chola dynasty. During their occupation, they built numerous Hindu temples at Mathota, Polonnaruwa and several other areas of the island. We have enough evidence that they made a lot of endowments to the Buddhist monastery. A temple devoted to Lord Shiva and Lok Mata Sri Parvati was built in Mathota. It was built by one of the Chola kings named Tali Kumaran. Later the temple was renamed Rajaraja Iswarratu Mahadevan temple. Besides this, another temple named "Tiruverameswaran Udayar Mahadevan Kovil" was built at Mathota (Rajarajapura).

Royal families

It is interesting to note that Mahindra IV (956 - 972) picked up his bride from South India. Most of the Sinhalese kings had chosen their brides from royal families of South India. For example, Vijaya-

bahu 1 was married to one of the Kalinga princes. In return, he offered his sister Mitta to Pandu prince. According to ancient historical evidence, Parakrama Bahu I performed a series of Hindu rituals, including the foremost Hindu ritual known as "Homa yaga."

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Besides them, the carved sculptures, exhibiting various postures of traditional dances including Thandava Karnas, beautifully decorated Sabta Mathas, Guards or Duwara Balaks, Nandi, a variety of Parvathi, Ardanatheswar, Joesta, Varahi Avtar of Sri Sarawati Devi, stone slab sculptures, ancient Yapahuva palace ruin structures belong to the same Polonnaruwa period.

It is believed that there was the coexistence of twin worships of Lord Siva and Sri Maha Vishnu during the Chola dynasty in Sri Lanka. The Vishnu statues are divided into three different categories based on their appearances. They include standing, sitting and sleeping or popularly known as "Ananda Sayanam" in Sanskrit. The ancient Maha Vishnu statues found in Sri Lankan archaeological sites exhibit the "standing positions" only. In contrary to this, a variety of Lord Siva's postures were unearthed from the Polonnaruwa period. These postures include various stances of ancient traditional dances. The sculptures are based on ethics or norms of "Saiva Ahama Sastras" (Traditional Hindu principles). Similarly, the "Ma Shakti" or Lok Mata Parvati sculptures at various postures can be observed.

PIYASENA WICKRAMAGE

The Sri Lankan writer who was like a film star in the 1960s, Gunadasa Amarasekara is still active in the Sinhala literary scene. Not only that! We agree to disagree with his vision for a new society rooted in the soil of mother Lanka! Amarasekara's poetry continues to haunt our memory. His short stories in his first two collections: *Rathu Rosa Mala* and *Jeevana Suvanda* are still alive in our memory. I wonder how many of our youth of the 1980s 1990s or the new millennium are aware of such writings! How many have come across such creations during their literary appreciation classes? The cultural life in this country is fast decaying.

Whatever happens in Sri Lankan society, Amarasekara is in the process of writing his literary creations and his social alarming! There is no purifier like knowledge in this world, time make a man find himself in his heart, according to the Bhagavadgita. In a

recent publication, *Viritha Ha Arutha*, Professor Wimal Dissanayake and Srinath Ganewatta appreciate the Sinhala poetry of Gunadasa Amarasekara. They highlight him as a poet who has explored the traditional poetry creations of the classical periods and the folk tradition.

Rich vocabulary

Amarasekara's first novel, *Karumakkarayo*, is among the most interesting novels read over and over again. Gunadasa Amarasekara's Sinhala prose is nourished with his knowledge of Pali and Sanskrit languages. It always had a rich vocabulary.

His novel in four parts, *Gamanaka Mula*, I had the opportunity to read

the manuscript and promote it to a publisher as a literary agent. I was able to organize the launching ceremony at the Girls' Guide Auditorium in Colombo with an overwhelming literary gathering! A notable participant was Lake House Investments and Printers Chairman, Ranjith Wijewardene.

In the latter part of the 1980s, Amarasekara wrote *Ganaduru Medi-*

yama Dakinemi Aruneli. It contained the essence of his social thinking. It was the most controversial book he wrote in Sinhala. Gamini Dissanayake made reference to it in Parliament too.

One of his earliest novels, *Yali Upannemi*, was the most controversial novel he wrote and rejected as misled thinking. He was a rebel of his own thinking. But what has he gained

AGREEABLE AMARASEKARA

He was in the company of Martin Wickramasinghe during the early phase of his life. He is associated with Professor Ediriweera Sarachchandra during his University days at Peradeniya. K. Jayatilaka and GB Senanayaka were contemporary writers and novelists.



from the country? He once said he is more benefited from his dental profession!

Documenting the legacy

In my latest book *Madhura Vasanthe* I was able to include several interviews which I had done for a weekly paper. I hoped to document

his thinking for the benefit of future generations. I hope some organization would take care of publishing his collected books and articles for the benefit of future generations!

When he recently met me, he remarked: "I am in the 90s... Can you imagine?"

He was in the company of Martin Wickramasinghe during the early phase of his life. He is associated with Professor Ediriweera Sarachchandra during his University days at Peradeniya. K. Jayatilaka and GB Senanayaka were contemporary writers and novelists.

As a rock unshaken by the wind, even so, the wise are unshaken by praise or blame, so says the Dhammapada. Writer, novelist and poet, literary and social critic, Gunadasa Amarasekara is Sri Lanka par excellence! Through his writings and speeches, he always tries to enlighten the people of Sri Lanka. As I mentioned earlier in this article, we agree to disagree.

CRITIQUE FROM A UNIQUE STRATOSPHERE

NIMALKA JAYADEVA MAYADUNNE

Jayantha, the administer cum literary personality bid adieu to the two worlds she had known and was better known at, after a brief terminal illness last week. She left behind her husband Siri; a senior civil administrator himself and the only child along with a score of colleagues in the state administrative service and the sphere of art and culture, creating a noticeable void. A void of a Mr. or rather a Mrs Fix it. Jayantha took pleasure in helping others making use of her many contacts, lavishly. Be it somebody's someone trying to get a transfer from one place to another, or someone else trying to launch a book without knowing how to get about it, or even someone desperately trying to secure the legitimate portion of funds from the state to finance an imminent surgery to save one's or someone else's life and faced with the dilemma of clearing numerous red tapes, Jayantha Rukmani was one of a few unofficial ombudsmen or for that matter ombudswomen in case if the term existed, ready and willing at any given time to be relied upon.



My coming to know her was when she made a critique on one of my short stories appeared on a Sinhala daily. Thereafter it was further cemented when my sister's son got married to her daughter Oshadhi. Apart from all the talents, she was blessed with what appeared to me as paramount, was her knack for the public relations; a craft in which a few would have excelled over her if there were any. It became evident

once looking at the galaxy of stars and scholars of eminence attended at her daughter's wedding and the subsequent launch of her last book.

As the others mentioned after her demise writing to the newspapers, she constantly encouraged me too, to continue with my writing, being prepared to offer any help if needed with regard to it. She once mentioned in a television talk show that she had been named Rukmani after the great artist of yesteryear, whom her mother used to adore.

That Rukmani had the ability to laugh and cry in a matter of few minutes making her fans also following suit.

But Jayantha Rukmani was someone who always wore a permanent smile whether in happiness or grief. A smile probably had its origin in her heart. Her sojourn is now over. So will be ours in time to come. Till then every one of us who had the good fortune of knowing her shall remember her well. And remember with affection.

May she attain Nibbana after threading her samsaric journey in the shortest possible time!

Domini Jeeva's literary legacy

KS SIVAKUMARAN

As a teenager (18 or 19) I have heard of a Tamil writer by name of Dominic Jeeva. But I happened to read the Suthanthiran (a hard-hitting newspaper of the Tamil Arasu Kadchi) where senior writers were writing to that weekly. This was edited by the late S T Sivanayagam crowned as a doyen of contemporary Tamil Journalism. I wrote a few pieces to the teenager's page Valarmathi. So was Theevaan (Mu. Ponnambalam). I saw short stories by senior writers but not read them.

Good books

But it was a few years later that I became an avid reader of Lankan and Tamil Nadu fiction writing. Ramanathan, MS Iqbal, Rainbow Kanagaratnam, K Kailasapathy, Sillaiyoor Selvarajan were the people who recommended good books to me.

At that time Dominic Jeeva's Paathukai, his first collection of short stories, came to be published. I read his book critically and wrote a review in English for the then Sunday Times ably edit-

ed by K Mutiah, the well-known writer from the then Madras. (now Chennai). Kasinathan who was a professor of Philosophy at the University of Peradeniya appreciated my review very much. I did not know if Dominic Jeeva had ever read that review.

I wanted to meet him and so I went to Yaalpaanam and stayed at Lake View Hotel in Kasthuriar Road. Jeeva was having his hairdressing salon just near the hotel. Having heard that I was in town, a good-looking man full of enthusiasm knocked and came into my room. At once I felt that though he looked very simple he was an impressive personality. Then we made friends, whenever I visit Yaalpaanam I make it a point to visit him. He asked me to write to Mallikai and he published most of my articles. He told me that late A J Canagaratna used to like my contributions.

Evident editorials

Jeeva respected me as a critic and he liked me so much. I was humbled by his wisdom and social consciousness evident from his editorials in his well



respected literary magazine. Then he moved to the Metropolis, and we had occasions to meet, chat and respect each other.

I have written several articles both in English and Tamil and it is not necessary to repeat all that I have said about him, his annals, his life and experiences and books of fiction in this brief note.

Although he stopped schooling when he was in Lower school (he was compelled to dislike the degradation he had suffered because of his accidental birth in a downtrodden caste), Dominic Jeeva, to my mind, is humanist and felt strongly for the underdogs in society.

HUSTLING DREAM

I dreamt of that day
All my life
In my own world
I say Almighty to stay
Black cloak and high heels
A cap to the topper-
To make me look higher
Draped in 7 feet cloth inside
A bright black brand new cloak out
No barriers in between
I was my alma mater
21 centimetres aside
And the other was 29
A clean white sheet
Was rolled in a red cover
Which can be used as a

Rolling pin later
I thought I conquered the world
I thought I can now do all what want
But it took me few days - to see
everyone turn me over
It's a pandemic they said
Businesses are crashing this time
They said it louder
Pay cut said one, no allowances
Said the other
I was in between asking to recruit me
In one or another
Hustle continues, while dreams rest
Life isn't all bad I tapped my own back.

Fathima Fazal Mohamed

POETRY CORNER

MATTERS of the HEART

"Love is the mystery of water and a star"
Pablo Neruda
A pair of bold wandering eyes
caught a pair of shy brown eyes
on the sly
between two blinks;

an invisible link established itself
bridging the two hearts,
without a word spoken.
In half a heartbeat,
for the umpteenth time,
the world changed
irrevocably.

Jayashantha Jayawardhana

Amidst vast wealth of natural resources

The history of Lanka is said to go back to the time of Lord Buddha
Visiting the island thrice long before the arrival of Thero Mahinda
The sublime message that Lord Buddha had proclaimed in Jambudwepe
Was brought to Lanka in 247 BC making it a Dharmadwepe
The island sanctified by the living Buddha and its significance
Is very clearly supported by archaeological evidence
Thero Mahinda shaping the destiny and future of the country
Created a golden era in the annals of Sasanian history
Each visit of Lord Buddha occupied a unique place
In history as one that brought unity and peace
Later, warfare among leading clans caused unstable political conditions
Along with Chola, Pallava and Pandya South Indian invasions
They were repelled by our brave royalty
With absolute valour, determination and loyalty
Then with Maga's arrival in 1235 and Drift to the South West
Kingdoms changed till Kotte in 1415 was made the Capital best
Still later came the Portuguese, Dutch and the British
Who never wanted ideas of freedom or Buddhism to flourish
Amidst vast wealth of natural resources
Strategic significance the island possessed was enormous
Over the Maritime provinces all three powers held sway

While the British with Kandyans conquest made great headway
Kandyans kingdom sovereign throughout its existence
Fell a prey at last to mighty British dominance
Due to disunity prevalent in the Sinhala kingdom
Then Ceylon lost an age-old precious freedom
When Lankan views were now centred against colonial injustice
Which had in entirety a deep and far-reaching influence
Their alien rule and domineering attitude
Fellow Lankans were really unable to tolerate
The National leaders ruthlessly attacked Western habits
Their writings and ideas aroused Nationalism in true patriots
For a pretty long time, Lanka was a victim of imperialism
This gave rise within the Isle to strong Nationalism
A novel feature of this period at this stage
Was the pride of preserving ancient national heritage
There were certain good things to learn from the British
But we never wanted our long-lasting freedom to perish
They now knew here was a gigantic task ahead
Hence braved all dangers and marched forward
Independence thus gained was an enormous victory
Really and truly a remarkable landmark in our history
Paradise Isle completes 73 years of independence
It is with great pride the Sri Lankans celebrate the occasion!

Rupa Banduwardena

Whispering thoughts and wishes

Seventy Third Freedom Anniversary day blissful,
Epoch making, COVID-19 vanishing from nation hopeful.
Varied virtues visible in mankind steady, bold, sans negligence,
East to West, North to South, in true spirit Sri Lankans co-existence,
Nation Garden of Eden present regime ban corruption shameful violence,
Twenty Twenty One torments, tragedies averted sound governance.
Year of Targets, speedy developments, justice, respect all must face.
Togetherness, Truthfulness, Forgiveness cultivated in present generation,
Holding hands, hale n' hearty Sri Lankans in compassion and relaxation.
INDEPENDENCE yearly commemorated collectively rejoiced,
Recalling glorious moment Sri Lankan's in pride overwhelmed.
Dawn of another year acrimonious politics, vituperative methods'll vanish.

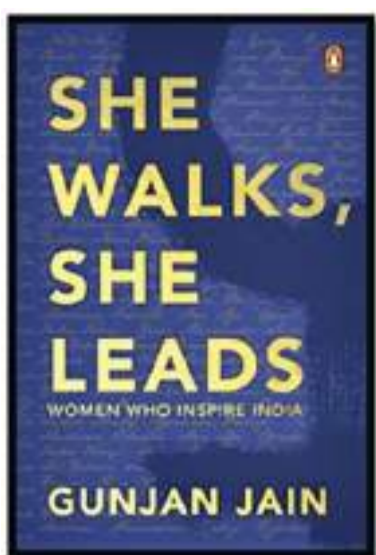
Fourth February 1948 with waves of Harmony created global history,
Remembering temporary solutions lack strengthening landscape of country.
Ensure impartial decisions betterment of country given priority,
Elimination of discrimination against women urgent necessity.
Daring, dynamic, projects ought improve, protect, environment honestly,
Obviously overcome objections, obstructions, weighty issues internally,
May Seventy Third independence era shower Peace, Unity n' Harmony.
Dominant day dare-devil approaches, standing malpractices vanquish
Awaiting a fresh garland of glory, greener motherland in tranquility.
Year 2021 yearning to yield prosperity, progress, peace abundantly.

