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TWO TRIALS-AT-BAR TO HEAR BOND CASES

INDICTMENTS FILED AGAINST 11 ACCUSED

ANOTHER HC CASE ON STATE BANK LOSSES

DILSHAN THARAKA
At the request of Attorney General Dappula de Livera, Chief Justice Jayantha Jayasuriya has appointed two separate Trials-at-Bar to hear cases in connection with two Central Bank Bond auctions that took place in March, 2016.

High Court Judges Dhammika Thotawatta, Manjula Thilakarathne and M.Irshadeen were appointed to the first Trial-at-Bar and High Court Judges Amal Ranaraja, Namal Balalle and Adithya Patabendige were appointed to the second Trial-at-Bar to hear Bond Scam cases by the Chief Justice, Attorney General's Coordinating Officer State Counsel Nishara Jayaratne said.

Previously, taking into consideration the seriousness of the offenses as this incident has caused a huge impact on the national economy, the Attorney General has requested Chief Justice to appoint a Trial-at-Bar to try former Minister Ravi Karunanayake, former Central Bank Governor Arjuna Mahendran and nine others in connection

with the Central Bank bond auctions that took place on March 29 and March 31, 2016.

The Attorney General alleged that Perpetual Treasuries Limited has used Central Bank's important undisclosed information to artificially alter the final outcome of the Treasury Bond auction. **▶ TO PAGE 02**

IMPORT OF 6,000 SWORDS BEFORE EASTER SUNDAY ATTACKS

CA notices IGP, CID Director in petition filed by Cardinal

LAKMAL SOORIYAGODA

The Court of Appeal yesterday issued notices on several respondents including the Inspector General of Police and the CID Director returnable March 5 in connection with a writ petition filed challenging the inaction by the respondents to investigate undetected and unrecovered swords and other weapons brought into the country before the Easter Sunday attacks.

Court of Appeal President Justice Arjuna Obeyesekere and Justice Mayadunne Corea made this order pursuant to a writ petition filed by Colombo Archbishop Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith.

Through this petition, Archbishop Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith



is seeking an order in the nature of a Writ of Mandamus directing the IGP and CID Director to conduct an inquiry into **▶ TO PAGE 02**

Get vaccinated without fear - State Minister

COVID CASES REACH 77,906

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA
Primary Health Services, Pandemics and COVID-19 Prevention State Minister Dr.Sudarshani Fernandopulle urged public to get vaccinated for COVID-19 without any

undue fear. The State Minister said this while addressing the media regarding false information shared through social media on the Oxford-AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine. **▶ TO PAGE 02**



The Oxford AstraZeneca vaccine against the COVID virus was inoculated among Prisons Department officers as part of the Government's vaccination drive against COVID. Picture by Saman Sri Wedage.

All Commission reports will be submitted to Parliament - Minister

IRANGIKA RANGE

All Presidential Commission reports will be submitted to Parliament for debate, Highways Minister Johnston Fernando said.

The government is always ready to debate any issue. There were

many instances when Commission reports were not submitted to Parliament. But, we are not like that and we always act democratically by giving opportunities to all parties to express their views," he added. **▶ TO PAGE 02**

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Women MPs stand for first female DIG

The Women Parliamentarians Caucus stated that they will stand for the rights and job security of Binshani Jasinarachchi, promoted first Deputy Inspector General of Police in Sri Lanka.

They said political differences will be shed and they will fight for her rights until justice is meted out to her.

Women Parliamentarians Caucus chairperson and Primary **▶ TO PAGE 02**

Afghanistan ready to help erect temple in Bamiyan - Envoy

MOHAMMED RASOOLDEEN

Afghanistani Ambassador in Colombo, Ashraf Haidari said a Buddhist temple can be built in Bamiyan and it can be discussed under the cultural cooperation between Afghanistan and Sri Lanka.

The envoy was speaking to the *Daily News* on Wednesday on how best the cultural relations could be further improved for mutual interest.

"I have discussed this matter with several revered monks and encouraged them to approach the Sri Lankan government for support and to work with our two missions to achieve this common goal in recognition of our cherished, shared heritage," the ambassador said. **▶ TO PAGE 02**

Vege stalls in Sathosa outlets to sell below market prices

LAHIRU FERNANDO

On the instructions of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, the government has initiated a new programme to provide the consumers with vegetables at concessionary prices.

This programme is implemented by the Finance Ministry in collaboration **▶ TO PAGE 02**

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Two Trials-at-Bar... From page 01

The Attorney General further alleged that this fraud has caused injustice to other primary sellers in the bond market and the PTL has acted cunningly and made a huge profit and conspired to cause a huge loss to the Government.

pele's Bank and National Savings Bank on the second day of the second bond auction on March 31, 2016. The charges are to be filed Under Section 56 of the Registered Securities and Exchange Ordinance for conspiracy, criminal misappropriation, cheating and market manipulation in respect of the Bond auctions in March 2016. The indictments are to be filed against eleven accused. They are; former Finance Minister Ravi Karunayake, 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 Punchediwe, Sangarapillai Pathumanapan, Badugoda Hewa Indika Saman Kumara.

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.

11th DEATH ANNIVERSARY Bandu Mirigama Born: 3rd February 1970 Departed: 19th February 2010 Everyone awaits the New Year with new hope and blessings to shower; But for me, the New Year comes reminding of the last hour of our time together.

Former mine clearing worker with TNT handed over to TID

The suspect who was arrested with a stock of TNT explosives in Nedunkerni, Vavuniya on Wednesday has been handed over to the Terrorist Investigation Division for further investigations. The suspect was arrested by the Nedunkerni police following a comprehensive investigation into an alleged smuggling of explosives. Police found a stock of TNT explosives weighing over 21 kilograms, over 1 kilogram of PE1 explosives and 150 anti-personnel mines from his possession.

Non Governmental Organization and he has assisted the mine clearance operations in the Northern province. Settikulam police on Wednesday found two suicide jackets buried in a forest reserve in Sinnathamamai. The recovery was made following the information received by the State Intelligence Service in Vavuniya.



Minister Chamal Rajapaksa was sworn in as the State Minister for National Security, Disaster Management and Home Affairs before President Gotabaya Rajapaksa at the Presidential Secretariat yesterday. Picture by President's Media.

Over 3,800 tourists here after January 21

IRANGIKA RANGE

Tourism Minister Prasanna Ranatunga said that 3,820 tourists have arrived the country so far since the reopening of airports from January 21. Most of them are Ukrainian nationals and the total number of them are 1,374.

In addition, 626 tourists from Kazakhstan and 443 tourists from India have arrived in Sri Lanka. The Minister further said Jazeera Airways and Gulf Air have decided to commence direct flights to Sri Lanka shortly while flights belonging to Air Arabia, flydubai and Salam Air are already operational to Sri Lanka.

Get vaccinated... From page 01

She said adverse effects have not been reported after vaccination and all the reported cases are general discomforts which are common to any other vaccine. She said COVID prevention can be achieved only when the prescribed individuals are vaccinated.

The State Minister stated, since the politicians interact with the people on a regular basis, priority of inoculation was given to Members of Parliament to prevent them from spreading the virus to society.

The total number of COVID positive cases in the country reached 77,906 yesterday.

As per Epidemiology Unit statistics, the total number of coronavirus recoveries reported in the country increased to 71,823 and around 5,661 patients are still under medical care.

Health authorities this week commenced the administration of COVID-19 vaccines on the public identified as vulnerable groups in the Western Province.

CA notices IGP, CID Director in petition filed... From page 01

the import of the several consignments of swords and other weapons into the country, as well as the individuals and entities involved in the incident.

The Cardinal stated that the failure on the part of the respondents has placed in peril the entire nation and the body polity. He further said the foregoing inaction of the respondents are unreasonable, irrational, and are in patent dereliction of their duties, and furthermore, in violation of the legitimate expectation and rights of the citizenry.

The petitioner further alleged that the respondents have failed to apprehend the persons responsible for importing, supplying, distributing and handing out these consignments.

President's Counsel Sanjeeva Jayawardena with Counsel Rukshan Senadheera and Manisha Dissanayake appeared for petitioner Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith.

The petitioner has cited



IGP C.D. Wickremaratne, CID Director Nishantha de Zoysa, Defence Secretary General (rt'd) Kamal Gunaratne and three others as respondents.

The Cardinal states according to information received by him, a company by the name of 'Sherwood' ('Samagama'), had imported as many as 6,000 swords. Of such numbers, 600 swords were purchased by an individual by the name of Mohamed Shifas Saththar, for a sum of Rs. 400,000. The money for the purchase

of such swords had been granted by Mohamad Ibrahim Inshaf, who was the suicide bomber who detonated the bomb at the Cinnamon Grand Hotel, during the Easter Sunday terror attacks.

Cardinal Ranjith states that as per the aforementioned information, such swords, which are of a Chinese make, were distributed among 35 individuals, who have since been arrested, and of whom 13 are Moulavis. The Cardinal states that such information elucidates the fact that 132 swords have been found by the police, and that there are inquiries into the recovery of the remainder of 5,400 swords. The Archbishop states that the logical inference one may draw from the above, is that the Respondents are unaware of the whereabouts of the said 5,400 swords and that the same are still with the members of the public.

Women MPs stand for first female DIG... From page 01

Health Care, Epidemics and COVID-19 Disease Control State Minister Dr. Sudarshini Fernandopulle condemned the challenge in court to the appointment of Bimshani Jasinarachchi, who was the Director of the Police Children's and Women's Bureau.

The State Minister was addressing a press conference in the parliament complex yesterday.

State Minister Dr. Seetha Arambepola, Samagi Jana Balawegaya MP Rohini Wijeratne and the Deputy Secretary General and Chief of the Staff Kushani Rohanadheera were present at the press conference.

The Chairperson pointed out that her caucus was very pleased with the appointment of the female Deputy Inspector General of Police and that it considers the appointment of a woman to a

higher post in an institution such as the Sri Lanka Police, where the majority is male, as a contribution to gender equality.

However, while expressing her displeasure over the situation against the DIG, Fernandopulle said she believes that if Sri Lankan women were to be recruited into the police, they should have the right to receive their promotions regularly.

The MPs pointed out that being a woman, it is very unfair to try to lose the opportunity to get higher positions in a certain field.

Deputy Chairperson of the Caucus, State Minister of Skills Development, Vocational Education, Research and Innovation Dr. Seetha Arambepola said, that all women MPs, setting aside political differences, condemned the involvement of certain groups in

legal action challenging the post of DIG Bimshani Jasinha Arachchi, and urged all women in this country as well as all parents who wish their daughters success, to unite.

Speaking at the event, Deputy Chairperson of the Caucus MP Rohini Wijeratne, said that it was bad for the males to oppose Bimshani's promotion. "The harassment of women in this manner is a major obstacle to the progress of the country and action should be taken to stop the physical or mental harassment of women, especially in the workplace", she said.

She said many examples of women being appointed as national leaders in Sri Lanka, such as the appointment of Sirimavo Bandaranaike as the world's first female

Prime Minister, the appointment of Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga as the world's first Executive President and the appointment of Shirani Bandaranayake as the Chief Justice. MPs said it was inappropriate to say that a woman could not hold the post of Deputy Inspector General of Police.

The Chairperson further stated that the purpose of the Women Parliamentarians Caucus is to stand for the rights of women in the Legislature. Therefore, the caucus will inform all political parties and encourage them to increase the contribution of women in active politics in the country, she said.

Afghanistan... From page 01

Since time immemorial, Afghanistan and Sri Lanka have shared intertwined civilizational ties influenced by such major belief systems as Buddhism, Islam, and Hinduism. These dominated much of the Gandhara region-including modern Afghanistan-from where Buddhism spread to South Asia, Central Asia, and East Asia. And history tells us that some of the early settlers of this paradise-island hailed from the northwest of India and the Indus River region, which Afghans then and today have inhabited.

Haidari further said: "The majestic Buddhas of Bamiyan are a testament to our shared heritage and to Afghanistan's cultural pluralism and diversity, which underpin the very Afghan identity today." That is why he said that Afghanistan's former imperial powers, who later embraced and championed Islam in our flourishing region, revered and protected the Buddhas of Bamiyan, as have the many modern governments of Afghanistan, with the exception of extremist Taliban, who on orders from their foreign patron, tragically dynamited the sixteenth-century statues of Buddha.

The envoy recalled that since 2013, our two governments have signed and initiated to sign sixteen bilateral cooperation MOUs and agreements in total.