Kumari Kumarasinghe Tennakoon

Bliss of solitude

A falling star
upon the earth,
The falling leaves upon my
head
The falling, strange rain drops swallow
my body
The flowing wind of hopes blows away my
soul
And the overflowing memories of you,
Taught me that the "Autumn" is a
bliss of solitude.

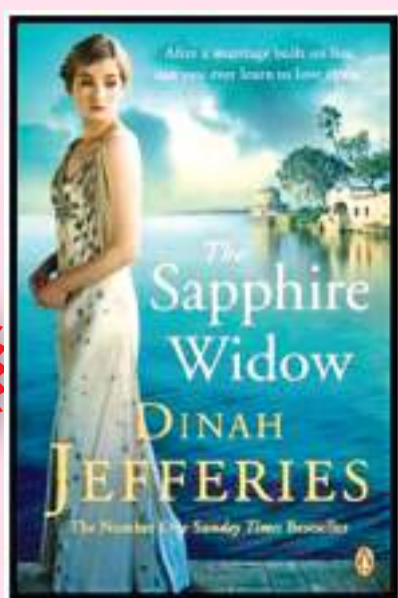
Wasana Kumarasinghe



TITLE: SHE WALKS, SHE LEADS
AUTHOR: GUNJAN JAIN

These are some snippets from She Walks, She Leads which profiles twenty-six iconic women in modern India. These leaders tell their stories, up close and personal. Their relentless ambition to shatter the glass ceiling, their pursuit for excellence and the challenges that came their way – all of this is captured vividly in this exclusive anthology.

Rs 1195
Available at
Sarasavi Bookshop



TITLE: THE SAPPHIRE WIDOW
AUTHOR: DINAH JEFFERIES

Ceylon, 1935. Louisa Reeve, the daughter of a successful British gem trader, and her husband Elliot, a charming, thrill-seeking businessman, seem like the couple who have it all. Except what they long for more than anything: a child.

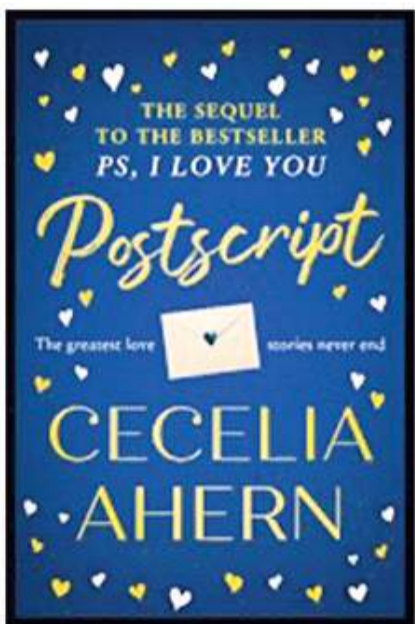
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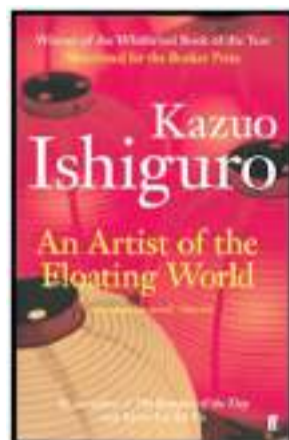
NEW ON THE SHELF

TITLE: POSTSCRIPT
AUTHOR: CECELIA AHERN

She's proud of all the ways in which she has grown and evolved. But when a group inspired by Gerry's letters, calling themselves the PS, I Love You Club, approaches Holly asking for help, she finds herself drawn back into a world that she worked so hard to leave behind.



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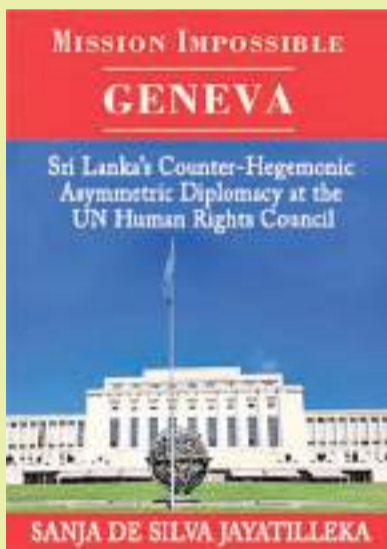
TITLE: AN ARTIST OF THE FLOATING WORLD
AUTHOR: KAZUO ISHIGURO

In the face of the misery in his homeland, the artist Masuji Ono was unwilling to devote his art solely to the celebration of physical beauty. Instead, he put his work in the service of the imperialist movement that led Japan into World War II.

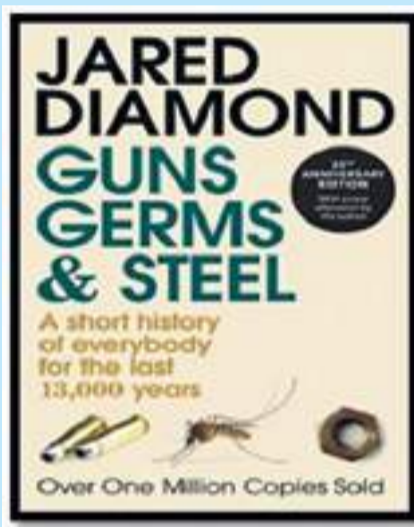
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TITLE: MISSION IMPOSSIBLE GENEVA
AUTHOR: SANJA DE SILVA JAYATILLEKA

Next month Sri Lanka will be in the spotlight at the UN sessions in Geneva. We got the support of many to defeat the motion some years back. How was it done? This book relates how Sri Lanka planned, strategized and executed a certain vision of international relations over two years. It resulted in bringing together a majority of member states at the Human Rights Council in support of it and confined the votes against it at a Special Session to the members of the EU. It reveals the basis on which Sri Lanka negotiated with the world from a position of an accused, to successfully persuade the majority of the Council to challenge the very norms by which it was the judge.



Rs 1000
Available at
Vijitha Yapa Bookshop



TITLE: GUNS GERMS & STEEL
AUTHOR: JARED DIAMOND

In this "artful, informative, and delightful" (William H. McNeill, New York Review of Books) book, Jared Diamond convincingly argues that geographical and environmental factors shaped the modern world. Societies that had a head start in food production advanced beyond the hunter-gatherer stage, and then developed writing, technology, government, and organized religion—as well as nasty germs and potent weapons of war—and adventured on sea and land to conquer and decimate preliterate cultures.

Rs 1795
Available at
Sarasavi Bookshop

TITLE: THE LIFE SCIENTIFIC: DETECTIVES
AUTHOR: ANNA BUCKLEY

The interviews make sobering reading, a reminder of all the deadly viruses that have threatened global health, and why the scientists working on the front line in the war against viruses, the arrival of Covid-19 came as no surprise. Among the contributors to this all-too-timely book is Jeremy Farrar, before he became Director of the Wellcome Trust,



Rs 2550
Available at
Vijitha Yapa Bookshop

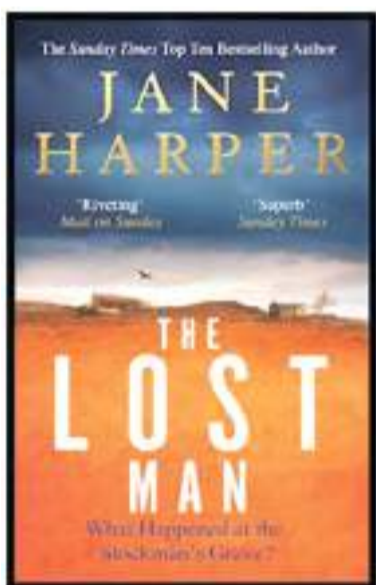
worked in an Infectious Diseases Hospital in Vietnam. He was on the frontline tackling SARS and nine months later a highly pathogenic strain of bird flu, H5N1. Peter Piot was at the forefront of the Ebola epidemic in West Africa. He was the first to identify HIV in Africa. It took him fifteen years to persuade the world that it was also a heterosexual disease.

TITLE: THE LAST GIANTS: THE RISE AND FALL OF THE AFRICAN ELEPHANT
AUTHOR: LEVISON WOOD



This book comes at a critical time. Fifty years ago, Africa was home to just over 1.3 million elephants, but by 1990 the number had halved. Meanwhile, in the span of a lifetime, the human population has more than doubled. In Levison Wood's The Last Giants, he explores the rapid decline of one of the world's favourite animals. Filled with stories from his own time spent travelling with elephants in Africa, and documenting their migration in his Channel 4 series, Walking With Elephants, the book is a passionate wake-up call for this endangered species we take for granted. The Last Giants was written to inspire us all to act - to learn more and help save the species from permanent extinction.

Rs 1500
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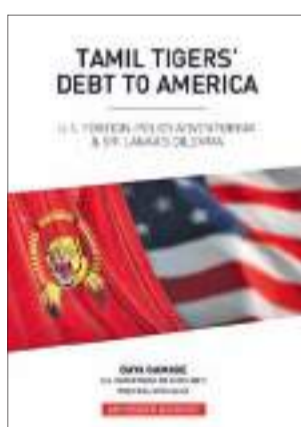
TITLE: THE LOST MAN
AUTHOR: JANE HARPER

They are at the stockman's grave, a landmark so old, no one can remember who is buried there. But today, the scant shadow it casts was the last hope for their middle brother, Cameron. The Bright family's quiet existence is thrown into grief and anguish. Something had been troubling Cameron. Did he lose hope and walk to his death? Because if he didn't, the isolation of the outback leaves few suspects.

Rs 1540
Available at
Sarasavi Bookshop

TITLE: TAMIL TIGER'S DEBT TO AMERICA
AUTHOR: DAYA GAMAGE

The macro effect the Tigers have today is the result of the conducive atmosphere created, and moral upliftment America has given to them was what Tamil parliamentarian Sam Tambimuttu told the American Embassy (Sri Lanka) in April 1990. This book gives a unique analysis and interpretation of Washington's foreign policy adventurism using the insights the author gained during his tenure at the U.S. State Department. This insider's account and alarming analysis have disclosed the link not well known to outsiders - that enabled operative organizations within the Tamil Diaspora to replace the vanquished Tigers.



Rs 2500
Available at
Vijitha Yapa Bookshop

TITLE: KAMALA'S WAY
AUTHOR: DAN MORAIN

There's very little that's conventional about Kamala Harris, and yet her personal story also represents the best of America. She grew up the eldest daughter of a single mother, a no-nonsense cancer researcher who emigrated from India at the age of nineteen in search of a better education. She and her husband, an accomplished economist from Jamaica, split up when Kamala was only five.



Rs 3255
Available at
Sarasavi Bookshop

TITLE: THE DUKE AND I
AUTHOR: JULIA QUINN

In the ballrooms and drawing rooms of Regency London, rules abound. From their earliest days, children of aristocrats learn how to address an earl and curtsy before a prince—while other dictates of the ton are unspoken yet universally understood. A proper duke should be imperious and aloof. A young, marriageable lady should be amiable... but not too amiable.



Rs 1675
Available at
Makeen Bookshop

TITLE: SRI LANKA LTTE AND THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT
AUTHOR: PROFESSOR RAVINDRA FERNANDO

Professor Ravindra Fernando is the Senior Professor of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology of the University of Colombo. He is also the Head of the National Poisons On formation Centre, National Hospital of Sri Lanka, and the Director of the Centre for the Study of Human Rights of the University of Colombo. He has written books on topics such as Poisoning, Medical Negligence, Inquest and Sathasivam Murder Case. This is his first publication on a national issue. The debate on 'Sri Lanka' in British Parliament on 2nd May 2007 led to passionate, sensitive, emotionally charged and sometimes irrational responses from Sri Lankans living in the country and abroad. A few days later, the Parliament in Sri Lanka held a debate on this issue in a highly charged atmosphere.



Rs 390
Available at
Vijitha Yapa Bookshop



TITLE: THE KAISER'S WEB
AUTHOR: STEVE BERRY

In bestselling author, Steve Berry's stunning novel, former Justice Department agent Cotton Malone encounters information from a secret World War II dossier that, if proven true, would not only rewrite history - it could change the political landscape of Europe forever. Two candidates are vying to become Chancellor of Germany. One is a patriot who has served for many years, the other a usurper, stoking the flames of nationalistic hate. Both harbour secrets, but only one knows the truth about the other. Everything turns on the events of one fateful day - April 30, 1945 - and what happened deep beneath Berlin in the Führerbunker. Did Adolf Hitler and Eva Braun die there? Did Martin Bormann, Hitler's close confidant, manage to escape?

Rs 2250
Available at
Vijitha Yapa Bookshop

PROCUREMENT NOTICE**District General Hospital
Nuwara Eliya****INVITATION FOR REGISTRATION OF
BUILDING MAINTENANCE
CONTRACTORS**

Tenders are accepted by the Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee District General Hospital, Nuwara Eliya from 17.02.2021 up to 12.30 p.m. on 10.03.2021 from Contractors registered at the Institute for Construction, Training and Development (ICTAD) as mentioned in the schedule below. Bids will be opened in the Director's Office at the above address, immediately after closing of accepting bids and the bidder or an authorized representative of the bidder could participate on this occasion.

02. Bid documents could be obtained from the head office of the Nuwara Eliya District General Hospital on working days from 17.02.2021 up to 09.03.2021 between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. and bid documents could be inspected free of charge. Bidders should submit documents of self in proof of qualifications and the receipt issued by the Accountant of the Hospital for payment of the bid form fee to obtain bid documents.

Serial No.	File No.	Item	Eligibility	Non refundable Bid fee
01	GH/NEL/කයොට/01 /01/2021	Registration of Building maintenance contractors for the Nuwara Eliya District General Hospital for the year 2021 (Contracts not exceeding 300,000.00)	M 10 or above	Rs. 1500.00
02	GH/NEL/ ප.ප.ක.බි/01 /02/2021	Registration of Sewage System maintenance Contractors of the Nuwara Eliya District General Hospital for the year 2021. (Contracts not exceeding 300,000.00)	M 10 or above	Rs. 1500.00

You may contact the head office to obtain further details. The Regional Procurement Committee has the right to accept or reject any bid.

**Chairman,
Regional Procurement Committee,
District General Hospital,
Nuwara Eliya.**

Telephone Nos. 052-2224307 / 052-2224308

**TENDER NOTICE**

Sealed tenders are invited from reputable companies who are capable of supplying the marine insurance service to **Colombo International Container Terminals Limited ("CICT")**

Inquiry No.	Description	Closing Date
RFQ-02-02-2021	Procurement of Marine Insurance Service (2021/2022) Colombo International Container Terminals Ltd.	09th March 2021

Prospective Vendors are requested to obtain Tender Documents (In Electronic Format Only) by email to Ranidu Laksiri of Procurement Department of CICT (Mob/Tel: 0766-666803, 0112-666803) (E-mail: ranidu.laksiri@cict.lk)

Please submit your sealed tenders to be received to below address not later than **3:00 p.m. (local time) on 9th March 2021**, mentioning "Annual Agreement of Procurement of Marine Insurance Service (2020/2021) Colombo International Container Terminals Ltd" on the top left-hand corner of the envelope.

**Management Committee,
Colombo International Container Terminals Limited,
Port of Colombo,
120/20, Marine Drive Road, Colombo 01,
Sri Lanka.**

**Invitation for Bids**

**Climate Resilient Integrated Water Management Project
(CRIWMP)**

Ministry of Irrigation

PROCUREMENT NOTICE**PROCUREMENT OF AUDIO/VISUAL SERVICES
FOR CRIWMP**

- Project Director, on behalf of Project Procurement Committee, **Climate Resilient Integrated Water Management Project, Ministry of Irrigation, 12th Floor, No. 500, T.B. Jayah Mawatha, Colombo 10**, invites sealed bids from Film/ Video producing companies in Sri Lanka for the procurement of Audio/Visual services on rate Contract basis for a period of One Year.
- Climate Resilient Integrated Water Management Project has implemented its operation in Anuradapura, Vavuniya, Puttlam, Kurunegala, Trincomalee, Mannar and Polonnaruwa Districts. The Project Sub office is established in Anuradhapura Town and Head Office is in Ministry of Irrigation, Colombo 10. The Project intends to obtain procurement of Audio/Visual services on progress of project activities on rate contract basis for a period of One Year to make awareness among the local and international communities.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure. The Bidder shall be Film/ Video producing Company. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Project Director, Climate Resilient Integrated Water Management Project, Ministry of Irrigation, 12th Floor, No. 500, T.B. Jayah Mawatha, Colombo 10 (Contact No: 011-2672223) from 0900 hrs to 1600 hrs on any working day.
- A complete set of Bidding documents in English language may be purchased during the office hours (from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs) from **17.02.2021 to 09.03.2021** from the office of **CRIWMP, Ministry of Irrigation, 12th floor, No.500, T.B. Jayah Mawatha, Colombo 10** on the submission of written request on the **contractor's business letterhead** addressed to the Project Director, CRIWMP and upon payment of a **non-refundable fee of LKR 1,000.00** per set of documents.
- All bids should be accompanied with an "on demand" and "unconditional" Bid Guarantee for a sum of **Rs. 50,000.00** through a commercial bank recognized by CBSL (Central Bank of Sri Lanka) or Insurance Company registered in Sri Lanka which is authorized by the Insurance Commission of Sri Lanka to issue such Bid Guarantees. Specimen for Bid Guarantee is attached as Annex "A". All Bid Guarantees should be valid for at least 28 days more than the validity period of bids. Cheques will not be accepted as Bid Guarantee.
- Sealed Bids must be sent under registered cover or deposited in the 'Tender Box' available in address mentioned in paragraph Four (04) above before 1400 hrs on 10.03.2021. Please indicate the "Procurement of Audio/Visual Services for CRIWMP - CRIWMP/PMU/PROC/2021/SER/02" on the left top corner of the envelop. Bids should be valid for a period of 90 days from closing date of bids.
- Late bids will be rejected. All duly received bids will be opened immediately after the scheduled closing time of Bids at the same venue. Bidders or their accredited agents could be present at the time of opening of bids. A **pre-bid meeting** will be held at the address given in paragraph Four (04) above, commencing at **1000 hrs on 02.03.2021**. All prospective bidders are requested to attend the pre-bid meeting.

**On behalf of Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee,
Project Director,
Climate Resilient Integrated Water Management Project,
Ministry of Irrigation,
12th Floor, 500, T.B. Jayah Mawatha,
Colombo 10.**

**PRADESHIYA SANWARDANA BANK
INVITATION FOR BIDS**

The Pradeshiya Sanwardana Bank of Sri Lanka (RDB) invites sealed bids from eligible, qualified & experience bidders for the followings.

Tender Name	Number of Locations	BID No	Bid Security (LKR)
Refilling of Fire Extinguishers	310	DGM/HR/RDB/2021/020	100,000.00
Obtain Cleaning Service for Southern Province	59	DGM/HR/RDB/2021/021	50,000.00

Refilling of Fire Extinguishers of RDB - DGM/HR/RDB/2021/020

- Chief Human Resources Officer, Pradeshiya Sanwardana Bank, No 933, Kandy Road, Wedamulla, Keleniya** now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for providing Refilling of Fire Extinguishers Service to RDB as described below.
- Contract Period- **Two Years**.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall meet the following requirements.
 - The bidder shall be a reputed company having experience in providing similar type of Service at least for last **Four (04) years(2017-2020)**.
 - Average annual value of IT Support Service performed in last three years shall be at least **Rs.25 million per annum (2017/2018/2019)**.

A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the **Chief Human Resources Officer, Pradeshiya Sanwardana Bank, No 933, Kandy Road, Wedamulla, Keleniya** from **18th February 2021 until 08th March 2021** from **09.00hrs to 15.00hrs** upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of **Rs.1,000/-**.

Obtain Cleaning Service for Southern Province - DGM/HR/RDB/2021/021

- Chief Human Resources Officer, Pradeshiya Sanwardana Bank, No 933, Kandy Road, Wedamulla, Keleniya** now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for providing cleaning service to RDB (59 Employees) as described below.
- Contract Period- **Two Years**.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall meet the following requirements.
 - The bidder shall be a reputed local company having experience in providing similar type of Cleaning Service at least for last **Three (03) years**.
 - Average annual value of Cleaning Service performed in last three years shall be at least **Rs.5 million per annum (2017/2018/2019)**.

A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the **Chief Human Resources Officer, Regional Development Bank, No 933, Kandy Road, Wedamulla, Keleniya and Southern Regional Office, 28/B, Esplanade Road, Uyanwatta, Matara** from **18th February 2021 until 08th March 2021** from **09.00hrs to 15.00hrs** upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of **Rs 1,000/-**.

General Instructions

Bids shall be addressed to the **Chief Human Resources Officer, Regional Development Bank, No 933, Kandy Road, Wedamulla, Keleniya**, should be sent through the registered post and receive on or before 2.00pm on **09th March 2021**. You should indicate "Tender Name" and "Tender No" on the top left side of the envelop. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend.

Bid shall be valid up to **91 days** from the date of bid opening.

All bids shall be accompanied by a **Bid Security of above mentioned amounts**, which shall be valid for a period of **91+28 days** from the date closing of bids. (09th March 2021 to 05th July 2021)

Selected bidders should be submitted performance bond **Rs. 100,000.00** and insurances cover should be submitted for Cleaning Service which shall be valid for two years.

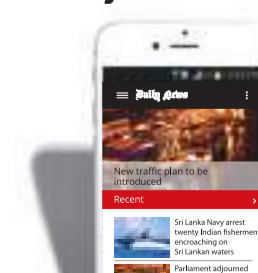
**Chief Human Resource Office,
Regional Development Bank, Head Office,
No.933, Kandy Road,
Wedamulla, Kelaniya. T.P.011 2035454/011 2035455/055- 041-2226208/9, Fax.011 2906883 -
www.rdb.lk -2021.02.17**

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Vavuniya Campus of the University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka

35th General Convocation -2021

The 35th General Annual Convocation of the University of Jaffna will be held on 24th and 25th of February 2021, at the Indoor Stadium of the University of Jaffna as six sessions.

Graduands who will be conferred degrees at the above convocation are requested to obtain their cloaks at the **Examination and Student Admission Branch of the Vavuniya Campus of the University of Jaffna, Park Road, Vavuniya** on the following dates, producing either Student Identity Card / National Identity Card. Session details are available at the Notice Board of the Academic Affairs and Publication Branch and University website: www.jfn.ac.lk.

Date	Time	Name of the Degree programmes
22.02.2021 23.02.2021 24.02.2021	9.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bachelor of Information and Communication Technology - General Bachelor of Science in Information and Communication Technology - Special Bachelor of Science (Environmental Science) - General Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science - Special Bachelor of Science (Applied Mathematics and Computing) - General Bachelor of Science (Special) in Computer Science Bachelor of Business Management (General) Bachelor of Business Management (Special) Bachelor of Business Management in Project Management (General)

Note:

- Graduands are kindly requested to obtain questionnaire for employability survey and hand over duly furnished form before obtaining cloaks. (It could be downloaded from University website: www.jfn.ac.lk)
- The graduands should strictly follow the Covid 19 precautions when they come to the University of Jaffna.

Registrar

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Provincial Ministry of
Provincial Roads, Rural
Infrastructure Facilities, Tourism,
Sports and Youth Affairs



Sabaragamuwa Provincial Council

Implementation of Alternative Roads System of
100,000 Kilometres, specified in the Government Policy
Statement of "Nation Building Vision of Prosperity"

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

Chairman, Procurement Committee of the Sabaragamuwa Provincial Ministry of Road Development, on behalf of the Ministry of Road Development, invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified Graduate Surveyors or from Licensed Surveyors registered with the Land Surveying Council, under 8 Contract Packages including 25 km per each Executive Engineer's Division for preparation and Planning of Longitudinal Sections and Cross Sections for 200 Kilometres of Provincial Roads in the two Districts of Kegalle and Ratnapura.

Further details could be obtained from the Provincial Ministry of Road Development Web Page in the Website of www.sg.gov.lk, visiting the Institutions indicated therein or visiting the link of the <https://f.ls/wNDb> Link.

**Chairman,
Ministry Procurement Committee,
Provincial Ministry of Road Development,
Sabaragamuwa Provincial Council,
New Town,
Ratnapura.**

045-2223154

17th February 2021

Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka



SRI LANKA

MINISTRY OF TOURISM
SRILANKA TOURISM PROMOTION BUREAU

Invitation for Bids

SELECTION OF A CREATIVE AGENCY FOR THE GLOBAL COMMUNICATION
CAMPAIGN 2021 -2025 OF SRI LANKA TOURISM

Bid No: SLTPB/GCC/2021/002

- The Chairman, Standing Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee of Ministry of Tourism, invites sealed bid proposals from reputed and experienced agencies for development of Creative Strategy and Creatives for the Global Communication Campaign 2021 - 2025, in coordination with Campaign Management Unit, Destination Management Companies, and Digital Agency on behalf of Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau (SLTPB).
- The purpose of the proposed integrated global marketing campaign is to promote Sri Lanka as a tourist destination to achieve national target of the tourism sector.
- The maximum total contract value over the period of five years will be LKR 250 million and the required funds shall be allocated by Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau.
- Selected bidder shall not have been blacklisted, in terms of the provisions of Government Procurement Procedure - 2006.
- Prospective bidders shall have following Qualifications and experience;
 - Company duly registered in Sri Lanka as a legal entity and having an operational office in Sri Lanka;
 - Minimum 10 years of experience in development of Creative Strategy and Creatives for advertising, Marketing and Public Relations;
 - proven track records in handling minimum of Three (03) accounts on Creative strategy development, Creative Development assignments in the value of over LKR 100 Million (each project) for local or international clients during last Five (05) Years.
 - The company should have minimum annual turnover of LKR 100 million per year for last three years
- Bidding will be conducted adopting National Competitive Bidding Method through Two Envelopes
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Managing Director of the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau and inspect the bidding document at the address given below or via sending a request to gcc2021@srilanka.travel.
- Bidding documents can be inspected at the address given below from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm till 15th March 2021 (except Saturday, Sunday and public holidays) or via sending a request to gcc2021@srilanka.travel.
Finance Division
(Basement)
Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau
No 80, Galle Rd,
Colombo 03
- 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 Rs. 7,500/= (Rupees seven thousand five hundred only) in cash to the Director (Finance) of SLTPB.
- A Pre Bid Meeting in this regard will be held on 24th February 2021 at 1:00 pm at the Board Room, Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism and Hospitality Management (Hotel School) No 80, Galle Road, Colombo 03. Interested bidders are invited to join the pre bid in person.
- Bids must be delivered or deposited in the tender box at the Finance Division (Basement), Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau, No. 80, Galle Road, Colombo 03 at or before 2.00 pm on 19th March 2021. Bids will be opened immediately after the bid closing time at the Finance Division (Basement), Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau, No. 80, Galle Road, Colombo 03 in presence of the bidder's representatives who choose to attend in person.
- Late bids will be rejected.

**Chairman,
Standing Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee
Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau
No. 80, Galle Road,
Colombo 03**

Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka



SRI LANKA

MINISTRY OF TOURISM
SRILANKA TOURISM PROMOTION BUREAU

Invitation for Bids

SELECTION OF A DIGITAL MARKETING COMPANY FOR THE GLOBAL
COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN 2021 -2025 OF SRI LANKA TOURISM

Bid No: SLTPB/GCC/2021/003

- The Chairman, Standing Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee of Ministry of Tourism, invites sealed bid proposals from reputed and experienced agencies for selection of a "Digital Marketing Company for Social Media and Other Forms of Online & Digital Marketing to Facilitate the Global Communication Campaign 2021 - 2025 of Sri Lanka Tourism" on behalf of Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau (SLTPB).
- The purpose of the proposed integrated global marketing campaign to promote Sri Lanka as a tourist destination to achieve national target of the tourism sector.
- The maximum total contract value over the period of five years will be LKR 250 million and the required funds shall be allocated by Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau.
- Selected bidder shall not have been blacklisted, in terms of the provisions of Government Procurement Procedure - 2006.
- Prospective bidders shall have following Qualifications and experience;
 - Company duly registered in Sri Lanka as a legal entity and having an operational office in Sri Lanka.
 - Minimum 05 years of experience in Social Media and Other Forms of Online & digital Marketing.
 - Proven track records in handling minimum of Three (03) accounts in Social Media and Other Forms of Online & Digital Marketing in the value over LKR 50 Million (each project) for local or international clients during past Five (05) Years.
 - The company should have minimum annual turnover of LKR 50 million per year for last three years.
- Bidding will be conducted adopting National Competitive Bidding Method through Two Envelopes
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Managing Director of the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau and inspect the bidding document at the address given below or via sending a request to gcc2021@srilanka.travel.
- Bidding documents can be inspected at the address given below from 9.00am to 4.00 pm till 8th March 2021(except Saturday, Sunday and public holidays) or via sending a request to gcc2021@srilanka.travel.
Finance Division
(Basement)
Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau
No 80, Galle Rd,
Colombo 03
- 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 Rs 7,500/= (Rupees seven thousand five hundred only) in cash to the Director (Finance) of SLTPB.
- A Pre Bid Meeting in this regard will be held on 24th February 2021 at 3:30 pm at the Board Room, Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism and Hospitality Management (Hotel School) No 80, Galle Road, Colombo 03. Interested bidders are invited to join the pre bid in person.
- Bids must be delivered or deposited in the tender box at the Finance Division (Basement), Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau, No. 80, Galle Road, Colombo 03 at or before 2.00 pm on 12th March 2021. Bids will be opened immediately after the bid closing time at the Finance Division (Basement), Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau, No. 80, Galle Road, Colombo 03 in presence of the bidder's representatives who choose to attend in person.
- Late bids will be rejected.