Had the global COVID-19 pandemic not happened, he said: "We would have already had a direct flight between Kabul and Colombo by now, transporting goods, businessmen, students, and tourists to and from our two countries. And this would generate millions of dollars in monthly revenues for both sides, while deepening people-to-people ties between our two beautiful countries with a shared cultural heritage," he concluded.

Vege stalls... From page 01

with the District Secretaries and the Samurdhi Development Department.

The first phase of the programme has been launched at 75 CWE (Sathosa) premises in the Western Province. Of them, 26 new vegetable stalls have been installed in the Colombo District, 41 stalls in the Gampaha District and eight stalls in the Kalutara District.

Those stalls will provide consumers with vegetables such as carrot, leeks, beet-root, tomato, pumpkin, brinjal, green chili and cabbage at concessionary prices below the normal market prices.

In addition, the government has also facilitated the public to buy potatoes at a lower price while paying attention to giving the local potato farmers a reasonable price for their production.

The concessionary vegetable stalls will also be set up in other areas in the future, the Finance Ministry said.

Obituaries

BEDE - DE SILVA, gone to Rest with Jesus. Beloved husband of late Viola De Silva, loving father of Dinesh (Sydney), Rathika and Sanjo, father-in-law of Saadia (Sydney), Rochelle and Anoushka, grandfather of Tarinee, Ashane, Anushka (Sydney), Nashalie, Rehaya and Yaan, great grandfather of Tia (Sydney), brother of Janet Ranasinghe, late Muriel Jayasinghe and late Selsie de Silva. His remains will be at his residence at 20/45, Grenier Road, off Cotta Road, Colombo 8, from 10 a.m. - 3.30 p.m. on Friday, 19th February 2021. cortège leaves residence at 3.30 p.m. same day for cremation at 4 p.m. at the Old Crematorium, General Cemetery, Borella. 013094

CELIA CATHERINE FERNANDO - Dearly beloved wife of Joseph Benedict Fernando, called to Eternal Rest at Mississauga, ON, Canada on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 (Canadian time) at the age of 80. Adored mother of Shyama, Roshan and Lasantha, loving mother-in-law of Hasitha, Chrisanthi and Ganga and precious grandmother of Christopher, Sachin, Stefan, Damien, Lashini and Treshan, loving sister of Bernard, (late) Camillus, (late) Cecil, Patricia, Iris, Maureen, Malini and Merna and sister-in-law of (late) Terry. Her funeral service will be held in Mississauga, Ontario. She will be remembered for her Generous Soul and Radiant Smile. May her Soul Rest in Peace. 013235

Malaika KANNANGARA GUNAWANSA



1st year Remembrance Service on Saturday 20th February at 9.00 am at St. Anthony's Church, Kollupitiya.

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Problematic situation could arise if Article 16 repealed - Justice Minister

Statement on Article 16 misinterpreted

DUMINDA ALUTHGEDARA

Justice Minister Ali Sabry, PC said that a problematic situation could arise if Article 16 of the Constitution is repealed without having a proper conversation.

The Justice Minister was responding to a statement by Ven. Athuraliye Rathana Thera in Parliament recently. The Minister said that Ven. Rathana Thera has proposed to remove Article 16 of the Constitution alleging that laws are not equally enforced for all Sri Lankans in terms of Article 12.1 of the Constitution.

"As suggested by Ven. Rathana Thera, if Article 16 of the Constitution

is removed, all laws including the Buddhist Temporalities Act will be abolished. If this removal happens, we will have to face a number of issues, which have never been experienced in this society. This matter has to be thoroughly discussed," the Justice Minister said.

The Justice Minister said that his statement that the Article 16 cannot be repealed has been misrepresented by various individuals.

There are certain laws that affect certain individuals, certain religions and certain social groups. For an example, the Buddhist Temporalities Act applies only to the properties

belonging to temples and devalas. No one is asking to change this law. I believe we have to protect these laws," he said.

There are laws governing the property of certain places of worship. The Muslims also have such a law called the Wakf Act. There is no necessity to remove this law as well. However, there are some laws that affect the women, children and marital age. These factors have affected other sections of society as well. I am of the view that these areas should be changed.

The Article 16 of the Constitution cannot be repealed in such a manner.

If that happened, many of the things associated with it may be lost. It is useless slinging mud at me without understanding the reality, the Justice Minister added.

The Justice Minister also said that a social group with a private agenda has created false information against him to be circulated on the social media.

"We go all over the country to resolve the people's problems. This false propaganda culture emerges when we discuss the issues faced by the people. We could understand the motives behind this campaign. This propaganda is aimed at the Government after using racism as a weapon

rather than personally targeting me. They are of the view that they can easily disseminate their opinions to the public if these campaigns are carried out against me. An individual of a political party had said that I am going to establish 100 Kathi Courts. There are some individuals who spread such malicious and false information," the Minister said.

"We have initiated a long term programme to upgrade the judicial system. There are a number of issues in the judiciary. Recently, I visited Thissamaharama, Hambantota and Tangalle. In those courts, both criminal and civil cases are being heard in a single court. A single judge has to hear more than 6,000 cases. In a devel-

oped country, the judge-population ratio is about 150 to 200 per one million. In our country, the judge-population ratio is 15 per one million. We have to provide a solution to this issue," the Minister said.

The Justice Minister said that legal reforms will be replaced the outdated laws after appointing three committees to look into the issues. He said the Government will establish 100 new courtrooms islandwide in next three years.

The Justice Minister said that the President has instructed to draft a new Constitution. "An expert panel headed by President's Counsel Romesh de Silva will finalise the preliminary draft in March," he said.

Easter Sunday attacks

Hejaaz Hisbullah, Mohommed Shakil remanded

SHAVINI MADHARA

Attorney-at-Law Hejaaz Hisbullah and Principal of the Madrasa School in Puttalam Mohommed Shakil, who were arrested by the Criminal Investigations Department (CID), were remanded till March 3 by Colombo Fort Magistrate Priyantha Liyanage yesterday.

Deputy Solicitor General (DSG) Dileepa Piries appearing for the Attorney General said that Attorney General Dappula de Livera had instructed the Inspector General of Police (IGP) to produce detained Attorney-at-Law Hejaaz Hisbullah to a relevant Magistrate's Court.

The DSG Dileepa Piries further stated that the suspects have been charged under the Section 2 (1) (h) of the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA) and the Section 3 (1) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).

He added that Mohammed

Shakil was arrested and produced before Court on charges of aiding and abetting suspect Attorney-at-Law Hejaaz Hisbullah for violating the Section 2 (1) (h) of the PTA and the Section 3 (1) of the ICCPR.

Deputy Solicitor General Dileepa Piries told Court that the suspect, Hejaaz Hisbullah, was involved in extremist teachings at the Al Suhan Madrasa Vidyalaya in Karativu, Puttalam.

He said that the Save the Pearl, of which Hejaaz Hisbullah was the Chairman, had given full support to the Madrasa School and had taught 56 children.

It was also revealed that 26 of these children have been kept in a separate classroom and given special residential training from 2018 on the Easter attack. Investigations have revealed that the 26 students who were belonged to the affected families in Colombo and suburbs, DSG Dileepa Piries added.

The Deputy Solicitor General stated that Naufar Moulavi, known as the theoretician of the terrorist group that carried out the attack had visited the school and conducted lectures in December 2018. He said that the mastermind of the Easter Sunday Terror Attack, Saharan Hashim, had conducted lectures in January, 2019.

According to a statement by a child at a Madrasa School, Saharan Hashim's brother, Rilwan Hashim, had visited the Madrasa on several occasions and had given training to remove the parts of a bomb and a gun.

The Deputy Solicitor General said that Mohamed Assam Mohamed Mubarak, who detonated a bomb at the Kingsbury Hotel in Colombo on Easter Sunday, had conducted military training at the school in February, 2019.

The Deputy Solicitor General questioned how the chairman of

'Save the Pearl', which sponsored the school, was unaware that such activities were taking place inside the Madrasa.

He said that investigations have revealed that the suicide bomber Ibrahim Ilham had acted as the treasurer of the Save the Pearl Organisation and that another attacker Ibrahim Insaf had bought a 108 perch land in Madurankuliya from the money belonged to the Save the Pearl Organisation.

The Deputy Solicitor General said that there were sufficient facts to file indictments before the High Court against the suspects.

Deputy Solicitor General Sudarshana De Silva, Senior State Counsel Lakmini Girihamama along with Deputy Solicitor General Dileepa Piries appeared for the prosecution.

A group of lawyers led by Attorney-at-Law Tiran Anketell appeared for the suspects.

Minister condemns discrimination against first woman DIG

CAMELIA NATHANIEL

Public Security Minister Rear Admiral Dr. Sarath Weerasekara condemned the discrimination faced by the first woman Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Police in Sri Lanka, Bimshani Jasin Arachchi.

DIG Arachchi is facing objections over her promotion as the DIG Police Welfare, after 32 Senior Superintendents of Police (SSP) filed a Fundamental Rights Petition against her promotion.

"As a country respecting women, we should be proud that a woman has made it to the top ranks of the Police Force. I am saddened to note that a woman has had to

face such discrimination in a society that respects women and holds them in high esteem.

The Police should be proud and honoured that a female has reached this position. I think this officer received an international award a few weeks ago. I don't think those who filed the case against her appointment would win the case.

"We suspect that some form of insult has been committed in filing such a case. A woman rising to the rank of DIG in the Police should be seen as a credit to the police force and a feather in their cap," Minister Weerasekara said.

Case against Minister Ranatunga fixed for further trial

DILSHAN THARAKA

The case filed against Tourism Minister Prasanna Ranatunga and his wife was yesterday fixed for further trial on June 2 by the Colombo High Court.

The case was taken up before Colombo High Court Judge Manjula Thilakarathne. The Attorney General (AG) had filed indictments against Tourism Minister Prasanna Ranatunga, his wife

Maureen Ranatunga, and another person, on threatening a businessman demanding the balance out of Rs. 64 million.

The AG filed indictments on charges of committing the offences between April 6, 2015, and June 2, 2015.

The AG has named 65 witnesses and included 35 articles as court productions against the three accused in this case.



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Work towards achieving SDGs - PM

Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa on Wednesday instructed relevant officials to systematically compile data on Sri Lanka and work towards achieving the Global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the ministry level.

The Prime Minister was speaking at the inaugural meeting of the Steering Committee for SDGs at Temple Trees on Wednesday.

A Steering Committee headed by the Prime Minister has been appointed to expedite the SDGs by 2030.

The Sustainable Development Agenda includes 17 development goals and 169 targets.

Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena explained the background and purpose of appointing the Steering Committee to expedite matters towards achieving the Goals.

Treasury Secretary S.R. Attygalle said that it is important for Sri Lanka to rise in the Global Sustainability Index.

Secretary to the Prime Minister Gamini Senarath said that the relevant Ministries will be briefed on the steps to be taken to streamline the relevant activities. Ministers, Secretaries to Ministries, the Sustainable Development Council Director General and a number



Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa along with Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena and Education Minister Prof. G L Peiris at the inaugural meeting.

'Parliament should act against restrictions on women's career development'

ASELA KURULUWANSA

United National Party (UNP) Kandy District Leader and former Provincial Councillor Shanthini Kongahage said that Parliament is responsible to remove any legal obstacles that hinder a woman to be appointed as the Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIG).

She was speaking at a media briefing at the Kandy UNP Office yesterday.

Kongahage said that a woman must have the right to hold the DIG post in a country where even the posts of President, Prime Minister and Chief Justice have been held by women earlier.

She said that Bimshani Jasin Arachchi had joined the Police Department in 2007 and fulfilled her educational qualifications and work experience. "It was the

responsibility of Parliament to remove any obstacles that hinder her being appointed as the DIG," Kongahage said.

She said that the incident showed that looking down on women is still active in the country.

"Women Parliamentarians should speak out against it," she said.

She said that no woman has been appointed as IGP during the 154-year-old Police Department and that the appointment of Bimshani Jasin Arachchi to that post will be a great honour for the Department and the country.

Kongahage said that the previous Good Governance Government had appointed commissions after coming



into power and promotions and transfers had been carried out without any political influence. "The commissions had been deactivated now after the President Gotabaya came to power," she said.

She said that 32 Bimshani's fellow officers had gone to court challenging her not being given the appointment. They told that the word, "Women" was not in the regulations and that a court ruling should be issued in that regard. Kongahage said that the vote of women is very crucial at elections and the people's representatives, therefore, have a duty and responsibility to speak up for women's rights.

Oman-Sri Lanka mark 40 years' diplomatic ties



Launching of the commemorative logo at the Foreign Ministry of the Sultanate of Oman in Muscat.

The Foreign Ministry of Oman, in cooperation with the Sri Lankan Embassy in Muscat, held a ceremony marking the 40th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between the Sultanate and the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. The ceremony was attended by Diplomatic Affairs Foreign Ministry Sheikh Khalifa Ali al-Harthi and Ambassador of Sri Lanka to the Sultanate Omar Lebbe.

The two sides launched a commemorative logo symbolising the strong diplomatic relations between the two countries. The two sides exchanged greetings on behalf of the Foreign Ministers of the two countries.

An Agreement on mutual exemption of visa for holders of diplomatic, special, service and official passports was signed during the ceremony. - *Oman News*

Minister to develop Sea Food Exports in North



Minister Douglas Devananda discussing the matter with the stakeholders.

NIMAL WIJESINGHE,

Anuradhapura Additional District Group Corr.

Exporting sea cucumbers, prawns, lobsters, aquatic plants and inland fish will be promoted in the Northern Province, Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Minister Douglas Devananda said. He said that permissions have been granted to grow sea cucumbers as a foreign exchange earner. Minister Devananda said that fishermen in Kattakadu, Pokkarippu, Chindikulametc have not been using the 47 areas that were allocated to them for fishing.

Therefore, the Fisheries Department has been instructed to provide opportunities for amateur fishermen to promote the sea food industry.

Cabinet paper for setting up DS Division

NIMAL WIJESINGHE,

Anuradhapura Additional District Group Corr.

Fisheries Minister Douglas Devananda said that a Cabinet paper will be submitted for delimiting a new DS Division.

He said that the request by many parties to absorb the Kokawil, Ambal Nagar, Barathi Puramgramaniladari Divisions in Mulathivu into the Kilinochchi District will be fulfilled soon.



Letters of Identification for O/L Exam 2020 candidates

S.M.WIJAYARATNE,

Kurunegala Daily News Corr.

Commissioner General of Registration of Persons Viyani Gunatilake has said that it is not possible to issue National Identify Cards

(NICs) for the all O/L Exam 2020 candidates because of the COVID pandemic.

Therefore, temporary identification letters will be issued to them by the Divisional Secretaries, he said.

The students or parents could obtain the letters from their respective Divisional Secretaries, Kurunegala District Senior Divisional Secretary W.E.Jayathilake said.

Wild animals invade Matala

A.A.L.DIAS, MATALE GROUP CORR.

Wild animals and stray dogs in Matala have become a great nuisance for the public.

Litter of dogs have been set loose by many residents at schools, temples and public places at nights, residents of the area said. These stray dogs at schools bite schoolchildren, they said.

Monkeys that are loitering in the town too bite small children, they said.

The residents urge authorities to take steps to control the situation.

ADA KOTIPATHI - Friday
 Draw No: 1199 Colour: Purple
 Date: 18.02.2021
Today's Jackpot
Rs. 109,498,820/-
 Winning tickets are valid for 6 months.
 Enriching Your Life
 Development Lotteries Board
 355, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Unicon Place, Colombo 02
 Tel: 2 255 941-47 Fax: 2 255 945-94 Website: www.dlb.lk
 Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778

Wednesday Draw No.: 3527
 Date: 17.02.2021 Colour: Purple
Total Value of Prizes Rs. 5,504,760/-
Winning Numbers
19 22 51 63 English Letter **H**
 Winning tickets are valid only for six months
 Development Lotteries Board
 355, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Unicon Place, Colombo 02
 Tel: 0112 333 945-47
 Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919
 To buy tickets and check results download every app from www.dlb.lk/engage
 For Results: www.dlb.lk
 For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825

Draw Number: 053
 Draw Date: 17.02.2021
 Wednesday
Winning Numbers
12 30 41
Total Value of Prizes Rs. 2,620,680/-
 Total no of Rs. 100,000 winners | 15
 The blue and orange tickets are respectively valid on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The winning tickets will be valid for 6 months.
 Development Lotteries Board
 355, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Unicon Place, Colombo 02
 Tel: 0112 333 945-47
 Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919
 SMS: DLB-engage-L07-engage-55 & send to 999
 For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825

Draw Number: 1371
 Draw Date: 17.02.2021
 Wednesday
Winning English Letter and Numbers
K 38 49 50 60
Total Value of Prizes Rs. 4,235,560/-
 The winning tickets will be valid for 6 months.
 Development Lotteries Board
 355, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Unicon Place, Colombo 02
 Tel: 0112 333 945-47
 Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919
 SMS: DLB-engage-L07-engage-55 & send to 999
 For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825

Wednesday
 Date: 17.02.2021
 Draw No.: 1197
 Colour: Pink
Total Value of Prizes Rs. 4,623,600/-
Winning Numbers
44 60 66 74 English Letter **E**
 Winning tickets are valid only for six months
 Development Lotteries Board
 355, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Unicon Place, Colombo 02
 Tel: 0112 333 945-47
 Hotline: 0114 824 824, 0112 333 778 or 1919
 SMS: DLB-engage-L07-engage-55 & send to 999
 For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825

Date: 17-02-2021
 Draw Number: 1734 | Colour: Orange
Super Jackpot Rs. 21,763,928/-
Winning Numbers
03 43 55 60 ENGLISH LETTER **N**
Total Value of Prizes Rs. 3,826,960/-
Next Super Jackpot Rs. 21,913,740/-
 The winning ticket will be valid for 6 months.
 Development Lotteries Board
 355, Dr. Colvin R. De Silva Mawatha, Unicon Place, Colombo 02
 Tel: 0112 333 945-47
 Hotline: 0114 824 824
 SMS: DLB-engage-L07-engage-55 & send to 999
 For Interactive Voice Response Service - Call 0114 825 825

SRI LANKA INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS (SLIA) ESTABLISHED BY THE "SRI LANKA INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS LAW NO. 1 OF 1976" AND AMENDED BY THE "SRI LANKA INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS (AMENDMENT) ACT NO. 14 OF 1996" IS EMPOWERED TO REGULATE AND CONTROL ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION IN SRI LANKA.

ACCORDINGLY, THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY INFORMED THAT SRI LANKA INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS HAS TAKEN NECESSARY ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE LATERAL ENTRY SYSTEM FOR THE ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION IN SRI LANKA BY 01st FEBRUARY 2021 AND THE RELEVANT DETAILS WILL BE NOTIFIED TO THE PUBLIC IN DUE COURSE.

"HENCE, ANY PERSON WHO INTENDS TO REGISTER AND QUALIFY WITH THE LATERAL ENTRY SYSTEM OF SLIA WILL BE ABLE TO OBTAIN FORMAL ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS COMMENCING FROM SLIA PART-I. CANDIDATES WHO QUALIFY THROUGH THIS ROUTE, ARE THEN ELIGIBLE TO TAKE THE SLIA PART II AND PART III WHICH LEADS TO OBTAIN THE CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP OF THE SLIA AS A CHARTERED ARCHITECT.

"HONORARY SECRETARY,"
 "SRI LANKA INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS,"
 "120/7, VIDYA MAWATHA, OFF WIJERAMA MAWATHA, COLOMBO 7,"
 SRI LANKA.

Email: sliabae@architects.lk

ME AND ARCHITECTURE
 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LATERAL ENTRY SYSTEM FOR THE ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION IN SRI LANKA

Sri Lanka Institute of Architects

Daily News



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Friday, February 19, 2021

Halt this trend

The nation's preoccupation with the Coronavirus has blinded us to an equally death dealing agent in the form of the phenomenal rise in road accidents that keep on exacting a heavy toll of fatalities with each passing day. According to Police Spokesman DIG Ajith Rohana, the number of road accidents has risen to 120 per day from which an average of 10 to 11 deaths and 40 injuries are reported.

In fact, 11 road deaths were reported during the 24 hours from February 15-16, nine of which was from accidents and two cases from previous hospitalization. Five motorcyclists and four pedestrians were among the dead during those 24 hours. It is said that the cumulative death toll from road accidents in this country has now exceeded the number of deaths during the war period. The authorities need to do something about this.

Drastic steps should now be taken to arrest this dangerous trend. There is no knowing how many among those killed in road accidents were breadwinners and how many families were rendered forlorn and destitute due to such loss. Among the reasons attributed to road accidents are speeding, drunk driving and ignoring traffic signs, according to DIG Rohana.

One has also to a large extent lay the blame on the Traffic Police for failing to be firm on errant drivers. Speeding over the prescribed limits continues while traffic cops remain mere bystanders. There is also reluctance on the part of the traffic police to book drivers of luxury and super-luxury vehicles violating speed limits obviously for fear of getting on the wrong side of some politico. Only vehicles with shabby appearance and three-wheelers come under their scrutiny.

Television is full of chilling scenes of road accidents captured via CCTV cameras where callous driving and also carelessness on the part of pedestrians are evident. There is also the recent harrowing incident where a youth barely out of his teens knocked down and killed a mother and her three-month-old infant while participating in a drag race. There was also the case of the involvement of a national cricketer in a fatal road accident. In these instances the individuals concerned were found to be under the influence of liquor. What became of their cases is anybody's guess as also with the incident where the daughter of a SSP driving without a licence rammed through a car showroom in the city.

Not much publicity is given to the aftermath of fatal road accidents and the fate of the suspects involved as with the same intensity the original accident is reported. This too may have contributed to the road fiends getting emboldened. Hence, the spotlight should be focused on the legal action that follows a fatal road accident so that any punishment would act as an effective deterrent to would be offenders. Besides the penalties imposed by the law, the perpetrators should also legally be made to adequately compensate the family of the victim(s). More teeth should be added to the prevailing laws to make the offenders suffer harsher punishment than is presently prescribed.

Most accidents occur due to the lack of knowledge of highway rules and being in the dark on signals often resulting in collisions. The driving schools that have sprung up like mushrooms in every street corner should also come under the scrutiny of authorities. Some of these so-called driving schools are hastily put together affairs to rake in the shekels handing out competence certificates before their charges reach the required standards which obviously contributes to the rising level of road accidents. Drastic measures are now called for to come to grips with the problem. Ironically the vast development of the road network has lent itself to speeding that ends in tragedy.

Hence what is needed is stepped up policing and rounding up of all errant motorists without fear or favour before more deaths are caused. Besides a majority of road accidents involve heavy vehicles on the long haul such as monster trucks and tipper trucks carrying heavy loads. In most instances the drivers of such vehicles tend to fall asleep during the long journeys which start in the wee hours. A rule should be imposed for long distance drivers to have breaks at intervals so that they could rest and restart the journey afresh. Ideally an age limit should also be imposed for driving particularly heavy vehicles since unlike in the past with a vast number of vehicles on the road today one will need sharp reflexes and an alert mind to avoid mishaps. A driver of advanced age, needless to say, could be hardly expected to fit the bill. The drivers of private buses are the worst offenders where speeding and breach of road rules are concerned but they carry on regardless under the very nose of the traffic police. The sooner we take stock of these issues, the better it will be for the overall health of all road users.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Almost all accidents take place because of human distraction. - Sebastian Thrun

TOP PRIORITY FOR LONG-FELT EDUCATIONAL REFORMS



The university intake has been increased

Sugeeswara Senadhira



try. However, with the rapid advances in the world, the need for educational reforms was recognized in the last few decades, but in spite of several national dialogues, a practical solution failed to be formulated so far.

Every child has the right to education and other fundamental human rights are dependent upon the realization of the right to education. Though we have achieved a high level of enrolment and participation, yet a policy adjustment will be needed to consider the removal of disparities and provide equality of educational opportunities by meeting the needs of those who have been denied an opportunity so far.

Addressing the new KDU graduates on Tuesday, President Rajapaksa emphasized the need to reform the country's education system in order to create a citizen who can optimally contribute to the future world, the economy and development.

The universities should not simply be degree-awarding institutions. The President points out that the country, the economy as well as the graduates themselves should benefit from this. He urged the education authorities to introduce a new curriculum as soon as possible, giving priority to practical needs.

By improving local education system, it will be possible to educate many Sri Lankan youths who go abroad for higher education. They migrate seeking foreign education because higher education in Sri Lanka has insufficient capacity to address student demand, especially at the undergraduate level. According to a *University World News* report, Sri Lanka's 15 state universities admitted only 23,000 students in 2018, out of the 240,000 who sat the university entrance (Aevel) examination. In the same year, some 12,000 Sri Lankan students reportedly sought university education abroad.