**Chairman,
Standing Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee
Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau
No. 80, Galle Road,
Colombo 03**

My No: RG/NB/11/2/05/2021/82/21

NOTICE UNDER THE LAND REGISTERS RECONSTRUCTED FOLIO ORDINANCE (CAP. 120)

- I hereby give notice under Section 04 of the Land Registers Reconstructed Folio Ordinance (Cap. 120) that Land Register Folios, particulars of which appear in Column 1 of the schedule hereto, affecting the land described in Column 2, thereof which have been found to be missing or torn, have been reconstructed in full in provisional folios and relate to the connected deeds, particulars of which are shown in Column 3 of the said schedule.
- The provisional folio will be opened for inspection by any person or persons interested therein at the Office of the Registrar of Lands Delkanda, 05.03.2021 to 19.03.2021 between the hours of 10.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on all working days.
- Any person desirous of lodging any objection against any entry included in a provisional Folio or against any of the particulars contained in any such entry and any person desiring to make a claim for the insertion of any entry or of any particulars alleged to have been improperly omitted from any entry must do so, by an objection or claim in writing addressed to the undersigned which must be sent under registered cover and must reach the Office of the Registrar General not later than 26.03.2021. The matter in respect of which the objection or claim is made must be clearly and fully set out in the objection or claim, and the objection or claim must be accompanied by all documentary evidence relies upon the support of it.

SCHEDULE

Particulars of Damaged Folios of the Land Registers	Particulars of Land	Particulars of Deeds Registered
Folio No. 165 of volume 1206 of Division M of the Land Registry Delkanda in Colombo District.	All that allotment of land Lot No. 01 in Plan 2232 dated 10.10.1978 made by W. Ahangama, Licensed Surveyor of the land called "Gonamadithawatta" situated at Berawala, Batakeththara and Demaladuwa in the Palle Pattu Salpiti Korale in the District of Colombo, Western Province and bounded on the, North by : Lot 05 (10 feet wide Road) East by : Lot 02 and 03 South by : The land of D.D. Jayasinghe and H.L.S. Wickramasinghe West by : The land of H.L.S. Wickramasinghe and Gonamadiththa Road, Lot 02 Extent : A.03 R.00 P.07	01. Deed of Gift No. 30499 written and attested by W.C. Botheju Notary Public on 04.12.1978.

Registrar General's Department,
No. 234/A3,
Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha.,
Battaramulla.

W.M.M.B. Weerasekara
Registrar General

**PROCUREMENT NOTICE**

**State Ministry of Livestock, Farm Promotion and Dairy &
Egg Related Industry**

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION AND HEALTH

The Department of Animal Production and Health invites sealed bids from qualified bidders for the purchase of below mentioned items required for this department.

Activity No.	Subject	Bid Bond (Rs.)	Non-Refundable Bid Document Fee (Rs.)	Bid Documents Issuing Period	Bid Documents Receiving Period
1	Artificial Insemination Equipments - 2021	368,000/-	2,500/= for each document	From 17.02.2021 to 09.03.2021	Till 11.00 a.m. 10.03.2021

- Relevant Bid Documents may be obtained from the Director (Finance) Office of the Dept. of Animal Production and Health during office hours (from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.) Bidders should clearly state the relevant name of the item on the top left corner of the envelop enclosing the bid document.
- Sealed bid documents may be deposited in the relevant Tender Box placed in the Finance Division or may be sent by registered post to the below mentioned address to reach or before the closing date and time of the bid receiving date.
- Further details of relevant bid documents in respect of purchase are given in the web page of our Dept. of Animal Production and Health. (Web: www.daph.gov.lk).

Director General/ Chairman (Dept. P.C.)
Dept. of Animal Production and Health
No. 1020, P.O. Box. 13, Gatambe, Peradeniya.
Extension - 290/292
Tel: 081-2388197/081-2388227/081-2385701
081-2388120/ 081-2388189



**DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT/ SRI LANKA RAILWAYS**

COLOMBO SUBURBAN RAILWAY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**INVITATION FOR BIDS**

Date : 17.02.2021
Loan No. and Title : ADB Loan No. SRI P 3806
Contract No. and Title : REIP/ADB/ICB/G/09

Design, Manufacture, Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Handover of Train Simulator, Trainer Control Console and 08 Nos. of Trainee Desks for Germen Railway Technical Training Center of Sri Lanka Railways

Deadline for Submission of Bids: 05.04.2021 at 2.00 p.m. (Sri Lanka Standard time)

- The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka has applied for a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the cost of the Railway Efficiency Improvement Project (REIP). A portion of this loan will be applied for eligible payments under the contract named above.
- The Ministry of Transport/Sri Lanka Railways ("The Employer") now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the following contract package.

IFB No.	Contract Title	Location	Duration (Months)
REIP/ADB/ICB/G/09	Design, Manufacture, Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Handover of Train Simulator, Trainer Control Console and 08 Nos. of Trainee Desks for Germen Railway Technical Training Center of Sri Lanka Railways	Rathmalana Sri Lanka	12

- The International Competitive Bidding will be conducted in accordance with ADB's Single-Stage: Two-Envelope Bidding Procedure with post Qualifications.
- Eligible bidders must meet the following criteria:
 - Pending Litigation shall not represent more than 50% of the bidder's net worth.
 - The bidders' net worth within last 3 years shall be positive.
 - Minimum Average annual turnover (AAT) of US\$ 6 million calculated as total payments received by the bidder for contracts completed or under execution over the last three (03) years.
 - Experience in Key activities (i) Similar Contractual Experience (ii) Technical Experience
 We have not mentioned all the details of criteria (iv) above in this advertisement. Please refer Project Web Site <https://csrcp.lk/procurement>. If you have any clarifications, please contact Telephone No. 0094-112056240-41 (Ext. 301-302)
- To obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents, eligible bidders should contact:

Project Director
Project Management Unit
Colombo Suburban Railway Project (CSR)P
No 217, Cotta Road, Colombo 08, Sri Lanka
Telephone: 0094-112056240-41
Facsimile: 0094-112674354
E-mail: pd@csrcp.lk or palitha.rail@yahoo.com
Website: www.csrcp.lk
- To purchase the bidding documents in (English) eligible bidders should;
 - Write to address above requesting for the bidding documents for the Contract Package No. REIP/ADB/ICB/G/9
 - Pay a non-refundable fee of Sri Lankan Rupees (SLR) 60,000.00 or US \$ 330.00 (Including VAT) or by cash or bank draft in favour of "Railway Efficiency Improvement Project", 0007040317, Bank of Ceylon, Battaramulla in respect of the bidding document.
 The bidding documents will be issued during normal working days from 9.00 am to 3.00 p.m. at the address under 6 above, **from 17.02.2021 until before bid submission deadline.**
- Bidders should deliver:
 - Their bids to the address below **on or before the deadline: 2:00 p.m. on 05th April 2021**. Late bids will be rejected.
The Chairman
Ministry Procurement Committee
C/o: Director- Procurement
Ministry of Transport
7th Floor, Sethsiripaya Stage II, Battaramulla,
Sri Lanka.
 - Together with a Bid Security in the amount as specified in the Bidding Documents. For the purpose of determining the equivalent amount of the required Bid Security in a freely convertible currency, the selling exchange rate published by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka prevailing on the date 28 days prior to the deadline for Bid submission shall be applied.
- Pre-bid meeting will be held on 03rd March 2021 at 10.00 a.m. at the Auditorium of the Ministry of the Transport, 7th Floor, Sethsiripaya, Sage 11, Battaramulla
- The Technical Bids will be opened immediately after the deadline, in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- The bidder shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of its Bids, and the Employer shall not be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the bidding process.

The Chairman
Ministry Procurement Committee
C/o: Director- Procurement
Ministry of Transport,
7th Floor, Sethsiripaya Stage II, Battaramulla,
Sri Lanka.

**Invitation for Bids**

**Climate Resilient Integrated Water Management Project
(CRIWMP)**

**Ministry of Irrigation**

IFB No.: CRIWMP/PMU/PROC/2021/SER/01/A

HIRING OF VEHICLES

- Project Director, on behalf of Chairman, Project Procurement Committee, Climate Resilient Integrated Water Management Project, Ministry of Irrigation, 12th Floor, No. 500, T.B. Jayah Mawatha, Colombo 10**, invites sealed bids from vehicle hiring companies or vehicle owners of Sri Lanka for the hiring of Vehicles for **Two Years period** as described below.
- Climate Resilient Integrated Water Management Project has implemented its operation in Anuradhapura, Vavuniya, Puttlam, Kurunegala, Trincomalee, Mannar and Polonnaruwa Districts. The project head office is in Colombo and Sub office is established in Anuradhapura. The project intends to hire vehicles with Fuel, all maintenance and Drivers all expenses incurred by owner as follows:
 - Lot No 01 - Double Cabs 4 WD** from Colombo/Anuradhapura Office to other Districts - **06 x Nos**
 - Lot No 02 - Nine (09) Seater Dual A/C Van** from Colombo/Anuradhapura Office to other Districts - **01 x No.**
- The Bidder shall be a vehicle owner or a vehicle Hiring Company. Bidders should submit their bids for **total quantity** as indicated in attached Forms **A-1 & A-2**. Submission of bids for **partial quantity for Lot No. 01 will not be accepted & will be rejected**. Bids will be evaluated Lot-wise. In a case of submitting bids for more than one Lot, the bidder shall submit separate bid security for each contract, as given below in paragraph seven (07), and shall exclusively include the qualification/eligibility criteria for each Lot listed separately. During evaluation process for other Lots from such successful bidders will be evaluated based on their cumulative capacity and remaining qualification /eligibility criteria etc.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding Procedure (NCB), http://www.treasury.gov.lk/documents/57687/174939/ProcurementManual2006_20060817_with_Sup8.pdf/5d0563ed-05b1-4629-9937-d8e160aac29. Reference Guideline 3.2.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Project Director, Climate Resilient Integrated Water Management Project, Ministry of Irrigation, 12th Floor, No. 500, T.B. Jayah Mawatha, Colombo 10 (Contact No.: 0112672223) from 0900 hrs to 1600 hrs on any working day. Email: tendercriwmp@gmail.com
- A complete set of Bidding documents in English language may be purchased during the office hours (from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs) from **17.02.2021 to 09.03.2021** from the office of **CRIWMP, Ministry of Irrigation, 12th floor, No.500, T.B. Jayah Mawatha, Colombo 10** on the submission of written request on the **contractor's business letterhead** addressed to the Project Director, CRIWMP and upon payment of a **non-refundable fee of LKR 4,000.00 per set (containing 02 Lots)** of documents.
- Bids shall be valid for a period of 91 days (Bid security valid period 119 days) after date of bid opening and must be accompanied with an **"on demand" and "unconditional" Bid Guarantee drawn in favour of Project Director, CRIWMP, Ministry of Irrigation for a sum of Rs 200,000.00 (Lot No. 01), Rs 40,000.00 (Lot No 02) respectively (Total Rs 240,000.00 for Two lots)** through a commercial bank recognized by CBSL (Central Bank of Sri Lanka) or insurance Company registered in Sri Lanka which is authorized by the IRCSL (Insurance Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka) to issue such Bid Guarantees. Specimen for Bid Guarantee is attached as Annex "A" to the Bid document. Cheques will not be accepted as Bid Guarantee.
- Sealed Bids must be sent under registered cover or deposited in the 'Tender Box' available in address below, before 1400 hrs on 10.03.2021**. Please indicate the **"Hiring of Vehicles for the CRIWMP CRIWMP/PMU/PROC/2021/SER/01/A"** on the left top corner of the envelope.
**Project Director,
Project Procurement Committee,
Climate Resilient Integrated Water Management Project,
Ministry of Irrigation,
12th Floor, No. 500, T.B. Jayah Mawatha,
Colombo 10.**
- Late bids will be rejected. All duly received bids will be opened immediately after the scheduled closing time of Bids at the same venue. Bidders or their accredited agents could be present at the time of opening of bids.

**On behalf of Chairman,
Project Procurement Committee,
Project Director,
Climate Resilient Integrated Water Management Project,
Ministry of Irrigation,
12th Floor, 500, T.B. Jayah Mawatha,
Colombo 10.**



MINISTRY OF WATER SUPPLY NATIONAL WATER SUPPLY & DRAINAGE BOARD

BID NOTICE

The Chairman, Procurement Committee on behalf of the National Water Supply & Drainage Board now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the Works / Supplies as described below.