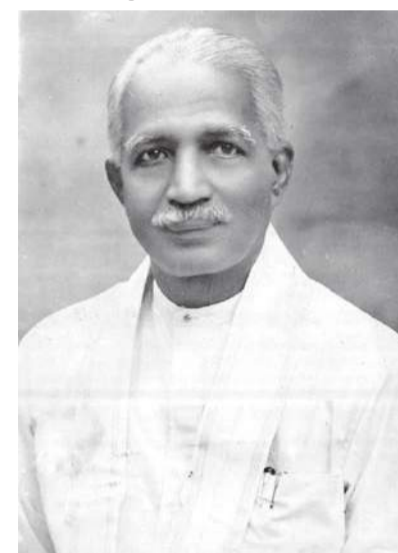
Two major decisions the government took last year were to give jobs to all unemployed graduates and to increase the university intake. The university enrolment has been increased from 31,000 to 41,000. The Open University will enroll an additional 10,000 students to their branches. The plans have been devised to register 10,000 individuals to follow degrees in Information Technology.

President Rajapaksa advised the officials to expedite the review process of the already drafted National Education Policy and implement it accordingly. He said that the current labour market discrepancies have occurred due to the fact that educational reforms that suit the country have not taken place for many years. There exist a large number of job vacancies in various fields in the country as well as internationally. But the education system has not created the manpower needed for the modern world.

"We cannot afford to lag behind.



President Gotabaya Rajapaksa addressing the KDU Convocation



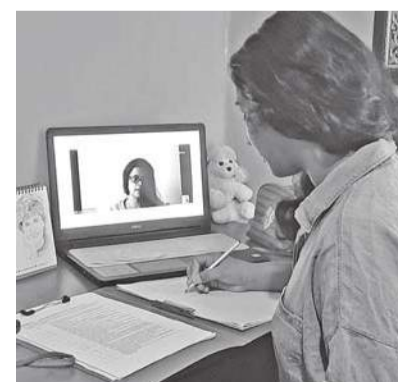
Father of Free Education Dr. C.W.W. Kannangara

Our higher education system must adapt swiftly. It has to offer our students an education that will remain relevant despite fast changing circumstances and help them find gainful employment in future. Unfortunately, this is an area in which our universities and other higher education institutions need considerable improvement," the President said.

"At the minimum, all graduates from our university system need to have some knowledge about new technologies and at least a functional familiarity with computers if they are to have a chance to build successful futures for themselves," the President said. He urged the Vice Chancellors of all universities to introduce Information Technology and computer science to all students, regardless of the field of study.

"Irrespective of their chosen field of study, all students selected for university education are intelligent. Any lack of exposure they have to these subjects when they enter university is due to a failure in the education system rather than due to their own weaknesses," the President said.

"Enhancing focus on research and development will also have a beneficial impact on the rankings of Sri Lankan universities internationally. Improving these rankings is important if we are to attract more foreign students as well as attract and retain talented faculty members at our universities," the President added.



Online learning is here to stay



A lecture in progress at the KDU

New reforms should create a background to facilitate access to education for the children who were left behind to reach their expected academic destination without age restrictions. Former National Institute of Education (NIE) Director General Dr. Upali Sedere pointed out in a research paper that disparities were evident across the provinces, districts, and communities. Regional income inequality has been increasing in Sri Lanka during the past few decades. The Western Province represented 5.7 percent of the total land area and 28 percent of the total population, but the Western Province contribution to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) increased from 43 percent to almost 50 percent in a decade. Meanwhile, contribution made by three other provinces together, namely Sabaragamuwa, Central, and Uva to the total GDP decreased from 24 percent to 19 percent. The Western Province alone contributed to two-thirds of the services sector in Sri Lanka.

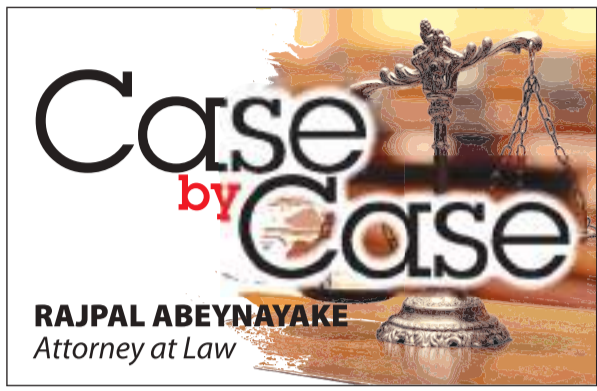
The President emphasized that it is every child's right to have an equal opportunity in education irrespective of their ethnic and religious differences and added that it is the government's responsibility to raise a productive citizen to the country.

New reforms should create a background to facilitate access to education for the children who were left behind to reach their expected academic destination without age restrictions. The President proposed the practical implementation of a student-centric education system instead of the existing exam-centric education.

Technology will play a key role in every single economic sector in the future, the President said and told the new graduates that, at minimum, all graduates from our university system need to have some knowledge about new technologies and at least a functional familiarity with computers if they are to have a chance to build successful futures for themselves.

"That is why I have requested all the Vice Chancellors to immediately introduce IT and Computer Studies as subjects for all of their students, irrespective of their field of study. This will give them much better prospects of finding lucrative employment or succeeding in their own businesses after they graduate. Alongside familiarity with technology, possessing a knowledge of English is another critical requirement for our youth. If any young person has a sound knowledge of English and has access to the internet, there is no limitation on what they can learn because there are so many resources available to them online, free of charge."

WHEN PROCEDURAL ISSUES BECOME A MINEFIELD



What may appear to be regular, routine issues such as making payments to Court where required, can have dire consequences nevertheless.

Section 416 of the Civil Procedure Code provides that at any stage of the action, "if it appears to court that the Plaintiffs are residing out of Sri Lanka, the Court may in its discretion either of its own motion or on the application of any defendant order the Plaintiff to give security for the payment of all costs incurred and likely to be incurred."

That is obviously to make sure that if costs are ordered against any plaintiff who is not in the country, such costs can be recovered by the defendant irrespective of whether the plaintiff is abroad, and conveniently 'goes missing' as a result.

However, the Court in the exercise of its discretion should be satisfied that the said Sections 416 and 417 are not being oppressively used by the party moving for security.

It means of course that the defendant may not use the need for the plaintiff to furnish security as some sort of tool in order to adversely impact the plaintiff's chances in court.

A case came up in appeal that asked the Court of Appeal for relief on precisely such an issue that had transpired in the District Court. (Barr *Kumarakulasinghe and Others v. Ollegasegaram Amarantunaj* – SLR - 323, Vol 3 of 2005.)

In this matter, the plaintiff had been ordered by the District Judge to furnish security to the value of Rs. 1,010,000. He challenged that order in a Leave to Appeal application.

The Court of Appeal decided in judgment:

"An order calling upon a plaintiff under Sections 416 and 417 of the Code should

not be made as a matter of course. The Court in the exercise of its discretion should be satisfied that the aid of either section is not being oppressively used by the party moving for security."

"In this case the defendant has failed to explain to Court why the defendant wanted the plaintiffs to deposit such an enormous sum when the plaintiffs' action was valued at Rs.700,000 and the defendants counterclaim at Rs.400,000."

Citing oppressive use of the provision, the judges of the Court of Appeal decided that the order for security was not justifiable, and set it aside.

In a separate case, *Martin vs. Suduhamy*, (Sri Lanka Law Reports 1991 – Volume 2), a petition of appeal was filed in the Supreme Court in terms of Section 755(4) of the Civil Procedure Code. The matter in issue was that security deposited upon appeal was not hypothecated by bond as security for the costs of appeal as provided for by Section 757(1) of the Code. When objection to the hearing was taken on this ground, the appellant took a postponement but took no meaningful steps to rectify the omission.

Justice Bandaranayake in her judgement stated that the failure of the appellant to offer an explanation suggest that his failure to hypothecate – to pledge collateral for the money deposited – was not by a mere mistake or oversight but probably intentional. It was observed in judgement that "Such conduct in my view should be regarded as materially prejudicial to the respondent and not a trivial inconvenience. The appeal should therefore be rejected. The appeal is dismissed with costs."



However, such appeals are not dismissed on the mere technical grounds of not depositing the security required on appeal or hypothecating it.

Court has discretion either to grant relief, or to reject the appeal for failure to furnish said monies to court. The respondent has not been materially prejudiced in this case, held Justice Mark Fernando in his differing judgement in the same case.

Justice Mark Fernando held that "prejudice to the respondent is the same, whether there is no bond, or whether there is a bond which lacks a vital clause, namely, it gives rise to the possibility that the sum deposited as costs might not be available to the successful respondent. But is this prejudice "material"?"

Court ultimately decided that a matter of Rs. 750 which was the amount of the security involved, is not "material" or "substantial" in a case where the respondent had obtained much larger sums in damages.

The problem according to Justice Fernando however was that the appellant though he did not materially prejudice the case by not ensuring the hypothecation the money, did nothing to rectify the error. Justice Fernando stated in judgement:

"I am in respectful agreement with Lord Chancellor in *Sameen v. Abeyewickrema* that relief can be granted even in respect of total or substantial non-compliance, and even if no excuse is forthcoming. But

while the Appellant's non-compliance was by no means substantial, the material before us suggests that the Appellant deliberately did not comply with Section 757(1); obtained a postponement of the hearing when the objection was taken, but refrained from taking any steps to cure his default; and made no application for relief to the Court of Appeal."

In other words, Justice Fernando held that there was nothing prejudicial to the defendant by the appellant's lapse in not subjecting the security deposited to be hypothecated. But yet, if he was to continue the case despite the lapse, he should have explicitly pleaded in Court to grant that relief, which he failed to do. The appeal was dismissed.



ANIS CHOWDHURY and JOMO KWAME SUNDARAM

Vaccine developers' refusal to share publicly funded vaccine research findings is stalling broader, affordable vaccinations which would more rapidly contain the COVID-19 contagion. The pandemic had infected at least 109 million people worldwide, causing over 2.4 million deaths as of mid-February. Avoidable delays in preventive vaccination are imposing terrible burdens on the world economy and human welfare, with economic disruption demanding more relief and recovery measures. They have cost US\$28 trillion in lost output globally, with developed countries contracting by 7 percent in 2020.

National capacities to cope with the pandemic have been largely determined by means and power. Thus, access to COVID-19 tests, treatments, personal protective equipment and other pandemic supplies has been severely lacking in most African and other poor countries.

At current vaccination rates, it would take "not one or two years, but six years" to reach 75 percent global coverage, currently considered the minimum to achieve 'herd immunity' against COVID-19.

Patent protections, vaccine production constraints and the rich country scramble will deprive more than 85 poor countries of public access to vaccines before 2023. As of February 5, not a single dose had been administered in 130 countries with 2.5 billion people.

Of the more than 131 million doses available by February 8, the US, China, the EU and the UK had 78 percent, while Africa had 0.2 percent. The African Union has only ordered less than half of what it needs to reach herd immunity, i.e., just 670 million doses. Besides Brazil, other Latin American countries only have 150 million doses for less than a quarter of their population.

SUPPLY SHORTFALLS

By the end of 2021, total global capacity of the 13 leading COVID-19 vaccine manufacturers would still be well short of the needs of the world's almost 7.7 billion people. Even if they all produce at maximum capacity, a fifth of the world's population would not have access until 2022.

Rich countries continue to oppose the South African-Indian proposal to temporarily suspend relevant provisions of the 1994 World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) to effectively block rapid scaling up of generic vaccine production.

The resulting "catastrophic moral failure" is thus mainly due to vaccine suppliers' profit maximisation, also limiting supplies and access. Meanwhile, rich countries' grossly excessive vaccine purchases can vaccinate their residents several times over.

The US will soon have enough to vaccinate its population twice over, while Canada and Australia have booked enough to protect residents several times over. Exceptionally, New Zealand – which has also ordered several times its population's needs –

Vaccine imperialism causes death and suffering, delays recovery



plans to freely share vaccines with its Pacific island neighbours.

MANUFACTURED SCARCITY

Global needs now greatly exceed available supply. Middle-income countries have joined the scramble, making onerous direct deals with vaccine suppliers, typically on worse terms than if they had bargained collectively. Unsurprisingly, vaccine prices vary considerably, by more than 12-fold, from US\$6 to US\$74 per dose.

As countries have not published contract details, according to vaccine suppliers' terms, lack of transparency has enabled abuses.

And when forced to comply with Freedom of Information Act requests,

documents are heavily redacted before release.

Such limited transparency enables 'vaccine imperialism' as big power 'vaccine nationalism' impairs others' access. Thus, following its spat with AstraZeneca, the European Commission (EC) banned vaccine exports to most countries outside the EU.

In fact, cross-border enforcement of intellectual property rights (IPRs) is relatively recent. Big Pharma successfully lobbied their governments for TRIPS inclusion in the 1994 WTO founding documents. This greatly strengthened and extended IPRs transnationally.

Now, as these non-transparent deals are disputed, European politi-



cians are threatening 'patent grabs'. EU President Charles Michel has warned of "urgent measures" demanding compulsory licensing, provided for by the European Treaty.

This would require vaccine developers to facilitate generic production, which the developing country-backed TRIPS temporary waiver proposal seeks for all countries. Nevertheless, the EU, other rich countries and their allies still oppose the request to enable rapid scaling-up of affordable vaccine supplies.

PUBLICLY FINANCED VACCINE DEVELOPMENT

To accelerate vaccine development, expenses and risks have been mainly borne by governments, rather than by developers or private finance. The six top candidate vaccine developers have already received over US\$12 billion of public money, sometimes with little to show for it.

Of the more successful, Moderna received US\$955 million for research and development plus a premarket purchase commitment of US\$1.53 billion. In Europe, Pfizer/BioNTech got €375 million from the German government and another €100 million for debt refinancing from the European Investment Bank.

Yet, despite massive public financing, vaccine developers retain the IP monopoly right to profit. Thus, the prospect of huge gains from 2021 vaccine sales revenue of almost US\$40 billion is delaying progress against COVID-19.

AstraZeneca promised Oxford Uni-

versity not to profit off any COVID-19 vaccines "for the duration of the pandemic." However, its contracts allow it to declare the pandemic over as early as mid-2021. It could then charge higher prices for vaccines developed with public money for the university.

The AstraZeneca vaccine was 'trialed' on the South African population. Yet, it is paying 2.4 times more than the EU – US\$5.25 compared to US\$2.16. This makes a mockery of "benefit-sharing" and priority "post-trial access" promises. Meanwhile, turning 'ability to pay' on its head, Uganda is paying 20 percent more than South Africa.

Having the greatest vaccine manufacturing capacity in the world by far, the Serum Institute of India has several contracts to produce the AstraZeneca vaccine for different countries. In India, it will sell 90 percent to the government and 10 percent to the private sector at a higher price.

Vaccines produced generically at greater scale will be far more affordable, enabling more rapid containment of the contagion, infections, deaths and disruptions. Until herd immunity is achieved nationally and globally, priority in allocation should be on the basis of urgent need, rather than ability to pay or political muscle.

The best way forward now is the TRIPS waiver proposal, still blocked by rich country governments at the WTO. It would enable all countries to affordably make or buy 'generic' vaccines. This would most effectively expedite containing the pandemic with the least loss of lives and livelihoods. (IPS)

Vinitha Mendis - loyal, obedient, hard working



Horanage Vinitha Mendis nee Fernando is no more. She died after a brief illness at the age of 76 years. Her parents being Horanage Francis Fernando and Hikkaduwage Agnes Fernando and she hail from a very respectable family of Molpe, Moratuwa. Vinitha is the fourth of a family of ten children and she had four brothers and five sisters.

Vinitha commenced her schooling at Methodist High School, Moratumulla, Moratuwa and after passing her Ordinary Level Examination she joined

Devi Balika Vidyalaya, Borella and entered the Colombo University in 1964. After Graduating from there she was trained as a Statistical Officer at Census and Statistics Department. After successfully completing her training she joined the Labour Department.

In 1974 she married Dilwin Mendis and during this period Dilwin was serving at Royal Ceylon Air Force and later Sri Lanka Air Force. She was awarded a Scholarship to the Edinburgh University, Scotland by the International Labour Organization.

After returning to Sri Lanka she was drafted to Labour Department of Labour Office Narahenpita from the Labour Office, Jawatta. Until her retirement in 2005 she served over there and retired as a Senior Assistant Commissioner of Labour.

I found her to be loyal, obedient, hard working, efficient, punctual and above all very honest up to her toes. Our family closely associated with Vini-

tha as we were living in close proximity to her office at Narahenpita.

There was no function at our residence without Vinitha and Dilwin. She was a tower of strength to my childhood friend Dilwin during their wedded life. Her departure is an irreparable loss not only to the family but everyone known to her. She leaves her only child Dinesh his wife Himali Nandika and grand children Amasha and Gavin.

-Nimal S.Fernando, Colombo 5.



IN THE COURT OF APPEAL
LIST OF CASES FOR FRIDAY, 19TH,
FEBRUARY, 2021.
HON. ARJUNA OBEYSEKERE J. (P/CA)
HON. MAYADUNNE COREA J.

COURT NO. 301 AT 09.30 A.M.
FOR JUDGMENT
1. 344/17 Writ of Cert
(Hon. Arjuna Obeyesekere J.) (P/CA)
FOR ORDER
1. 441/20 Writ of Cert
(Hon. Arjuna Obeyesekere J.) (P/CA)
TO BE MENTIONED
1. 452/11 Writ of Cert
2. 262/19 Writ of Cert with WRT
263/19
3. 275/19 Writ of Cert
4. 36/14 PA WITH PHC 66/04, PHC
10/14
5. 02/19 REV
FOR SUPPORT
1. 302/20 Writ of Cert
2. 369/20 Writ of Cert
3. 394/20 Writ of Cert
4. 01/21 Writ of Cert
5. 70/21 Writ of Cert
NOTICE RETURNABLE
1. 458/20 Writ of Cert

HON. ARJUNA OBEYSEKERE J. (P/CA)
HON. MAYADUNNE COREA J.

COURT NO. 301 AT 11.30 A.M.
FOR SUPPORT
1. 71/21 Writ of Cert

HON. ARJUNA OBEYSEKERE J.
(P/CA)
HON. MAYADUNNE COREA J.

COURT NO. 301 AT 12.00 NOON
FOR SUPPORT
1. 75/21 Writ of Cert
2. 81/21 Writ of Cert

HON. ARJUNA OBEYSEKERE J.
(P/CA)
HON. MAYADUNNE COREA J.

COURT NO. 301 AT 01.00 P.M.
FOR SUPPORT
1. 79/21 Writ of Cert

HON. ARJUNA OBEYSEKERE J. (P/CA)
HON. MAYADUNNE COREA J.

COURT NO. 301 OTHERS
TO BE MENTIONED
1. 512/19 Writ of Cert
2. 524/19 Writ of Cert
3. 08/19 TRF WITH RII 15/19
FOR ARGUMENT
1. 29/20 Writ of Cert
2. 361/20 Writ of Cert

HON. K. PRIYANTHA FERNANDO (J)
HON. SAMPATH B. ABAYAKOON J.

COURT NO. 107 AT 10.00 A.M.
TO BE MENTIONED
1. 121/19 HC
2. 410/19 HC
FOR ARGUMENT
1. 184/19 HC
2. 203/19 HC
3. 204/19 HC

HON. K. PRIYANTHA FERNANDO (J)
HON. SAMPATH B. ABAYAKOON J.

COURT NO. 107 OTHERS
TO BE MENTIONED
1. 198/19 HC
FOR ARGUMENT
1. 531/09 Writ of Cert
2. 289/19 HC

HON. MENAKA WIJESUNDERA J.
HON. NEIL IDAWALA J.

COURT NO. 204 AT 09.30 A.M.
TO BE MENTIONED
1. 110/17 PA
2. 83/19 PA
WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS
1. 180/19 PHC
FOR OBJECTIONS
1. 82/20 PA

HON. N. BANDULA KARUNARATNE (J)
HON. R. GURUSINGHE J.

COURT NO. 205 AT 10.00 A.M.
TO BE MENTIONED
1. 313/16 Writ of Cert
2. 308/17 Writ of Cert
3. 09/20 HC
4. 35/20 HC
FOR ARGUMENT
1. 273/16 HC
2. 39-41/18 HC
3. 233/18 HC

HON. N. BANDULA KARUNARATNE (J)
HON. R. GURUSINGHE J.

COURT NO. 205 OTHERS
FOR ARGUMENT
1. 231/14 HC
2. 03-04/16 HC
3. 169-170/17 HC
4. 401/18 HC

HON. DEVIKA ABEYRATNE J.
HON. P. KUMARARATNAM J.

COURT NO. 110 AT 10.00 A.M.

FOR ARGUMENT
1. 300-301/15 HC
2. 60/18 HC
3. 72/18 HC

HON. DEVIKA ABEYRATNE J.
HON. P. KUMARARATNAM J.

COURT NO. 110 OTHERS
FOR ARGUMENT
1. 158/16 HC
2. 250/16 HC
3. 312/17 HC
4. 424-429/17 HC
5. 46/18 HC
6. 76/18 HC

HON. M. T. MOHAMMED LAFFAR J.
HON. K. K. A. V. SWARNADHIPATHI J.

COURT NO. 206 AT 10.00 A.M.
TO BE
MENTIONED

1. 577/07 Writ of Cert
2. 804/09 Writ of Cert
3. 155/09 Writ of Cert
4. 370/12 Writ of Cert
5. 330/13 Writ of Cert
6. 14/14 Writ of Cert
7. 108/18 Writ of Cert
8. 348/18 Writ of Cert

HON. M. T. MOHAMMED LAFFAR J.
HON. K. K. A. V. SWARNADHIPATHI J.

COURT NO. 206 OTHERS
NOTICE RETURNABLE
FOR ARGUMENT
1. 25/18 Writ of Cert
2. 24/16 Writ of Cert
3. 121/18 Writ of Cert

HON. DR. RUWAN FERNANDO (J)
HON. M. SAMPATH K. B. WIJERATNE J.

COURT NO. 302 AT 10.00 A.M.
FOR JUDGMENT

1. 2028/01 REV (HON. DR. RUWAN
FERNANDO (J)
2. 137/03 REV (HON. DR. RUWAN FER-
NANDO (J)
TO BE MENTIONED
1. 10/17 TAX
FOR ARGUMENT
1. 27/19 TAX

HON. SOBITHA RAJAKARUNA J.
HON. DHAMMIKA GANEPOLA J.

COURT NO. 303 AT 10.00 A.M.
TO BE MENTIONED
1. 710-712/99 (F) DC
FOR SUPPORT
1. 296/19 Writ of Cert

HON. SOBITHA RAJAKARUNA J.
HON. DHAMMIKA GANEPOLA J.

COURT NO. 303 OTHERS
FOR SUPPORT
1. 364/19 Writ of Cert
2. 404/19 Writ of Cert
3. 408/19 Writ of Cert
4. 452/19 Writ of Cert
5. 504/19 Writ of Cert
6. 553/19 Writ of Cert

HON. D. N. SAMARAKOON J.
HON. PRADEEP KIRTISINGHE J.

COURT NO. 108 AT 10.00 A.M.
TO BE MENTIONED
1. 02/10 TAX
2. 10/13 TAX
3. 37/14 TAX

HON. D. N. SAMARAKOON J.
HON. PRADEEP KIRTISINGHE J.

COURT NO. 108 OTHERS
TO BE MENTIONED
1. 04/19 RII

HON. PRASANTHA DE SILVA J.
HON. S. U. B. KARALLIYADDE J.

COURT NO. 109 AT 12.30 P.M.
FOR ARGUMENT
1. 95/16 PHC

HON. PRASANTHA DE SILVA J.
HON. S. U. B. KARALLIYADDE J.

COURT NO. 109 OTHERS
TO BE MENTIONED
1. 203/16 PHC
2. 127/19 PA
3. 128/19 PA
FOR ARGUMENT
1. 207/14 PHC
2. 100/15 PHC WITH PHC 115/15,
PHC 122/15, PHC 137/16, PHC 111/15
3. 73/16 PHC

CIVIL APPEAL WESTERN PROVINCE
(COLOMBO)

LIST OF CASES FOR FRIDAY, 19TH,
FEBRUARY, 2021.
HON. A.A.C.J. RAJARATHNA (H.C.J.)
HON. R.P. HETTIARACHCHI (H.C.J.)