No	Name of Contract & Contract No	Non Refundable Fee (Rs)	Bid Security Requirements	Eligibility Requirements	Estimated Cost (Rs.) Excluding VAT	Place of Issuing of Documents & Contact Person	Closing Date and Time
CIVIL TENDERS							
01	Construction of Boundary Wall and Chain Link Fence around the WBQ 17, Stage II, Anuradhapura. Contract No: RH/NC/DGM/ANT/WBQ-17/2021/039	2,000/- + VAT	Rs. 36,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Building Construction Grade C8 or C7	2.4 million	RSC (NC), Godage Mawatha, Anuradhapura Tele : 025-2235993 Fax: 025-2225609	03/03/2021 14.00 hours
02	Supply and Placing of Filter Media of Moronthota Water Treatment Plant Contract No: RSC(SAB)/AGM(KEG)/REH/KEGALLE/CIVIL/2020/167	2,000/- + VAT	Rs. 9,300/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C9 or C8	0.9 million	RSC (Sabaragamuwa), NWSDB, New Town, Ratnapura Tele: 045-2228274-6 Fax : 045-2228273	03/03/2021 14.00 hours
03	Trenching, Backfilling, Pipe laying & Fixing water meter with all Fittings & Accessories of New Connections for Ambalangoda Region Contract No: RSC(S)/P&C/NEW SERVICE/AMBALANGODA/O&M/2020-166	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 135,000/-	Eligible and qualified bidders for providing new service connections and Two years experience in providing services and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	8.93 million	RSC(Southern), 395, Kumaratunga Mawatha, Pamburana, Matara, Tele:041-2229792 Fax 041-2224769	03/03/2021 14.00 hours
04	Design and Build Contract For Civil and M&E Works of Micro Strainer at Polonnaruwa Old Water Treatment Plant Contract No: CB/NC/DGM/T&C/M&E/2020/296	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 210,000/-	As per the Bidding Document	-	RSC (NC), Godage Mawatha, Anuradhapura Tele : 025-2235993 Fax: 025-2225609 Prebid meeting on 24/02/2021 @10.00 am at Polonnaruwa	10/03/2021 14.00 hours
05	Laying and Jointing of PVC/DI Pipes, Fittings, Specials, DI Valves and Accessories for Uppooral Area in Eachchalampathu Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC(E)/DGM/RECH/LAY-PVC/EACH/TRINCO/2021/03	2,000/- + VAT	Rs. 21,250/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C9 or C8	1.2 million	Regional Support Centre (East), NWSDB, No. 48A/1, Kandy Road, Maddikali, Trincomalee Tele: 026-2222519 Fax: 026-2225225	03/03/2021 10.00 hours
06	Construction of Caretaker Room for Morontota Intake in Kegalle Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC(SAB)/AGM(KEG)/REH/KEGALLE/CIVIL/2020/140	2,000/- + VAT	Rs. 12,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Building Construction Grade C9 or C8	1.0 million	RSC (Sabaragamuwa), NWSDB, New Town, Ratnapura Tele: 045-2228274-6 Fax : 045-2228273	03/03/2021 14.00 hours
07	Partition Work and Improvements To Area Engineer Office Kolonnawa Contract No: WC/M(K)/KOLONNAWA/2021/02-RH	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 73,500/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Building Construction Grade C8 or C7	4.90 million	RSC (W-C), No. 175A, Kaluthota Building, Nawala Road, Nugegoda, Tele:/Fax: 011- 2856420-3	03/03/2021 10.00 hours
08	Provision of New Service Connections for Area Engineer (Kelaniya) in Kelaniya Region Contract No: RSC(W/N)/SC/KEL(O&M)/2020/57	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 224,500/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C6 or C5 and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	22.45 million	Regional Support Center (W/N) Office, No.433/4A, Ganemulla Road, Kadawatha Tele:0112922129 Fax:0112922146	03/03/2021 10.00 hours
09	Calling Rates for Excavation & Back Filling of Pipe Trenches for PE & uPVC Pipes of 63 mm to 225 mm Diameters for Area Engineer (Biyagama) area in Manager (Kelaniya) Region-Stage III Contract No: RSC(W/N)/LAYING/KEL(RH)/2021/06	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 343,500/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C6 or C5 and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	22.9 million	Regional Support Center (W/N) Office, No. 433/4A, Ganemulla Road, Kadawatha Tele:0112922129 Fax:0112922146	03/03/2021 10.00 hours
10	Laying of uPVC/DI Pipes, Fittings, Specials, DI/CI Valves and Accessories for Proposed Pumping Main from Kotugoda to Batapotha Contract No: RSC(W/N)/LAYING/UDUGAMPOLA/GAM(RH)/2021/32	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 300,400/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C6 or C5 and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	20.03 million	Regional Support Center (W/N) Office, No. 433/4A, Ganemulla Road, Kadawatha Tele:0112922129 Fax:0112922146	03/03/2021 10.00 hours
11	Laying and Jointing of DI/HDPE Pipes and Fittings for Poonagala Junction to Dharmapala Ground Reservoir at Bandarawela Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC(UVA)/DGM(UVA)/REH/BANDARAWELA/2020/13	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 273,250/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C6 or C5 and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	18.2 million	Tender Section, NWSDB, Mediriya Road, Badulla Tele: 0552230934 Fax: 0552230974	03/03/2021 14.00 hours
12	Intake Pipe Line improvement at Mahiyanganaya Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC(UVA)/DGM(UVA)/REH/MAHIYANGANAYA/2020/240	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 55,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C8 or C7	3.5 million	Tender Section, NWSDB, Mediriya Road, Badulla Tele: 0552230934 Fax: 0552230974	03/03/2021 14.00 hours
13	Construction of 80 cum Capacity ferrocement tank, Laying and Jointing of DI Pipes Contract No: RSC(UVA)/DGM(UVA)/REH/DIVITHOTAWELA/2020/219	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 86,500/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C7 or C6 and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	5.75 million	Tender Section, NWSDB, Mediriya Road, Badulla Tele: 0552230934 Fax: 0552230974	03/03/2021 14.00 hours
14	Fencing, Gates and Name Boards for work sites at Bandarawela Contract No: RSC(UVA)/DGM(UVA)/REH/ BANDARAWELA/2020/229	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 58,500/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Building Construction Grade C8 or C7	3.9 million	Tender Section, NWSDB, Mediriya Road, Badulla Tele: 0552230934 Fax: 0552230974	03/03/2021 14.00 hours
15	Laying and Jointing of DI/HDPE Pipes and Fittings for Distribution improvement at Umankandura Area Contract No: RSC(UVA)/DGM(UVA)/REH/ DIYATHALAWA/2021/19	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 220,750/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C6 or C5 and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	14.7 million	Tender Section, NWSDB, Mediriya Road, Badulla Tele: 0552230934 Fax: 0552230974	03/03/2021 14.00 hours
16	Construction of Rest Room & improvement of Bathrooms at Circuit Bungalow at Diyathalawa Contract No: RSC(UVA)/DGM(UVA)/REH/ DIYATHALAWA/2020/260	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 67,500/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Building Construction Grade C8 or C7	4.5 million	Tender Section, NWSDB, Mediriya Road, Badulla Tele: 0552230934 Fax: 0552230974	03/03/2021 14.00 hours
17	Cleaning and Replacing of Filter Media for Uniha Plant of Ambalantota Water Treatment Plant Contract No: RSC(S)/P&C/C/FILTER MEDIA/AMBALANTOTA/ RECHARGEABLE/2020-62R	2,000/- + VAT	Rs. 25,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C9 or C8 and Registered filter media Suppliers shall have two years experience for Supply & Placing of Filter media	1.46 million	RSC(Southern), 395, Kumaratunga Mawatha, Pamburana, Matara, Tele:041-2229792 Fax 041-2224769	03/03/2021 14.00 hours
18	Construction of Proposed Generator Room & Fuel Tank in Yatiwawala Pump House Contract No:KNPIWSP/WORK/PC-1/2020-89	4,000/+ + VAT	Rs. 45,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage or Building Construction Grade C8 or C7	-	Kandy North Pathadumbara Water Supply Project, NWSDB, Pahala Kondadeniya, Katugastota Tele: 081-2492287 Fax: 081-2492286	03/03/2021 14.00 hours
19	Connection Transferring and Repair for Breakdowns Under Greater Matale Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC-C/GMWSP/PL/CB/MATALE/2020/01 R	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 132,500/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C7 or C6 and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	8.9 million	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027	03/03/2021 14.00 hours
20	Reduction of Non Revenue Water Pujapitiya Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC/KN/O&M/PUJA/2020/254 R	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 75,100/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C7 or C6 and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	6.3 million	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027	03/03/2021 14.00 hours
21	Laying of Transmission Main from Polgolla Treatment Plant to Uyanwatta Reservoir Contract No: RSC-C/P&D/PL/KNPIWSP/POLGOLLA/2020/323	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 250,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C6 or C5 and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	24.5 million	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027 Pre bid meeting on 22/02/2021 at 10.00 hrs @ AGM Office	10/03/2021 14.00 hours
M&E TENDERS							
22	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 01 No. sound proof outdoor Type 700kVA Stand by Generator with Accessories for the BOI Pumping Station at Katunayake Contract No: RSC(W/N)/M&E/GAM(RH)/2020/61	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 316,760/-	Manufacturer or their local accredited agent and Registration of the contract as per the Act No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract		Regional Support Center (W/N) Office, No. 433/4A, Ganemulla Road, Kadawatha Tele:0112922129 Fax:0112922146 Pre bid meeting on 24/02/2021 at 9.30 am at Katunayake BOI Site premises	03/03/2021 10.00 hours
23	Supply Installation, Testing and Commissioning Two Numbers of Lime Dosing Pumps with Accessories for Raddolugama Old Water Treatment Plant Contract No: RSC(W/N)/M&E/GAM(RH)/2020/62	4,000/+ + VAT	Rs. 20,400/-	Manufacturer or their local accredited agent		Regional Support Center (W/N) Office, No. 433/4A, Ganemulla Road, Kadawatha Tele:0112922129 Fax:0112922146 Pre bid meeting on 25/02/2021 at 9.30 am at Raddolugama Treatment Plant	03/03/2021 10.00 hours
24	Supply and Installation of Vertically Mounted in Line Booster Pumping Sets and Accessories for Baddegama - Galagoda Transmission Main Contract No: RSC(S)/M&E/S/BOOSTER PUMPS/BADDEGAMA-GALAGODA/ RH/2020-01	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 135,000/-	Manufacturer or their local accredited agent and Registration of the contract as per the Act No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract		RSC(Southern), 395, Kumaratunga Mawatha, Pamburana, Matara, Tele:041-2229792 Fax 041-2224769	10/03/2021 14.00 hours
25	Supply & Installation of Sludge Type Submersible Pumping Sets and Accessories for Aluthwela Intake Contract No:RSC(UVA)/DGM(UVA)/REH/BADULLA/2021/21	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 130,000/-	Manufacturer or their local accredited agent and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract		Tender Section, NWSDB, Mediriya Road, Badulla Tele: 0552230934 Fax: 0552230974	03/03/2021 14.00 hours
26	Reference to the advertisement dated 2021.01.27, Capacity Enhancement & Augmentation of Marassana Water Supply Scheme, Contract No: RSC-C/M&E/S&I/M&E/CAP/MARASSANA/2020/30 . Please note that the eligibility requirement of this tender has been changed as "Manufacturer or their local accredited agent and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract " and closing date of this tender has been extended up to 10.03.2021 at 10.00 hrs. Prebid meeting on 22/02/2021.						
27	Reference to the advertisement dated 2021.01.27, Capacity Enhancement & Augmentation of Balagolla Water Supply Scheme, Contract No: RSC-C/M&E/S&I/M&E/CAP/BALAGOLLA/2020/28 . Please note that the eligibility requirement of this tender has been changed as "Manufacturer or their local accredited agent and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract " and closing date of this tender has been extended up to 10.03.2021 at 10.00 hrs. Prebid meeting on 23/02/2021.						
SUPPLY TENDERS							
28	Supply & Delivery of Borehole Pumping Set & Accessories for Anuradhapura Region (Below 20KW) Contract No: RH/NC/DGM/ANP/2021/032	4,000/+ + VAT	Rs. 43,800/-	Manufacturer or their local accredited agent		RSC (NC), Godage Mawatha, Anuradhapura Tele : 025-2235993 Fax: 025-2225609	03/03/2021 14.00 hours
29	Supply & Delivery 46 Nos. of 2Kw Air Cooled, Engine Driven, Portable Generator & Accessories for Regional Office Anuradhapura. Contract No: RH/NC/DGM/GEN/SUP/2021/029	4,000/+ + VAT	Rs. 59,000/-	Manufacturer or their local accredited agent		RSC (NC), Godage Mawatha, Anuradhapura Tele : 025-2235993 Fax: 025-2225609	03/03/2021 14.00 hours
30	Supply and Delivery of Centrifugal Pumps (Alum & Lime Transfer Pumps) for New Water Treatment Plant, Ambatale Contract No: RPC/WP/G/AMB/M&E/RH/2019/60R	4,000/+ + VAT	Rs. 22,500/-	Manufacturer or their local accredited agent		RSC (Western-Production), NWSDB, Uduwulla Road, Mulleriyawa, New Town, Tele:0112418532 Fax:0112549199	03/03/2021 14.00 hours
31	Supply and Delivery of 50,000 Nos. 15mm (1/2") Gunmetal Ferrules Contract No: SUP&MM/GF-01/2020/12R	20,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 1,160,000/-	Manufacturer or their local accredited agent and Registration of the contract as per the Act No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract		Tenders & Contracts Section, NWS&DB, Galle Road, Ratmalana. Tele: 011-2605328 Fax: 011-2635885	10/03/2021 10.00 hours
32	Supply & Delivery of Stainless Steel Repair Clamps for Manager (Colombo North) Region Contract No:WC/SS/M(C-N)/R.CLAMP/2020/214-O&M	2,000/- + VAT	Rs. 25,000/-	Manufacturer or their local accredited agent		RSC (W-C), No. 175A, Kaluthota Building, Nawala Road, Nugegoda, Tele:/Fax: 011- 2856420-3	03/03/2021 10.00 hours