(AT 10.00 A.M.)
TO BE
MENTIONED

195/16 (F) HCCA/Colombo
145/16 (F) HCCA/Colombo
LA 72/19 HCCA/Colombo
LA 156/19 HCCA/Colombo
15/20 RA HCCA/Colombo
153/16 (F) AB HCCA/Colombo
81/17 (F) HCCA/Colombo
151/17 (F) HCCA/Colombo
171/16 (F) HCCA/Colombo
66/17 (F) HCCA/Colombo
32/15 (F) HCCA/Colombo
02/20 NLT HCCA/Colombo
125/15 (F) HCCA/Colombo
FOR ARGUMENT
157/17 (F) HCCA/Colombo
149/17 (F) HCCA/Colombo



NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY TO INVESTIGATE AND INQUIRE INTO AND REPORT OR TAKE NECESSARY ACTION ON PRECEDING HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

His Excellency Gotabaya Rajapaksa, the President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka in pursuance of the provisions of Section 2 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act No. 17 of 1948 as amended by Extraordinary Gazettes No. 2211/55 - dated January 21, 2021 and No. 2214/75 dated February 12, 2021 has appointed the above Commission to investigate and inquire into, take necessary action or report on the following:

- To find out whether preceding Commissions of Inquiry and Committees which have been appointed to investigate into human rights violations, have revealed any human rights violations, serious violations of the international humanitarian law and other such serious offences;
- To identify what are the findings of the said Commissions and Committees related to the serious violations of human rights, serious violations of international humanitarian laws and other such offences and whether recommendations have been made on how to deal with the said facts;
- Manner in which those recommendations have been implemented so far in terms of the existing law and what steps need to be taken to implement those recommendations further in line with the present Government Policy;
- Overseen of whether action is being taken according to (b) and (c) above.

The Commission hereby invites any person, persons or organizations to submit written representations or information or any other material which relates to the above for the Commission to inquire. Any representations or statements of whatsoever which relates to factual matters should be supported by affidavit where possible. Such representations can be made in Sinhala, Tamil or English language, in respect of all or any of the above matters referred to in the above paragraphs.

All such representations should reach the Secretary to the Presidential Commission at the address given below, on or before **12th March 2021** preferably under registered cover.

All such representations should clearly state the name, address, contact telephone number and the e-mail address of such representer or informant.

The Commission, after examining the written representations received, may invite any person, persons or organization to give oral evidence where oral representation is warranted. Dates to give oral evidence will be duly notified.

Every person or persons who gives evidence before the Commission shall be entitled to the privilege of witnesses as provided for in the Commissions of Inquiry Act No. 17 of 1948 as amended and the rights and entitlements of victims of crime and witnesses as provided for in the Assistance to and Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses Act No. 4 of 2015 as amended.

By Order of the Commission

Secretary to the Commission

February 19, 2021

ALL WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO :

Secretary,
Presidential Commission of Inquiry to Investigate and Inquire into and Report or take necessary action on Preceding Human rights Commissions and Committees, Block - 2 : 1st Floor, Room No. 102,
Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall,
Buddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 07.

e-mail: secretary@pcihr.gov.lk

Flying high for seven decades

CAMELIA NATHANIEL

As the Sri Lanka Air Force celebrates its 70th Anniversary, many events have been organised under the direction of the 18th Air Force Commander Air Marshal Sudarshana Pathirana.

Addressing a media briefing at the Air Force HQ on Wednesday, the Air Force Commander said that in keeping with his pledge to improve maritime surveillance and maritime disaster management capabilities of the Air Force with the employment of cutting edge technologies to protect and preserve the resources within the EEZ, the Air Force has succeeded in acquiring two Maritime Patrol Air crafts (MPA) from two foreign countries.

Speaking to the *Daily News* he said that the two MPAs would be received from the USA and India. He said that the Indian MPA would be received in the near future and the US MPA would be received thereafter.

Air Marshal Pathirana also paid tribute to all the Air Force personnel, who had made the supreme sacrifice in serving the country, noting that without their dedicated service, the Air Force would not be able to achieve its current status.

"I must mention all those who have served in the Air Force in its journey. All the Air Force war heroes, who have sacrificed their lives to protect the sovereignty and integrity of this country, I take this



On this 70th Anniversary, which falls on March 2, there are many events that have been organised, commencing on March 1. "A special Air Show has been organised on March 3, 4 and 5 at 5.00 pm at the Galle Face Green and we are fortunate that this year India has agreed to send their aerobatics teams comprising an aircraft team and a helicopter team, which will enhance the colour of the air show at Galle Face," he noted.

moment to remember our fallen 443 air warriors including 43 veteran pilots and 236 wounded air warriors, who had sacrificed their tomorrow to the mother land Sri Lanka. It is because of their sacrifices that we are here today. There are 2,300 officers and around 32,000 personnel currently serving in the Air Force and they are our pillars of strength.

As per the task and role the Air Force is the

guardian of the skies and for that we have to maintain our air capabilities to ensure that no external or internal threat is being influenced to Sri Lanka in the third dimension. To ensure that capability, we are maintaining our air and ground capabilities, training and all our equipment and capabilities are on standby to maintain the required core structure to maintain national security."

The Commander invited all those who love aircrafts to come to Galle Face to witness this spectacular air show. However, the Commander noted that all those, who visit the air show should maintain social distancing and follow the health guidelines and wear masks and avoid close contact with others. He

said that as it is an air show, there is no need to flock in groups and the air show could be observed, while maintaining distance.

On March 5, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa would be awarding the colours at the Colour Parade at the SLAF Base Katunayake for No. 5 Jet (F-7) Squadron and No. 6 Helicopter (Mi-17) Squadron.

When the new Air Force Commander assumed duties as the 18th Commander of the Air Force, he presented quadruple objectives to take the SLAF forward in the future. He noted with pride that most of the objectives are at progressive stages.

Among them is improving the attack and air support capabilities of the Air Force with prompt maintenance of the aircraft fleet and with timely new acquisitions.

Accordingly, currently the AN 32 aircraft overhaul, Kfir upgrading, UAV upgrading, Air Defence system upgrading, acquisition of training helicopters, acquisition of tactical drones and acquisition of MI 17 helicopters for UN missions are in progress.

The development of air power in order to face any natural calamity, which may occur in future and to safeguard the people and property from such calamities is currently underway with continuous training on HADR operations and training on joint operation with SL Navy and SL Army.

Details of events organized for 70th anniversary celebration

- (i) **March 1, 2021:** *Pichchamal Poojawa* at the Keleniya RajamahaViharaya to obtain blessings.
- (ii) **March 2, 2021:**
 - (a) Formal Air Force Day Parade at SLAF Base Katunayake.
 - (b) Launching of Special Commemorative Cover and Stamp for 70th anniversary.
- (iii) **March 3 to 5, 2021:**
 - (a) Arrival of the Air Chiefs (USA, Pakistan, Bangladesh, India).
 - (b) **Air Display:** SLAF aircraft fly past followed by Tejas Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) and Dornier aircraft fly past and IAF Sarang Helicopter Aerobatic Team display (Mar 3, 4 and 5, 2021 evening in the skies above Galle Face Green).
 - (c) Distribution of Gift Vouchers for KIA families (NOK 357 families) (Mar 3 to 5 Mar 21).
- (iv) **March 5, 2021:**
 - (a) President's Colour awarding parade at SLAF Base Katunayake for No. 5 Jet (F-7) Squadron and No. 6 Helicopter (Mi-17) Squadron.
 - (b) Launching of SLAF's 70 years of Air Power book.
- (v) **March 7, 2021:** *Guwan Hamuda Papedi Sawariya* (Men and Women) will be briefed by Chairman, Cycling during 2nd session).
- Men's race:** Colombo to Katunayake (Total 160 Km).
- Women's race:** Ekala to Katunayake (Total 76 Km).
- (vi) **Mar 10, 2021:** SLAF Flag Blessing Ceremony at the Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi, Anuradhapura.
- (vii) **March 12 and 13, 2021:** Adam's Peak Cleaning Program (starting from Nallathanni and Ratnapura respectively).
- (viii) **March 20, 21 and 26, 27 - 2021:** Commander's cup Rugby 7s' Tournament (will be briefed by Chairman Rugby during 2nd session).
- (ix) **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Projects:**
 - (a) **Renovation of hospitals** (Base Hospital Gampaha/ Damana Rural Hospital, Ampara/ Divisional Hospital, Gomarankadawala/ Purawasakulam Hospital).
 - (b) **Renovation of schools** (Roman Catholic Primary School, Ekala/ Deaf and Blind School, Ratmalana/ Special School, Botale, Mirigama/ Weherapessa Primary School, Weerawila / Keeriyakkulama Primary School, Anuradhapura/Kudakachchakodiya School, Vavuniya/ Alagapuri Tamil School, Iran-amadu/ Completion of construction work of the half constructed Library at Keppapilavu Government Tamil Mix

- School, Mulativ/SiddharthaVidyalaya, China Bay/Kahambiliyawa Primary School, Hingurakoda/ BorapolaVidyalaya, Ampara/ Valaiyaravu Methodist Mission Tamil School, Batticaloa).
- (c) **Donation of library books,** OkkampitiyaWijayabahu Primary School, Weerawila.
- (d) **Drinking water facility** for Walamitiyawa Primary School Galewella, Dambula.
- (e) Renovation and upgrading of a 'Prajaseva' Office at Antonypuram, Jaffna.
- (f) Manufacturing of tables and book racks for newly built library at Kalladi GS Division, Puttalam.
- (g) **70,000 Tree planting project** by all Air force stations covering all island and 70,000 seed bombing completed by Cmd Agro Unit.
- (h) **Kanugahawewa Development Project at Anuradapura** (Gama Samaga Pilisandara)
 1. Development and Renovation of Kanugahawewa Abinawarama Temple (Completion construction work of the Dhamma School Building/ Renovation of the Bodhi Prakaraya/ Construction work of the Sangawasa Building/ Construction of the Pagoda/ Construction of a new Toilet Complex/ Construction of a Bell Tower).
 2. Development and Renovation of Kanugahawewa Vidyalaya (Construction of a building for Teachers' Quarters/ Construction of a school playground/ Construction of a new school building).
 3. Construction of a toilet complex and Renovation of a Computer Lab at HalmillawatiyaVidyalaya.
 4. Construction of a new building and renovation of the existing buildings at the village Pre School.
 5. Building of an electric fence to protect the village from the elephant threat.
 6. Construction of 70 houses for the homeless
 - 1st stage** - 10 houses will be constructed and handed over to owners. This stage will be completed by March 2, 2021 in line with the 70th Air Force Anniversary.
 - 2nd stage** - Fifteen houses will be constructed and handed over to owners.
 - 3rd stage** - Rest of the housing project will be completed.
- (i) Medical Outreach Program at Kanugahawewa Vidyalaya (Feb 20, 21).
- 2nd Session:** Sports
- (i) **March 7, 2021:** *Guwan Hamuda Papedi Sawariya* (Men and Women) briefing by DAO AVM MDAP Payoe(Chairmen cycling).
- (ii) **March 20, 21 and 26, 27 - 2021:** Commanders' Cup Rugby 7s' Tournament briefing by CO SLAF StnCho AVM A.J. Amarasinghe (Chairman Rugby).

The Bar Association of Sri Lanka (BASL) recently concluded its first ever hybrid National Law Conference (NLC) on 12 and 13 of February at Galadari, Colombo successfully.

This year, with participation being enabled on both and hybrid and virtual platforms, the Conference saw impressive numbers in participation from local and foreign participants. A limited number of panellists were physically present at the venue while others and two foreign legal professionals joined the Conference online as speakers.

The theme for the NLC of 2021 was 'Futurism' inspired by the Italian art students' movement in the 1920s, which highlighted the dynamism, speed, change and restlessness of modern life after being plagued by disease and war to arise out of destruction. It was an attempt by various artists to envision the future and depict them through their creative work. Recalling the times the Conference was organized in, the Chairman of NLC 2021 Hiran M.C. de Alwis stated, 'It is only apt that a theme of this nature is selected for this Conference taking into account the unprecedented challenges the last year has posed on us and the world'. He further stressed how he does not subscribe to the terminology 'new normal' which is the continuation of chaos but instead the legal profession must look at fashioning a 'new dynamic' to meet the challenges of the time, and hence 'Futurism'.

The Inauguration Ceremony of the Conference was held with the participation of Jayantha Jayasuriya P.C., Chief Justice of Sri Lanka as Chief Guest. Other honorary guests included Minister of Justice, M.U.M. Ali Sabry P.C., Attorney General Dappula Livera P.C., Judges of the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka, President of the Court of Appeal of Sri Lanka Arjuna Obeyesekere, President of the Law Commission of Sri Lanka Romesh De Silve P.C., the President of the BASL Kalinga Indatissa P.C. and Secretary of BASL Rajeev Amarasuriya.

President of Sri Lanka, Gotabaya Rajapaksa, sharing his message at the initiation of the Conference expressed how the present government of Sri Lanka is committed to protect the fundamental rights and equal rights of all its citizens and firmly stands by the principle 'One Country, One Law. Shedding light on Sri Lanka's ground reality when it comes awareness on law, the President stated through the 'Gama Samaga' Pilisandarak' programme it was identified how the rural and poverty stricken population are caught in a cycle of never ending misery due to their

BASL's first hybrid National Law Conference a massive success



Hiran de Alwis, Chairman BASL National Law Conference addressing the gathering



DIG Ajith Rohana AAL addressing the NLC on Quarantine Ordinance

ignorance of law governing their day to day issues. He encouraged the Conference to focus on this and see means in which the existing laws can be simplified and the rural population of Sri Lanka can be educated on its specifics. Additionally, the President stated how he hopes the NLC is able to make recommendations to the government regarding the laws and regulations of the country after its intellectual discourse in a manner it assists in making the day-to-day activities of citizens simpler and facilitates economic development.

Delivering the keynote address of the Inauguration, Romesh De Silva P.C. commended the timely selection of the organizers' theme for the Conference. He stated how the term consists of arriving at practical solutions to the problems the profession is facing at present. Accordingly, he proposed Short Term, Medium Term and Long Term plans to overcome the current challenges of the Bar, with Short Term being the February 2022, Medium Term being February 2024 and Long Term to refer until February 2026.

He further stressed the importance of not being deluded by what the future is, it is not the mere conduct of trans-border transactions which he referred to be the past, but tackling issues such as the substitution of AI for actions like filing pleadings and conducting written submissions and certain functions of lawyers becoming defunct.

Secretary of the BASL, Rajeev Amarasuriya, stated how despite the challenging nature of the pandemic it also shone the spotlight on several issues that were crucial and should have been

corrected long ago, and how it demanded the profession to meet the requirements of the time and adapt accordingly. The conference that was organized virtually for the first time will undoubtedly open the door to enable virtual participation for all NLCs in future.

Both the keynote speaker and the President of the BASL Kalinga Indatissa P.C. applauded the present Minister of Justice for being proactive in identifying areas within the present laws of Sri Lanka that require immediate reform and taking the initiative to amend them. PC Indatissa also commended the Minister's efforts taken in developing the infrastructure for the legal profession (expanding current court complexes, reconstructing and refurbishing them etc.). The President of BASL stated that during the two day Conference, the panellists would discuss and identify further areas within the current laws in Sri Lanka that require reforms and modernisation, and the contents of such will be summarised and subjected to relevant authorities to be taken for consideration at the completion of the Conference.

Spanning over a period of two days the Conference focused on a series of timely and dynamic topics that proved to be thought provoking and mind stimulating to the participants. In concluding remarks, Chairman Hiran M.C. de Alwis summarized key points of the discussions that were conducted by the panellists and stated that a written report of them will be submitted to relevant stakeholders.

On the first day a session was conducted on the effective enforcement

of business transactions due to concerns pertaining to the ease of business ranking of Sri Lanka. All panellists were in agreement of the need of an immediate attitude change to effectuate efficiency when enforcing business contracts and in improving the ease of business ranking. Further, in relation to capital

Ecommerce. A leading PC also presented a paper on Ecommerce and laws pertaining to it and the discussion also focused on maritime laws and the exclusive economic zone of Sri Lanka.

A separate session was held to share viewpoints on issues pertaining to defamation in cyber space and whether

and challenges were also not forgotten and an informative session on cyber crime and significant elements in the Money Laundering Act including the dangers posed by freezing orders were also discussed by leading practitioners in the field.

A separate session was also conducted on the future of the legal profession due to the increasing need to have an intellectual discourse on potential areas that require improvement within it and whether standards have to be uplifted in nurturing multi-disciplinary skills within future legal professionals. This session also highlighted the need to maintain professional ethics and to educate youngsters and practitioners alike on how the legal profession is not a mere business venture but a profession that requires certain standards of conduct to



A panel discussion on Child and Mental abuse at the NLC



BASL National Law Conference Hybrid Virtual closing sessions

markets, interesting possibilities and challenges by virtue of proposed real estate, investment trust were focused upon.

The banking community focused on the possibilities of digital banking processes, problems faced when implementing them and issues caused due to non-banking financial institutions. Further, foreign experts discussed on the electronic transmission of records and international cross border data flows. It is quite noteworthy that they identified Sri Lanka to be in the forefront of adopting UNCITRAL texts on

the existing legal principles can be utilised to provide solutions to them.

The huge popularity in sports as a medium of entertainment and laws pertaining to contractual rights of players, TV rights and sponsorships were also acknowledged and addressed.

The second day featured a session on fundamental freedoms that accrues to people including religious and language rights and whether these fundamental freedoms originally emanated from the Eastern jurisdictions.

Criminal Law and its developments

be maintained. The growing popularity of Internet usage among children and concerns on child abuse and mental abuse and harassment were also addressed during the second day of the Conference.

In conclusion, it can be stated how overall the valuable input from a diverse expert panel that constituted local and foreign, legal and non-legal experts and professionals helped in making the Conference a success. The BASL and the legal profession are certain to reap the benefits of this Conference in the years to come.

Madara a swimming star in the making



Madara Jayaratne in action at a Swimming meet. (Pictures by Upananda Jayasundera-Kandy Sports Spl.Corr)



Madara Jayaratne with her medals.

UPANANDA JAYASUNDERA
Kandy Sports Special Correspondent)

Madara Jayaratne, a Grade 13 student of Mahamaya Girls' School, Kandy is an outstanding swimmer who started her swimming career at the age of 10 years under the coaching of U.H.Sugath, a veteran swimming coach assisted by U.H. Pamlath. She secured the second place in Individual Medley event at the All Island Swimming Championship in the year 2011. In 2013 she won the second place in 50 Metres Backstroke and won the third place in

the 200 metres Individual Medley event at the Novices Swimming Championship while securing the third place in the Under 12 Backstroke at the Sri Lanka Schools Aquatic Championship. Madara became the Champion Swimmer in the Under 12 age category at the Central Province Swimming Championship and the following year she finished ninth in the Pentathlon Swimming event and again in 2015 she was placed fifth out of 350 participants at the Two mile Sea Swim held at Mount Lavinia which was held for the

78th year. Madara was placed third in 50 Metres Butterfly event and in 2016 she participated at the Two mile Sea swim for the second time and was placed third out of over 250 participants. In the Pentathlon event she was placed eighth in the top ten and she secured the third place in the 200 metres. Individual Medley event. In 2018 she became the Champion Swimmer in the Under 18 age category and she was placed 11th in the Open Category out of over 600 participants at the annual two Mile Sea Swim. She

was placed third in the Individual Medley event and 100 metres. Freestyle event. At the XLIV National Sports Festival in 2018 she was placed third in the Freestyle event and in the same year at the All Island School Games she was a member of the 4 x 4 M. Freestyle Relay event. The other members were Lahini Costa, Maheshike Hewage and Devindya Jayawardena. In 2019 Madara was placed seventh at the 82nd Annual Two Mile Sea Swim in the open category and she came

third in the 100 metres. Freestyle event at the Sri Lanka Schools Aquatic Sports Championship while at the All Island Swimming Meet she secured the second place in 200 Metres Individual Medley and third in 200 Metres. Free Style events. She is thankful to the Swimming Vice Captain and Asst. Games Captain and her swimming coaches for the guidance given to her and her ambition is to continue swimming while doing her higher studies to become a lawyer in the future.

Mahesh Sandaruwan cricket coach with a proven track record



Mahesh Sandaruwan

Twenty nine year old Mahesh Sandaruwan de Silva, coach of Devapathiraja College Rathgama is the best schoolgirls cricket coach in the island. He has won six Championships for Devapathiraja College Girls' Cricket team. He guided Devapathiraja College Girls' team to five championships in Girls under 19 age group and one title in under 17 girls age group so far.

Halamba Mahesh Sandaruwan de Silva was born on June 7 1992 at Galle. He attended

Thilaka JuniorMV, Rathna Udagama, Boossa in 1998. He completed primary education from that school. He joined Devapathiraja College Rathgama in 2003. He started school cricket in 2008 at the same school. He represented under 13 teams under the guidance of T.A.C.N. Gunasekara, Principal, Y. Nishantha Kumara, master in charge and K. Ranjan Lasantha De Silva coach in 2003, 2004 and 2005. He led the college under 13 team in 2005. He represented under 15 teams in two seasons 2006 and 2007. He led the school under 15 team in 2007. He represented the under 17 team in 2008.

He represented the under 13, 15, 17 and 19 teams from 2003 - 2008 in Devapathiraja College Rathgama as a left hand batsman and right arm off spinner. He represented the school's first XI teams in four seasons. He scored more than 1500 runs with eight half centuries and claimed more than 150 wickets in four seasons for Devapathiraja College. His best bowling performance was 8 wickets for 52 runs against Karadeniya Central College in 2007/2008 season.

He was deputy skipper of the college first XI under the guidance of coach, Ranjan Lasantha de Silva in 2008/2009.

He passed the GCE O/L exam in 2008. He joined Richmond College Galle for A/Ls in 2009. He represented Richmond College first XI team in two seasons of 2010 and 2011 under the guidance of Dhammika Sudarshana head coach. He played two big matches against Mahinda College Galle in the Lovers' Quarrel in 2010 and 2011. He was adjudged best batsman in the big match under the captain Dhananjaya De Silva, the Sri Lanka Cricketer. He scored more than 550 runs with four half centuries in the last under 19 season for Richmond. He represented Galle CC in under 23 tournament and emerging tournament. He played for United Southern CC in the Sara Trophy.

He started cricket coaching after leaving school in 2011. He was assistant coach in Devapathiraja College Rathgama under the guidance of Ranjan Lasantha De Silva head coach. Devapathiraja College under 13 team was champion in division two tournament in 2011.

He was assistant coach in Devapathiraja College Boys' team which emerged under 19 division Three runner up in 2013/14 and champion team in the under 19 division Two tournaments in 2017/18 in the Boy's category.

He passed level One coaching certificate in 2012. He started coaching Girls' Cricket with Devapathiraja College Girls' team in 2012. He has produced many girl cricketers namely Kaveesha Dilhari, Umasha Thimeshani and Sathya Sandeepani who represented Sri Lanka Women's team, Sachini Nisansala, Teleshiya Chaturangi Nilakshana Sandamini and Shikari Nuwantha, emerging players. Mahesh has produced five champion teams and one runner up for Devapathiraja

College Rathgama in the under 19 girls' cricket tournament. Devapathiraja College won girls under 17 title and the Softball Championship in the All Island Schools tournament in 2017, 2018 and 2019.

He coached the Seenigama Ladies' team in the Women's Premier league tournament from 2016. He is currently Girls' head coach of Devapathiraja College Rathgama and Junior assistant coach of Richmond College Galle. (YK)

Sithum Pahasara does his school proud

DILWIN MENDIS

Moratuwa Sports Special Corr.

Chess Player, Athlete, Swimmer and Poolist for Asian Youth Rapid Championship in China, West Asian Championship in Thailand and World Youth Rapid Championship in Greece ten year old. Sithum Pahasara Jayamaha has brought honour and glory to his Alma Mater Dhammissara National School Nattandiya.

Following the footsteps of his elder brother Thineeth Nethsara Jayamaha Sithum commenced chess under the Teacher in Charge of his school Mrs. Nadeesha in 2017 and in the same year participating at the under ten age group in the Puttalam District Tournament he came second and in the North Western Province Individual Championship he was the runner up. In 2018 at the Puttalam District Meet he was the runner up and in the Provincial Meet he came third and in the All Island tournament he received a One Star and in the All Island Chess Team event his school were the champions and his team participated at the All Island Tournament at Kurunegala and he got a merit certificate and he received another merit certificate at the School Knight Flame Tournament and par-

ticipating at the Negomo Chess Tournament under nine age group he was the runner up and again at the schools Green Night Tournaments and at the E-4 Chess Academy Championship he was the under nine champion and at the Double Bishop Championship he got a certificate representing the under ten age group.