33	Supply & Delivery of Multi-Angle Workshop Hydraulic Heat Fusion HDPE Pipe Tube Elbow Tee Cross- Tee Fittings Fabricating Butt Welding Machine Contract No: NWSDB/M&E/HDPE MULTI ANGLE BWM/EUQIPM/01	2,000/- + VAT	Rs. 25,000/-	Manufacturer or their local accredited agent	Tenders & Contracts Section, NWS&DB, Galle Road, Ratmalana. Tele: 011-2605328 Fax: 011-2635885	10/03/2021 10.00 hours
34	Supply and Delivery of Polypropylene (PP) Clamp Saddles for Accelerated New Connection Programme in Kelaniya Region Contract No: RSC(W/N)/SS/PP/KEL(RH)/2021/04	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 342,200/-	Manufacturer or their local accredited agent and Registration of the contract as per the Act No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	Regional Support Center (W/N) Office, No.433/4A, Ganemulla Road, Kadawatha Tele:0112922129 Fax:0112922146	03/03/2021 10.00 hours
HIRING OF MACHINE						
35	Hiring of 01 No. of Tipper for Construction Section in RSC(W/N)Office Contract No: RSC(W/N)/SS/HIRING/CONS.(REC)/2021/01	2,000/- + VAT	Rs. 5,000/-	As per the Document	Regional Support Center (W/N) Office, No. 433/4A, Ganemulla Road, Kadawatha Tele:0112922129 Fax:0112922146	03/03/2021 10.00 hours
36	Hiring of 01 No. of Tipper for Kelaniya Region Contract No: RSC(W/N)/SS/HIRING/KEL(O&M)/2020/120RR	2,000/- + VAT	Rs. 5,000/-	As per the Document	Regional Support Center (W/N) Office, No. 433/4A, Ganemulla Road, Kadawatha Tele:0112922129 Fax:0112922146	03/03/2021 10.00 hours
37	Hiring of 01 No. of Backhoe Loader for Area Engineer (Ja-Ela) in Kelaniya Region Contract No: RSC(W/N)/SS/HIRING/KEL(O&M)/2021/30	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 6,000/-	As per the Document	Regional Support Center (W/N) Office, No.433/4A, Ganemulla Road, Kadawatha Tele:0112922129 Fax:0112922146	03/03/2021 10.00 hours
VEHICLE SERVICE TENDERS						
38	Service of Vehicles operating under the Regional Support Center (North Central) Contract No: RSC/NC/DGM/VEHICLE/2021/019	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 67,600/-	Vehicle Services providers	RSC (NC), Godage Mawatha, Anuradhapura Tele : 025-2235993 Fax: 025-2225609	03/03/2021 14.00 hours
BUILDING RENTING						
39	Renting of a Building for OIC Office (Thimbirigasyaya), Contract No: MCS/276/2020/R1	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 50,000/-	As per the Document	Tenders & Contracts Section, NWS&DB, Galle Road, Ratmalana. Tele: 011-2605328 Fax: 011-2635885	10/03/2021 10.00 hours
40	Rent of a Building or House for Thalawakele OIC Office Contract No: RSC-C/CE/SER/O&M/THALAWAKELE/2020/255 R	2,000/- + VAT	-	As per the Document	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027	03/03/2021 14.00 hours
SERVICE TENDERS						
41	Maintenance work Providing Services for at Galagedara Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC-C/CN/SER/O&M/GALAGEDARA/2020/320	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 60,000/-	As per the Document and Registration of the contract as per the Act No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027 Pre bid meeting on 08/03/2021 @10.00 hrs. at Manager (Central N) Office	10/03/2021 14.00 hours
42	Cleaning & Maintenance Services for Nawalapitiya Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC-C/CS/SER/O&M/NAWALAPITIYA/2021/18	2,000/- + VAT	Rs. 15,000/-	As per the Document	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027	03/03/2021 14.00 hours
43	Services Contract for Cleaning Maintenance & Operation of Pump in Walapane Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC-C/CE/SER/O&M/WALAPANE/2020/49	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 51,000/-	As per the Document	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027 Pre bid meeting on 08/03/2021 @10.00 hrs @ Dis. Engineer (N'Eliya) Office	10/03/2021 14.00 hours
44	Providing Services for Maintenance work at Pathadumbara Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC-C/CN/SER/O&M/PATHADUMBARA/2020/309	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 80,500/-	As per the Document and Registration of the contract as per the Act No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027 Pre bid meeting on 08/03/2021 @10.00 hrs @ Manager (CN) Office	10/03/2021 14.00 hours
45	Services Contract for Cleaning & Maintenance of Medadumbara W.S.S. & Kotagala Intake of Rangala W.T.P. in Medadumbara Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC-C/CE/SER/O&M/MEDADUMBARA/2021/22	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 58,000/-	As per the Document	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027 Pre bid meeting on 08/03/2021 @10.00 hrs @ Manager (CE) Office	10/03/2021 14.00 hours
46	Contract for Maintenance works of Manager (O&M) Central North Office and OIC's Office (Harispaththuwa) Contract No: RSC-C/CN/SER/O&M/CN/2021/17	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 93,530/-	As per the Document and Registration of the contract as per the Act No. 3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027 Pre bid meeting on 08/03/2021 @10.00 hrs @ Manager (CN) Office	10/03/2021 14.00 hours
JANITORIAL SERVICES						
47	Provision of Janitorial Services For Regional Support Centre (Western Central) at 175A, Kaluthota Building, Nawala Road, Nugegoda Contract No: WC/P&D/JANITORIAL/RSC(WC)/2020/03	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 80,000/-	Minimum three (03) years' experience in the field of providing Janitorial services and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	RSC (W-C), No. 175A, Kaluthota Building, Nawala Road, Nugegoda, Tele/Fax: 011- 2856420-3	03/03/2021 10.00 hours
48	Provision of Janitorial Services at Galle Area Engineer's Area Contract No:RSC(S)/P&C/J/GALLE AE/O&M/2020-172	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 133,000/-	Minimum three (03) years' experience in the field of providing Janitorial services and Registration of the contract as per the Act.No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	RSC(Southern), 395, Kumaratunga Mawatha, Pamburana, Matara, Tele:041-2229792 Fax 041-2224769	03/03/2021 14.00 hours

Please register on line www.drc.gov.lk of Registrar of Companies to get PCA 3 form (only for tenders marked as "***"). Further please use gmail for registration.

Bidding documents will be issued on production of a letter of request on a business letterhead together with the payment receipt of non-refundable tender fee from 09.00 hours to 15.00 hours on normal working days up to day before the closing date.

Bidding documents may be inspected free of charge at the place of issuing documents during normal working hours.

Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' authorized representatives who choose to attend. Late bids will be returned unopened.

Chairman,
National Water Supply and Drainage Board

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STATE MINISTRY OF COCONUT,
KITHUL AND PALMYRAH
CULTIVATION PROMOTION AND
RELATED INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT
MANUFACTURING & EXPORT DIVERSIFICATION

COCONUT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

*Invitation of Bids for the Supply,
Delivery, Installation & Commissioning of
Laboratory Equipment to the
Coconut Development Authority -2021*

Bid No. CDA/1/2021

The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee on behalf of the Coconut Development Authority invites sealed bids, eligible and qualified bidders for the Supply of following Laboratory Equipment for Laboratory use .

Item	Qty.
01. Magnetic Stirrer (with Hot Plate)	02
02. pH Meter	02
03. Autoclave	01
04. IR Thermometer	02
05. Electric conductivity Meter	01

I. Bids should be made in the forms obtainable from the Director (Administration) by submission of a written application and the receipt upon payment of a non refundable fee of Rs.1000.00 in cash. A Complete set of Bidding Documents in English language will be issued until 3.00 p.m. from 17.02.2021 to 15.03.2021 during normal working days.

II. Bids will be closed on 16.03.2021 at 2.00 p.m. and will be opened immediately thereafter. Bidders or their representatives may be present at the time of opening of the Bids, if they so desire.

III. All Bids under sealed cover should be sent in duplicate by registered post with words "CDA/ 1/2021- Bid for the Supply, Delivery, Installation & Commissioning of Laboratory Equipment" on the top left hand corner of the envelope containing the offer or they can be deposited in the Bid Box No. 06 kept for this purpose in the Administration Division of this Authority.

The Department Procurement Committee of the Coconut Development Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any bid and its decision shall be final and binding on all matters pertaining to this bid .

IV. The address you should send your Bid is as follows:

Chairman,
Department Procurement Committee
Coconut Development Authority
No. 54, Nawala Road, Narahenpita,
Colombo 05.

16.02.2021

Sri Lanka State Trading (General) Corporation
No:100, Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 02

Expression of Interest
STC Branded Office Stationery Items 2021
STC/EOI/2021/OS/01

Sri Lanka State Trading (General) Corporation is a fully owned government trading organisation functioning under the purview of the Ministry of Trade. Sri Lanka State Trading (General) Corporation invites offers from Sri Lankan manufacturers or direct importers to supply stationery items branded under STC owned brand name.

Interested parties may be given provision to manufacture a list of fast moving stationary items under STC owned "Superior" registered trade mark.

Local manufacturers will be given priority and both importers and manufacturers will have opportunity to enter into an agreement.

List of Items required

1. DUPLICATING PAPER (Ronio)	19. CR BOOKS / DRAWING BOOKS
2. TYPING PAPER A4 60GSM	20. EXERCISE BOOKS
3. HIGHLIGHTER PENS	21. FIELD NOTE BOOKS
4. MATHEMATICLE BOX	22. SHORT HAND BOOKS
5. SCISSORS	23. NORMAL GUM / GLUE PEN
6. SCHOOL BAGS	24. BINDER GUM
7. COMPUTER PAPERS	25. PAPER CLIPS / PAPER PINS
8. CARBON PEN (Red/Blue/Black)	26. FILE COVERS 300 GSM
9. PAPER CUTTER	27. BOX FILES / 4 HOLE FILES(2.2MM)
10. PLATIGNUM PENS, TIPPEX	28. STAPLER PIN / CASH BOX
11. PENCILS / COLOUR PENCILS	29. MAGAZINE HOLDERS
12. CARBON PAPERS	30. STAMP PAD / STAMP INK BOTTLE
13. BULLDOG CLIP / BINDER CLIPS	31. MARKER PENS
14. FOOT RULER / METER RULER	32. PACKING TAPE / CELLO TAPE
15. PENHOLDER	33. BINDING TAPE
16. PUNCHER	34. MANILA ENVELOPE
17. PASTEL / CLAY	35. WHITE BOARDS / MAGI BOARDS
18. STAPLER	36. POST IT PAD / RED TAPE

Please download application form from www.stc.lk/Tenders for submission of proposal. Final date of submission of proposals will be on or before 10am on 04/03/2021.

Completed applications to be deposited to Tender Box available at procurement division and 2 samples from each item needs to be handed over to Senior Manager Procurement on or before the closing date.

TEL : 011 2422341-4 / 2440880
FAX : 011 2447970
E-MAIL : lankagen@stnet.lk
WEB : www.stc.lk

Chairman,
Sri Lanka State Trading
(General) Corporation Ltd,
No. 100, Nawam Mawatha,
Colombo 02.

The Housewives' companion
Classifieds on
Daily News

I, JATHUNGA GAMAGE THAMBARA RENUKA of No. 181/2, Mihindu Mw., Dalupitiya, Mahara, Kadawatha cancelled the special Power of Attorney given to Francis Kankana mg e Uran Theekshana No. 806/6-9-2016 signed by me.

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.

NOTICE TO PUBLIC
Yours "Islamic Relief" (Reg. No : FL97514) has been shifted from No. 240/1, Main Street, Akkaraipattu - 02. To **No. 218, Main Street, Akkaraipattu - 02.** This is for the kind information of the Public.
Admin Officer, Islamic Relief.

I, SURaweera VANDEBONA (NIC NO. 330400587V) of 18 Mission Road, Kotte (Presently Residing at 24 5th Lane, Ratmalana) do hereby inform that the Power of Attorney No. 2272 dated 6/8/2017 attested by Sisira Edirisinghe Attorney and Notary Public and granted by me to Dharmawardhana Colone (NIC No. 570551370V) of Warahena Bentota is cancelled effective 17/2/2021 and I will not hold responsible for any transaction by the aforesaid person.

Department of Local Government - Eastern Province
Notice on summon of meeting under the Local Authorities Elections (Amendment) Act No. 22 of 2012
I, Nagarasa Manivannan, the Commissioner of Local Government of Eastern Province, hereby announce that the meeting scheduled to be held on 11.02.2021 at 2.30 p.m. for the selection of New Chairman of Manmunai Pradeshiya Sabha in Batticaloa District noticed vide Gazette Notification (Extraordinary) No. 2212/55 dated 29th January 2021 and published in the Newspapers : Thinakaran, Dinamina and Daily News on 02nd February 2021 will not be held as per the interim order of HCB/WRIT/635/21 by the Provincial High Court of Eastern Province holden at Batticaloa. Furthermore, the announcement of the same has been published by me in the Gazette Notification (Extraordinary) No. 2215/5 of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka dated 15.02.2021.
N. Manivannan, Commissioner of Local Government, Department of Local Government, Eastern Province.

SENKADAGALA FINANCE PLC
Dear Customer,
We have shifted our Panadura branch on 24th February 2020 to **No. 383/1, Galle Road, Panadura (opposite of Panadura Municipal Council)**
Contact: 034-2243990

afc Gold Loan
PUBLIC AUCTION SALE
Gold articles pawned at the undermentioned Gold Loan Centers of the Alliance Finance Co. PLC, for the period elapsing on 2019.11.30 not redeemed up to now, will be sold by Public Auction on 2021.02.24 at 9.30 a.m. at the undermentioned place.
GOLD LOAN CENTERS
Aluthgama, Ambalangoda, Ampara, Anuradhapura, Athurugiriya, Avasawella, Badulla, Balangoda, Batticaloa, Chankana, Chawakachcheri, Chilaw, Chunnagam, Dambulla, Gallewela, Monaragala, Hattton, Homagama, Horana, Ja Ela, Jaffna, Kadawatha, Kaduruwela, Kaduwela, Kalawanjikudi, Kalpitiya, Kelaniya, Kilinochchi, Kiribathgoda, Kirindiwela, Malabe, Matara, Negombo, Nittambuwa, Panadura, Piliyandala, Point Pedro, Pugoda, Ratnapura, Rikilagaskada, Thrunelveli, Trincomalee, Vauriya, Welimada, Dehiattakandiya, Gaigamuwa, Kaluthara, Kegalle, Kelaniya, Kurunegala, Nawalapitiya, Ragala, Rajagiriya, Wellawaya, Kohuwala, Nuwaraeliya, Nikawaratiya, Mathale, Hingurakgoda, Medawachchiya
DATE AND PLACE OF AUCTION
No. 722, Kotte road, Rajagiriya.
2021-02-24
All those who are participating in the Auction should bring their National Identity Card. The Alliance Finance Co. PLC reserves the right to cancelling, postponing or amalgamating the Auctions without any intimation.
Head of Division - Gold Loan Alliance Finance Co. PLC
No. 722, Kotte road, Rajagiriya.
Tel: 0115 573600

Invitation for Bids (IFB)
Western Provincial Council
Engineering Organization

- The Chairman, **Procurement Committee of relevant Divisional Engineers now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the following works as described below.**
- I. "Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB). Since the Total Cost Estimate of this procurement is below Rs.50 Mn., regional Preference and CIDA grade preference shall apply as stipulated in Public Finance Circular No.04/2016(ii).
II. Public Finance Circular No. 03/2020 (i) is entitled to this Procurement and, "If the State Owned Enterprises (SOE) are quoted for bids, Five percent (5%) preference will be given."
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted or assigned contracts should not be defaulted or not completed in given time period beyond bidders control or terminated prematurely and shall meet the following requirements and have a valid CIDA Registration.

(1) Serial No	(2) Contract No	(3) Discription of Work	(4) Requirement of Public Contracts Act No. 03	(5) CIDA Registration	(6) Non-Refundable Fee (Rs.)	(7) Bid Security/ Validity Period	(8) Place of Issuing and submission bidding documents and contact Phone No.
1	WP/DB/CON/21/62	Modernization of Ward No. 12 and Construction of New Corridor to Dialysis Unit at Base Hospital - Wathupitiwala	Yes	C5 and C6	3,000.00	Bid Security - 200,000.00 (105 Days)	Divisional Engineer's Office Gampaha, Court Road, Gampaha. T.P :- 033-2222515
2	WP/DB/CON/21/63	Repairing of 120'x20' Building at Gampaha Dekatana Padmawathi M.M. Vidyalaya	No	C7 and C8	2,000.00	Cash Deposit - 25,000.00 or Bid Security - 50,000.00 (63 Days)	
3	WP/DB/CON/21/64	Balance Work of Pavilion at Makola Certified School (Department of Probation) - (W.P)	Yes	C7 and C6	2,000.00	Cash Deposit - 50,000.00 or Bid Security - 100,000.00 (105 Days)	Divisional Engineer's Office Biyagama, Udupila Road, Makola, Biyagama. T.P :- 0112-963524
4	WP/DB/CON/21/65	Renovation of RMO/MOIC Quarters at Base Hospital - Biyagama	Yes	C7 and C6	2,000.00	Cash Deposit - 50,000.00 or Bid Security - 100,000.00 (105 Days)	
5	WP/DB/CON/21/66	Construction of Balance Work (Stage 3) at Divisional Engineer's Office - Negombo	Yes	C6 and C5	3,000.00	Bid Security - 250,000.00 (105 Days)	Divisional Engineer's Office Negombo, No.75, Lewis Place, Negombo. T.P :- 0312-232357
6	WP/DB/CON/21/67	Construction of New Toilet Unit at Korathota Sri Somananda Vidyalaya	No	C9 and C8	1,000.00	Cash Deposit - 10,000.00	Divisional Engineer's Office Battaramulla, Depanama, Pannipitiya. T.P :- 011-2844354
7	WP/DB/CON/21/68	Balance Work of 90'x25' Three Storied Structural Repair Building (Stage 1) at Homagama Padukka Siri Piyarathana M.M.Vidyalaya	No	C7 and C8	2,000.00	Cash Deposit - 25,000.00	Divisional Engineer's Office Homagama, Court Road, Homagama. T.P :- 0112-855719
8	WP/DB/CON/21/69	Balance Work of 90'x25' Three Storied Building (Completion of Ground Floor) at Homagama Mayadunna M. Vidyalaya	No	C7 and C8	2,000.00	Cash Deposit - 25,000.00	
9	WP/DB/CON/21/70	Renovation of Existing (32'x81') Size Kitchen at Meegoda Ayurvedic Hospital	Yes	C5 and C6	3,000.00	Bid Security - 200,000.00 (77 Days)	
10	WP/DB/CON/21/71	Roof repairs of 60'x20' Single Storey Building at Homagama Palagama Siri Parakum K.Vidyalaya	No	C7 and C8	1,000.00	Cash Deposit - 10,000.00	Divisional Engineer's Office Rathmalana, No.25, Maligawa Road, Rathmalana. T.P :- 0112-622517
11	WP/DB/CON/21/72	Repairs of Toilets at Buddhist B.Vidyalaya - Dehiwala	No	C7 and C8	2,000.00	Cash Deposit - 25,000.00	
12	WP/DB/CON/21/73	Construction of 90'x25' Three Storied Building (Stage 02) at Piliyandala Somaweera Chandrasiri Vidyalaya	No	C9 and C8	1,000.00	Cash Deposit - 5,000.00	Divisional Engineer's Office Kaluthara, Sumangala Road, Kalutahara North. T.P :- 034-2237349
13	WP/DB/CON/21/74	Urgent Roof Repairs to 80'x20' Building at Kaluthara Walathara K.Vidyalaya	No	C7 and C8	1,000.00	Cash Deposit - 10,000.00	
14	WP/DB/CON/21/75	Construction of Balance Work (Stage 3) at Divisional Engineer's Office - Mathugama	Yes	C5 and C6	3,000.00	Bid Security - 250,000.00 (77 Days)	Divisional Engineer's Office Mathugama, Ananda Shasthralaya, Mathugama. T.P :- 034-2247617
15	WP/DB/CON/21/76	Construction of 40'x20' Class Room Building at Mathugama Handagirikanda Vidyalaya	No	C7 and C8	2,000.00	Cash Deposit - 25,000.00 or Bid Security - 50,000.00 (63 Days)	
16	WP/DB/CON/21/77	Construction of Balance Work (Stage 2) Divisional Engineer's Office - Panadura	Yes	C5 and C6	3,000.00	Bid Security - 200,000.00 (77 Days)	Divisional Engineer's Office Panadura, Sri Maha Vihara Road, Panadura. T.P :- 038-2243078

- Qualifications should be fulfilled as in the Bidding Document.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from **relevant Divisional Engineers' Offices given in the Table** and may inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the same office during the office hours.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by any prospective Bidder or their accredited agent on the submission of a written request to the **relevant Divisional Engineer's** (As in the Column No.09 of the table) of the Western Provincial Council upon payment of non refundable fee from **9.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs** on any working day from **15.02.2021** until **08.03.2021**. Payment shall be made in cash.
- Sealed bids shall be delivered in duplicate with separate envelopes project name written at the top left hand corner and addressed to the **relevant Divisional Engineers' offices (As in the Table) on or before 09.03.2021 at 10.30 a.m.** Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of bidders or bidders' representatives who choose to attend. Late Bids will be rejected.
- All bids shall be accompanied by a bid security or cash deposit (As in the Table).
- Bidder shall have been registered under the Public Contract Act No. 03 of 1987 and the Certificate of Registration should be submitted (As in the Column No. 04 of the table).

Head, Procurement Unit, Engineering Organization (W.P), 5th Floor, #204, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla.
T.P:- 0112 -092504 Fax: 0112 - 092505
15.02.2021

TEACHING HOSPITAL, KURUNEGALA

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Sealed tenders are hereby invited up to 10.00 a.m. on 03.03.2021 from Construction contractors who are eligible and qualified and having registered with ICTAD/CIDA under grade C7 to C5, grading for construction of buildings and having valid membership therein, as per the Public Finance Circular No. 03/2020 to carry out the construction contract of **Construction of the Ground Floor of the Second Dialysis Unit of this hospital** and tenders will be opened at the office of the Director of the Teaching Hospital, Kurunegala at the same time and date in the presence of the tenderer or his authorized agent/representative, who chooses to attend.

Bidding documents could be inspected, free of charge on office working days of the week up to 3.00 p.m. on 01.03.2021 and bidding documents could be obtained from the Head office of the hospital, on submission of the following documents, up to same period of time.

1. Written request submitted to the Director, Teaching Hospital, Kurunegala.
2. Receipt issued for the payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 2,500.00 per each subject of works, made to the Shroff of the Teaching Hospital, Kurunegala.
3. Original copy of the ICTAD/CIDA registration certificate along with a certified copy of the certificate.
4. Registration certificate issued by the Registrar of Companies under Section 8 of the Public Contract Act (PCA8) [receipt for the payment of the certificate will be accepted only for the issuance of Bidding documents].

Duly completed sealed tenders, marked clearly the name of the subject of works, on the top left-hand corner of the envelope, should either be sent by registered post, addressed to the Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee, Teaching Hospital, Kurunegala or deposited in the tender box kept for the purpose in the office of the Chief Accountant, of the Hospital to be received on or before the closing time. Further details in this regard could be obtained over telephone No. 037-2233906, Ext: 2800.

**Chairman,
Regional Procurement Committee,
Teaching Hospital,
Kurunegala.**

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Maintaining the Hospital Canteen - 2021/2022

Teaching Hospital, Kurunegala

1. Quotations are invited from eligible Service Providers for selection of a suitable Supplier for maintaining the Canteen at the Teaching Hospital, Kurunegala for the year 2021/2022.
2. Applications are invited up to 10.00 a.m. on 03.03.2021 from interested Service Providers for this purpose. Tenders will be opened at the time on this day at the Director's Office and you or your authorized representative could participate on this occasion.
3. Tender documents could be obtained from the Head Office up to 3.00 p.m. on 01.03.2021 by submitting the receipt obtained after paying a sum of Rs. 2500.00 to the Cashier of this Hospital.
4. Duly completed Bid documents prepared in two copies, marked as original and duplicate should be sealed and the words "**Quotation for Maintaining the Hospital Canteen - 2021/2022**" should be marked clearly on the top left-hand corner of the envelope and sent by Registered Post to the "**Chairman, Regional Procurement Board, Teaching Hospital, Kurunegala**" or could be inserted in the Tender Box kept in the Chief Accountant's Office.
5. Bid documents will not be issued to individuals who have violated Government Contract Conditions and have been blacklisted and to those who have neglected to pay the due amounts to the Government when maintaining Government Welfare Canteens and to those who have violated agreements.
6. The Chairman, Procurement Committee of the Kurunegala Teaching Hospital has the right to accept the relevant Bids in entirety or a part of same or to reject incomplete Bids submitted.
7. Bids received will be evaluated by an Evaluation Committee and thereafter, the selected Service Provider should enter into a Maintenance Service Agreement with the hospital.
8. Further details if necessary could be obtained on Telephone No. 037-2233906 - Extension - 2800.

**Chairman
Procurement Committee,
Teaching Hospital, Kurunegala.**

RESOLUTION UNDER SECTION 29D OF THE PEOPLE'S BANK ACT NO. 29 OF 1961 AS AMENDED BY ACT NO. 32 OF 1986

PEOPLE'S BANK

It is hereby notified that the following resolution was unanimously passed by the Board of Directors of the People's Bank under section 29D of the People's Bank Act No. 29 of 1961 as amended by the Act No. 32 of 1986 at their meeting held on 29.01.2021.

Whereas J N Interiors (Private) Limited a company duly incorporated under the Companies Act No. 07 of 2007, bearing Registration No. PV 5757 and having its Registered Office at No. 129, Jayantha Weerasekara Mw, Colombo 10 has made default in payment due on the Mortgage Bond No. 1157 dated 2nd December 2019, Mortgage Bond No. 965 dated 1st October 2018 and Mortgage Bond No. 964 dated 1st October 2018 all attested by D.S. Mahawatta Notary Public of Colombo and there is now due and owing to the People's Bank a **sum of Rupees Fifty Million Two Hundred Sixty One Thousand and Five Hundred and Fourty Nine and Cents Twenty (50,261,549.20)** together with interest.

The Board of Directors of the People's Bank under the powers vested in them by the People's Bank Act No. 29 of 1961 as amended by the Act No. 32 of 1986 do hereby resolve that the property and premises mortgaged to the said Bank by aforesaid Mortgage Bond No. 1157 dated 2nd December 2019, Mortgage Bond No. 965 dated 01st October 2018 and Mortgage Bond No. 964 dated 1st October 2018 all attested by D.S. Mahawatta Notary Public of Colombo and morefully described in the schedule hereto be sold by **Ms Shockman & Samarawidirama**, Licensed Auctioneer of No. 6A, Fairfield Gardens, Colombo 08 for the recovery of aforesaid **sum of Rupees Fifty Million Two Hundred Sixty and One Thousand Five Hundred and Fourty Nine and Cents Twenty (50,261,549.20) together with further interest at the rate of Seventeen per centum per annum (17% p.a.) on a sum of Rupees Nineteen Million Eight Hundred and Fourty Thousand (19,840,000.00), Fifteen per centum per annum (15% p.a.) on a sum of Rupees Six Million Three Hundred Thousand (6,300,000.00), Fourteen per centum per annum (14% p.a.) on a sum of Rupees Two Million (2,000,000.00), Thirteen per centum per annum (13% p.a.) on a sum of Rupees Three Million (3,000,000.00) and Sixteen Decimal Five per centum per annum (16.5% p.a.) on a sum of Rupees Fifteen Million (15,000,000.00) from 15th January 2021 up to the date of sale and/or costs and moneys recoverable under section (29L) of the said People's Bank Act less payment (if any) since received.**

THE SCHEDULE ABOVE REFERRED TO

All that divided and defined allotment of Land marked "**Lot 01**" depicted in Plan **No.1054 dated 07th January 2018 made by D.M. Jayaratne** Licensed Surveyor of the land called **TIKIRIMALEEGE WATTA** situated at **Ampitiya Pallegama** within the **Gramaseva Division of Ampitiya**, in the **Pradeshia Sabha of Gangawata** in Divisional Secretariat Division of **Kadawathsathara and Gangawatakoral** in **Gandahayakorale of Pathahewaheta** in the **District of Kandy Central Province** and which said "**Lot 01**" is bounded on the **NORTH** by **Pradeshia Sabha Path and Stream on the EAST** by **Stream and premises bearing Assessment No. VC 226, Ampitiya on the SOUTH** by **Premises bearing Assessment No.VC.226, Ampitiya Road and Road (Highways) and on the WEST** by **Road (highways) and Pradeshia Sabha Path containing in extent of One Rood and Sixteen Decimal Thirty Perches (00A,01R,16.30P) together with the house bearing V.V.No.226, Tank, Well and business place called 'Ampitiya Auto Care'** everything standing thereon and registered at the **Kandy Land Registry under A 654/133.**

By Order of Board of Directors

**Deputy General Manager (Recoveries)
People's Bank,
Recoveries Department
10th Floor, Head Office Building,
No.75, Sir Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mw,
Colombo 02.**

20th January 2021.



Invitation for Bids (IFB-01) DEPARTMENT OF PROVINCIAL LAND COMMISSIONER NORTHERN PROVINCE

1. **The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee**, on behalf of the Department of Provincial Land Commissioner, invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified Bidders for the Construction works described in the table below :
 2. Bidding will be conducted through **National Competitive Bidding Procedure and Public Finance Circulars No.03/2020 and 03/2020 (i) dated 09.10.2020 and 11.01.2021 respectively will be adopted.**
 3. To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall have been registered with the Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA) in the field of Building Construction for grade mentioned in the table below :
 4. Qualification requirements are indicated in Section 4 of the Bidding document. Additional details are provided in the **Bidding Data & Contract Data** (Section 5).
 5. Interested bidders may obtain further information from **address given below in 6**, and inspect the bidding documents at the same place on any working day from 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.
 6. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English Language may be purchased by interested Bidders on submission of a written application to the :
 - a. **Provincial Land Commissioner, Department of Provincial Land Commissioner, Northern Province, No. 59, Temple Road, Jaffna. (T.P. 0212220836, Fax : 0212220836)**
- From 16.02.2021 until 08.03.2021 from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 14,000.00.** The method of payment should be by cash.
7. Bids (Original & Duplicate) shall be delivered or sent by registered post to the **Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, Provincial Land Commissioner, Department of Provincial Land Commissioner, Northern Province, No. 59, Temple Road, Jaffna** at or before **10.30 a.m. on 09.03.2021**. Bid number must be written on the left-hand upper corner of the envelope. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
 8. Pre-Bid Conference will be held at **Provincial Land Commissioner, Department of Provincial Land Commissioner, Northern Province, No. 59, Temple Road, Jaffna** commencing at **10.30 a.m. on 02.03.2021**.
 9. Bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security as per the information given in the Table.

Bid No.	Description of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs in Millions)	Contract Period	Required Grade	Required Bid Security	
					Security Amount	Valid Period
NP/B/KI/01(2021)	Construction of Two Storeyed Office Building for Department of Provincial Land Commissioner, Northern Province at Kilinochchi.	62.7	300 Days	C4 or C3 (Buildings)	630,000.00	Till 06.07.2021

**Chairman
Department Procurement Committee
Department of Provincial Land Commissioner
Northern Province**



MINISTRY OF TOURISM

SRI LANKA TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (SLTDA)

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (NCB)

PROVIDING NETWORK ADMINISTRATION & HARDWARE SUPPORT FOR SLTDA

CONTRACT NO: SLTDA/ICT/NCB/NW ADMIN & HW SUPPORT/2021/05

1. The Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee of Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority invites sealed proposals from the eligible & qualified bidders for Hiring of a Service Provider for **Providing Network Administration & Hardware Support for SLTDA.**
2. The successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall have **Business Registration** with the five (5) years of experience in similar work.
3. Pre bid meeting will be held on **24th February 2021 at 10.00 a.m., Via Zoom Meeting.**
4. Interested bidders may obtain further information from Assistant Director (Procurement) Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority, Contact No. 011-2426800 (Ext: 305,277), Electronic mail address: **amilam@srilanka.travel** and inspect the bidding documents at the SLTDA Web site (<https://sltda.gov.lk/tender>).
5. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be downloaded from the SLTDA Website (<https://sltda.gov.lk/tender>) by interested bidders from **17th February 2021 to 10th March 2021**. The payment of non-refundable fee of Rs. 5,000/- should be deposited with the Bank AC No. 7119413 Bank of Ceylon, Corporate Branch, Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority (Note: Please Fill the Depositors Details and Purpose of Deposit in the Deposit Slip as "Non Refundable Tender Fee" and it is mandatory to submit the aforesaid cash Deposit slip with the Bid. The payment should be made in cash & other payments are not allowed).
6. Sealed Bids with the duplicate may be dispatched either by registered post or hand delivered to Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee, Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority, No.80, Galle Road, Colombo 03 on or before **2.00 p.m. on 10th March 2021**. It should be written as "**Providing Network Administration & Hardware Support for SLTDA**" at the left-hand corner of the Envelope.
7. **Late Bids will be rejected** and Bids will be opened soon after closing at the Procurement Division (4th Floor), SLTDA, Galle Road, Colombo 03 in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
8. Bids shall be valid up to **119 days** from the date of closing of bids.
9. Bids shall be submitted with a Bid guarantee for a value of **Sri Lankan Rupee one Hundred Thirty Five Thousand (LKR 135,000.00)** with a validity not less than **Twenty-Eight (28) Days** from the date of validity of bids. The Bid Security should be issued from a commercial Bank operating in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka.
10. All bids shall be accompanied by a certificate of registration of the bidder issued by the Registrar of Public Contracts in Sri Lanka according to the Public Contract Act No. 03 of 1987 of the government of Sri Lanka and subsequent gazette notifications (PCA3 form).
11. An employee or a firm and/or an individual that has a close family relationship with an employee of the Ministry of Tourism & Civil Aviation, Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority and any other institution under the control of the Ministry shall not be eligible for award.
12. The Departmental Procurement Committee decision will be the final decision. Further, SLTDA has the right to accept or reject any Bid without adducing any reasons and SLTDA will not be responsible for any costs or any expenses incurred by the prospective bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of Bids.



**Chairman
Departmental Procurement Committee
Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority
No. 80, Galle Road,
Colombo 03**

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Employment Opportunities

NATIONAL WATER SUPPLY & DRAINAGE BOARD

PHASE 2 - STAGE 1 OF RATMALANA/ MORATUWA WASTEWATER DISPOSAL PROJECT

VACANCIES

(Project Contract Basis)

Applications are hereby invited from citizens of Sri Lanka for the following vacancy in the Phase 2 - Stage 1 of Ratmalana/ Moratuwa Wastewater Disposal Project. The applicants should possess the qualifications as given below:

POST OF SENIOR SOCIOLOGIST (01 Post.)

Salary Code : PS 3

Project Category : Above USD 100 million and Less than USD 250 million

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

B.A. (Special Degree) in Sociology which is recognized by the University Grants Commission.

Or

A qualification recognized by the University Grants Commission as an equivalent qualification to the degree in the relevant field.

Or

An associate membership/ A similar professional qualification obtained from a recognized professional institution in the relevant field.

And

At least 15 years of senior level experience in the water and sanitation sector. Preference will be given to those who have experience in sewerage projects/ community mobilization activities for infrastructure projects.

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

AGE LIMIT:

Age limit below 64 years by the closing date of applications.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE:

The appointments will be on contract basis initially for a period of one year renewable annually, subject to satisfactory performance appraisal. Conditions in the Management Services Circular No. 01/2019 will apply in relation to the appointment.

METHODS OF SELECTION:

Shortlisted applicants based on the qualifications and experience, will be called for an interview and selection will be based on the performance at the interview.

Applications giving full bio-data together with all copies of educational and professional qualifications, past experience etc., should be sent under registered post to reach the following address on or before 10th March 2021. Late submissions will be rejected.

The post which you applied for should be marked on the top left-hand corner of the envelope. Applicants from public/corporate sector organizations should channel their applications through the respective Heads of Organizations.

The Project Director
Phase 2 -Stage 1 of Ratmalana/ Moratuwa Wastewater Disposal Project
National Water Supply & Drainage Board
No. 213A, Templers Road,
Mt. Lavinia

Date : 15.02.2021



SRI LANKA JUDGES' INSTITUTE

POSTS VACANCIES

Application for the Recruitment to the Post of Librarian in the "Management Assistant" - (Technical) Service Category

Applications are invited from the citizens of Sri Lanka to recruit to the post of Librarian (01 post) in the "Management Assistant - Technical Service Category" of the Sri Lanka Judges' Institute. Please access to the www.judgesinstitute.lk for further information.

Completed applications are required to be sent only by the registered post on or before 25.03.2021 to reach the following address:

Director
Sri Lanka Judges' Institute,
No. 18, Adhikarana Mawatha,
Colombo 12.

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EASTERN UNIVERSITY, SRI LANKA

Applications will be received from suitably qualified persons by me for the following posts at the Eastern University, Sri Lanka (EUSL), Vantharumoolai, Chenkalady.

1. TRANSLATOR GRADE II (Sinhala/ Tamil)

Qualifications :

I. Degree of a recognized University with Sinhala/ Tamil as a subject;

AND

II. A Credit pass in English Language or Literature at the G C E (O/L) Examination or should have passed the G C E (A/L) or higher examination in the English medium.

Note : Preference will be given to Graduates who have offered English as a subject for the Degree and who are proficient in English & Sinhala languages.

Salary Scale : U-MN 3(II)
Rs. 42,885 - 18x660 - 54,765 p.m

Selection : By Test and Interview

2. NURSING OFFICER GRADE II

Qualifications:

I. G.C.E. (O/L) examination in six subjects at not more than two sittings with credit passes in three subjects

AND

II. Certificate of competence as a Nurse recognized by the Sri Lanka Medical Council.

Salary Scale: U-MT 1 (III)
Rs. 31,625 - 7x300; 10x355 - 37,275 p.m

Selection : By Interview

3. PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR GRADE III

Qualifications:

I. Should have passed the Public Health Inspectors Examination conducted by the Department of Health and have at least 03 years' experience since qualifying.

Salary Scale: U-MT 1(IIIA)
Rs. 31,625 - 7x300; 10x355 - 37,275 p.m

Selection : By interview

4. TECHNICAL OFFICER (ICT) GRADE III

Qualifications:

I. Should have passed in three (3) subjects at the G.C.E. (A/L) examination in one sitting in any Stream.

AND

II. Having obtained a certificate of proficiency not below than the N. V. Q Level 5 issued by a Technical/Vocational Training Institute accepted by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission or recognized Institution in the field of Information Communication and Multimedia Technology/Information and Communication Technology/Information Technology or Equivalent.

Preference will be given to those who have work experience in ICT.

Salary scale : U-MT 1(IIIA)
Rs. 31,625 - 7x300; 10x355 - 37,275 p.m.

Selection : By written and /or Practical test and an interview.

5. MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT GRADE III (BOOK-KEEPING)

Qualifications :

1. Should have passed the G.C.E. (O/L) Examination in six (06) subjects at one sitting with credit passes in;

i. Sinhala Language / Tamil Language

ii. English Language / English Literature

iii. Mathematics

AND

2. Should have passed in all subjects at G.C.E. (A/L) Examination (except the Common General Papers) at one sitting.

AND

3. The National Certificate for Accounting Technicians of the Sri Lanka Technical College/ College of Technology under the Ministry of Skills Development and Vocational Training or any other equivalent qualification obtained from a recognized institute.

OR

a. G C E (A/L) qualification should be in the Commerce Stream.

Preference will be given to those who possess the following:

a. An acceptable qualification in computer applications of not less than six (06) months duration obtained from a recognized institute.

&

b. Two years of experience in the use of computer application packages.

Salary Scale : U-MN 1(IIIA)
Rs. 30,725- 17x300- 35,825 p.m

Selection : By Written Examination (75% marks) of following Subjects;

- Knowledge in Sinhala/Tamil & English Language
- Intelligent Quotient and General Knowledge
- Computer Literacy
- Relevant Subject area.

&

Interview (25% marks)

Age : Should be not less than 18 years and not more than 30 years of age on the closing date of applications.

General Conditions

- (a) Should be a citizen of Sri Lanka
- (b) Should be of good character
- (c) Age : Not more than 45 years (other than Management Assistant (Book-Keeping))
- > Age limit does not apply to the employees in the services of the Government Departments, Statutory Boards, State Corporations and those who are applying for the above.

BENEFITS

> Selected candidate will contribute 10% of their monthly salary to the Universities' Provident Fund, while the employer will make a contribution of 15% of their salary of which 8% will be credited to the Universities' Pension Fund and 7% to the Universities' Provident Fund. In addition, they will become contributors to the Employees Trust Fund under which the University will contribute an amount equivalent to 3% of the salary.

METHOD OF APPLICATION

APPLICATION FORMS AND DETAILS IN GENERAL:

Those who wish to apply for the above posts could download application forms and relevant details from the University website www.esn.ac.lk. Downloaded application form should accompany with the paid Bank slip for the deposit of a sum of Rs. 100.00 credited to the Account No: 227-1001-4-0000024, at any branch of the People's Bank, drawn in favor of "Bursar, Eastern University, Sri Lanka". Those who wish to obtain application forms by post are requested to send a self-addressed stamped envelope (23cm x10 cm in size), along with the paid bank slip to the above address.

Applicants who are employees of Government Departments, State Corporations and Statutory Bodies should forward their applications through the Heads of their respective institutions, but may send an advance copy in the first instance. However, no such applicant will be considered for recruitment, if the application channeled through the Head of the Department is not received.

CLOSING DATE

Completed application forms along with the copies of the educational qualifications, additional qualifications and working experience should be sent under registered cover to reach "Deputy Registrar / Non-Academic Establishments, Eastern University, Sri Lanka, Vantharumoolai, Chenkalady" on or before 05.03.2021.

Note : The University reserves the right to short list and interview only such applicants as the University may consider suitable for appointment.

Incomplete and illegible applications and applications received after the closing date will be rejected.

REGISTRAR
EASTERN UNIVERSITY, SRI LANKA
VANTHARUMOOLAI
CHENKALADY

12.02.2021

INVITATION FOR BIDS



PROCUREMENT OF GOODS FOR THE SRI LANKA AIR FORCE

1. The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee of the Sri Lanka Air Force invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the under mentioned goods.

S No	Procurement Identification Number	Description	Date and time of Bid closing / opening	Non Refundable Fee (Rs.)
01	AHQ/21/PUB/CLO/1002	Purchase of Jogging Shoes for Airmen and Airwomen	8 th March 2021 at 1030 Hrs	24,000.00

2. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure.

3. Complete set of bidding document in English language could be inspected by interested bidders from the Sri Lanka Air Force website www.airforce.lk and may purchase from the Procurement Division (Tender Section) from 15th February 2021 between 1000 hrs and 1400 hrs on every working day before 05th March 2021 upon payment of a non-refundable fee to the Shroff at Sri Lanka Air Force Station Colombo. The offers without the receipt of payment will not be accepted.

4. The sealed bids in duplicate, shall be addressed to "The Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee and may be either dispatched by registered post or deposited in the Tender Box at the Main Guard Room well before the closing time. Late bids will not be accepted. Bids will be opened soon after closing the bids. Bidders or their authorized representatives will be permitted to be present at the opening of the bids, upon presentation of their National Identity Card and letters of authorization from their employers. No bidder or his representative will be permitted to attend the bid opening after the bid closing time.

5. The items are listed in the "Schedule of Prices" of the bidding document and the applicable rates shall be indicated for each item listed therein. The offered rates shall not be subjected to variation on any account.

6. The supplies shall be made to Sri Lanka Air Force Base Katunayake and the prospective bidders shall bear all taxes, duties and levies applicable for the goods and the transport cost. The applicable VAT shall be indicated separately in the Schedule of Prices.

7. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Chief Procurement Officer (Tel. 011-2325468 Extension 23550) or Procurement Officer Tenders (Tel. 011-2441553 or 011-2441044 Extension 23569 Fax: 011-2441553 and 011-2347694).

8. The address referred to above is:

Sri Lanka Air Force
Air Force Headquarters
P.O. Box 1592
Colombo 02

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