He came seventh in the Kurunegala Inter School Championship and participating in the Provincial Tournament under 11 team he came third and in the Athugalpura Open Chess Championship he received a merit certificate and in the School Night Flame Chess Championship he was the Champion In the Negomo Chess Festival Open Meet he received a merit certificate and in the Annite Chess Tournament too he received a merit certificate and in the Provincial Tournament he was the champion and in the Academy Chess Championship he got a merit certificate and in the Sri Lanka Youth National Rapid Championship he was the runner up and with all these performances under his belt he was selected to the Sri Lanka Chess Asian Championship in Thailand

In addition to Chess he did athletics in 2018 and 2020 and took part at the Inter



Sithum Pahasara with his coach

House Sports Meets in relay events and in swimming he took part in the Aesthetic and Skills Programme and for his performances he was awarded school colours for chess and his younger sister Thihasna Sithumini Jayamaha is an up and coming Chess Player.



Sithum Pahasara is seen here with his trophies

Redeveloped Ambalangoda UC Ground handed over to the cricketing community

The Ambalangoda Urban Council Ground, which was redeveloped by Sri Lanka Cricket, was handed over to the cricketing community during the weekend. Under the redeveloped programme, Sri Lanka Cricket laid the turf covering the entire ground, established three Center Turf Wickets and one Matting Wicket, five Side Turf Practice Wickets, along with a movable net, and also constructed two sight screens.

Apart from it, SLC also handed over Ground Maintenance Equipment, such as Drum Rollers, Pitch Cutters, Outfield Grass Cutters, and Tractors.

The redeveloped ground was

handed over to the Urban Council with the participation of Dr. Ramesh Pathirana, Minister of Plantations, . Shammi Silva, President of Sri Lanka Cricket, Dr. Jayantha Dharmadasa, Vice President (International) of Sri Lanka Cricket, Ravin Wickramaratne, Vice President (Domestic) of Sri Lanka Cricket, . Aruna Pradeep, Chairman of the Ambalangoda Urban Council, . Kamal Dharmasiri, Head of National Development Centre of Sri Lanka Cricket, Lalith Halambage, and . Jayantha Jayaweera, respectively, President and the Secretary of the Galle District Cricket Association.

Following the opening of the rede-

veloped ground, which was done under the Cricket Gamata programme of the SLC, a match was played between the Singha Sports Club and Rio Sports Club, which are affiliated clubs of the SLC.

In the meantime Indoor nets of the Singha Sports Club of Ambalangoda, which was established by Sri Lanka Cricket during the year 2004 was renovated.

The refurbished net was opened by the Minister of Youth and Sports Namal Rajapaksa during the weekend, whilst, Shammi Silva, President of Sri Lanka Cricket was also present during the occasion. (SLC media release).



The Minister of Plantations Dr Ramesh Pathirana was the Chief Guest at the opening of the Ambalangoda redeveloped ground. SLC President Shammi Silva is also in the picture.

NPL tourney brings back cricket to Nuwara Eliya

The opening ceremony of the inaugural Reha Steel Nuwara Eliya Premier League (NPL) T20 cricket tournament was held on February 14 with the participation of Nuwara Eliya Cricket Association president and Wildlife and Forest Conservation Minister C. B. Ratnayaka as the chief guest at the Green Hills Hotel in Nuwara Eliya. The tournament will be worked off at Radella grounds on February 19.

Five teams representing

electoral seats in Nuwara Eliya district, namely Kotmale Kings, Hangananketha Tasker, Walapane Knight Riders, Maskeliya Sun Rises and Nuwara Eliya Gladiator will battle for the Reha Steel challenge cup at the tournament.

Nuwara Eliya district MP, M. Rameshwaran, NE District Secretary, NE Mayor, Police SSP, captains of the teams, managers and sponsors of the teams were present at the opening ceremony.

Rajans field a well balanced side this season



HAFIZ MARIKAR

Cricket is one of the most popular sports at Dharmaraja College Kandy. This time they are sure to come out with a strong team under experienced coach Ananda Wijesekera, who played for the Rajans from 1967 to 1971 and led the side in his last year. He is one of the finest cricketers to come out of this school. Ananda has been involved with Dharmaraja College as a junior and senior coach for the last 26 years.

Dharmaraja College is one of the oldest cricket playing schools in the country with tremendous potential. This time they are blessed with an abundance of cricket talent. These lads possess all the ingredients required for an enterprising team. This season they have a well balanced side, and are blessed with five of last year players. They not only possess a formidable batting line-up but also a penetrative bowling attack and are determined to pose a challenge to all schools. They also have to maintain their reputation in cricket and continue it for another season. They are well backed by the Old Boys Cricket

Wing, and the cricketers are provided with almost all the facilities. Their first game of this season will be against Nalanda College in mid March and their friendly two-day match with Trinity College ended in a draw at Asgiriya. This school has a history of more than 130 years. Some of the Dharmaraja College top cricketers were P.L. Arthur "Kopi" Alwis, a fine batsman and the first centurion in the big match series in 1943, T.B. Talwatte, the second centurion in the same year, G.B. Yatigamana, D. de Alwis, D. C. de Akwis, D.D.P. Aliwis, Daya Jayasundara, Bertie Nillagoda, T.B. Kehelgamauwa,

Ananda B.W. Jayasundra, Shanthi U. Mendis, Sonny Yatawara, Harold Ranasinghe, D.D. Somapala, D.D.Hemapala, A. Ganoruwa, T.B. Marasinghe, David Karunaratne, S. Rajakrma, Chandra de Silva, G.S. Ratnayake, A.V.A. Pathirane, N.A.B. Angammana, R.S. Navarratne, U. Mudanayake, Gamini Guantilake, Gamin Thomas, Tissa Ratnayake, Mahinda Pethiyagoda, C.N. Dissanayake, Pujith Jayasundara, A.S. Ekanayake, Ravi Rajapakse, Priyantha Wera-goda, Indragith Bandaranayake, Priyantha Talwatte, Senaka Dissanayake (a double centurion in the big match), Jeevan

Gajaweera, Nalin Fernando, Prasanna Walalawala, Thilina Tennakoon, Senarath Jayasundara, Nalin Dhammika Abeyakoon, Chamara Kapugedera, Sandun Weerakody, Tharusha Weragoda, Kavinda Rathnayake, Wenuka Galahitiyawa, Aravinda Ruhunehewa, Manjula Liyanage, Kavishka Dissanayake, Sumil Ranasinghe, Mudith Wijekoon, Upesh Wiejirsiri to name a few. This time with the new format they are in the division (I) Group X with schools like Thurstan College, Mahinda College, St. Peter's College, St. Aloysius College and Moratu Vidyalaya and also they will continue to play

their traditional games. Their principal Dhampiya Wanasinghe is giving his fullest support. They have some outstanding last year players in the side with top batsmen, bowlers and fielders and this year's squad will include the best players from this pool. Upendra A Warnakulasooriya is the most senior player, Dinuka Pahiraja, Sachintha Dissanayake, Kaveesha Weerawansha, Dulara Bgandulasena, Dushshangana Gunasinghe, Lavindu Dissanayake, Anjana Dikkubura, Maleesha Rajakrma, Isuru Pan-nala, Onajith Silva, Sahan Ratnayake, Vihaga Dharmasooriya, Sapumal Fernando, Kessara

Noorangoda, Malitha Hapuarachi, Adithya Dulara, Indula Ranasinghe, Sadeepa Rathnayake, Inura Dissanayake, Ishan Jayasinghe, Pulindu Perera, Nayana Wijekoon, Thisara Wanninayake, Malindu Perera, Sahan Siriwardena, Praveen Ratnayake, Ishara Deshan, Salindu Wijekoon, Thamindu Indrathna, Ishul Maduwantha, Ayesh Sundeepa, Hasindu Nethsra, Deshan Rangith, Dulara Iluppitiya, Hirindu Ranasinghe. (Coach - Ananda Wijesekera, Assistant Coach - Navind Dilshan, Trainer - Venu-ra Rajapakse, MIC - Amarajewa Dissanayake, POG - Saliya Samarawickrema.

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WORLD OF SPORTS

February 19 (LOCAL EVENTS) TENNIS
Colombo Open Tournament at Green Path
FOOTBALL
Friday Football at Racecourse Grounds, Reid Avenue
BADMINTON
Senior Nationals at SLBA, MBA, Otter AC Indoor Stadium
(FOREIGN EVENTS) CRICKET (Sheffield Shield)
New South Wales vs Victoria at Sydney
Tasmania vs Queensland at Hobart
(Women's T20 Challenge)
Titans vs Knights
Dolphins vs Cape Cobras (Both matches at Durban)
FOOTBALL (Premier League)
Wanderers vs Leeds United (Spanish League)
Real Betis vs Getafe (Women's International Friendly)
Austria vs Sweden
TENNIS Australian Open at Melbourne (12th Day)
GOLF The Genesis Invitational at Riviera Country Club, California

Williams exits in tears as Osaka, Djokovic reach finals

MELBOURNE, THURSDAY: Japan's Naomi Osaka brutally halted Serena Williams's latest bid for a record-equalling 24th Grand Slam title on Thursday, as Novak Djokovic wrote the final chapter of qualifier Aslan Karatsev's fairy-tale run.

Fans returned after a five-day coronavirus lockdown in time to see an emotional exit from Williams, Jennifer Brady's win over Karolina Muchova and top-ranked Djokovic preserving his perfect semi-final record at Karatsev's expense.

Triple major-winner Osaka, 23, again proved Williams's nemesis with a one-sided 6-3, 6-4 win which heightened questions about whether the American, 39, will ever match Margaret Court's all-time record for Slam singles titles.

Williams put her hand on her heart as she acknowledged a standing ovation on Rod Laver Arena, and later walked out of her post-match press conference in tears, saying: "I'm done."

The American has lost four Grand Slam finals since winning her 23rd in Melbourne in 2017, and victory over Osaka would have given her a golden



Novak Djokovic hits a return against Russia's Aslan Karatsev. - AFP

opportunity against Brady, who is into her first major decider.

But after going 0-2 down in the first set, Osaka reeled off five straight games to take charge against a despairing Williams and canter into the

final. The soft-spoken Osaka has never lost a Grand Slam match after reaching the quarter-finals, and Brady can expect the match of her life on Saturday.

"For me, I have this mentality that people don't

remember the runners-up. You might, but the winner's name is the one that's engraved," Osaka said.

"I think I fight the hardest in the finals. I think that's where you sort of set yourself apart."

Williams lamented a "big error day" and refused to discuss whether she had made her last appearance at a tournament she has won seven times, an Open-era record.

"I don't know," she said, when asked if her salute to the crowd was a farewell. "If I ever say farewell, I wouldn't tell anyone."

Williams's departure was watched by thousands of fans returning after a snap, state-wide lockdown, a welcome sight in Rod Laver Arena after five days of matches in front of empty seats.

The Australian Open is the first Covid-era Grand Slam to welcome large numbers of fans after last year's Wimbledon was cancelled, the US Open took place behind closed doors and the French Open was limited to 1,000 a day.

The returning spectators also witnessed the end of 114th-ranked Karatsev's astonishing campaign, when he became the first man in the Open era to reach a Grand Slam



Naomi Osaka and Serena Williams embrace after the semi-final match, which Osaka won 6-3, 6-4. - AFP

semi-final on debut. Karatsev knocked out three seeds to reach the last four but he was no match for Djokovic, the record eight-time Melbourne champion who has never lost a semi or final on his favourite court.

"This is the best I've felt in the entire tournament," said the Serb, who has been carrying an abdomen injury since the third round, after his 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 win.

"I could swing through the ball. No pain. The best match so far."

Exemplifying the gulf between them, Vladikavkaz native Karatsev, 27, has won 18 Grand Slam sets in his career, while Djokovic, 33, is going for his 18th major title.

Brady versus Muchova was a far more competitive affair as the American needed five match points before subduing

the Czech 25th seed in three sets.

Brady eventually prevailed 6-4, 3-6, 6-4 in 1hr 55min to reach her debut major final against the formidable Osaka.

"My legs are shaking, my heart is racing," said Brady, 25, who has admitted she hated watching and playing tennis as a child.

"My legs felt fresh but they weren't moving. They felt stuck in mud." - AFP

Dissanayake's 80 steers Dharmaraja to victory

HAFIZ MARIKAR
Dharmaraja College, Kandy Under 19 team won against St. Mary's, Kegalle in a warm-up one day game played yesterday, at the Lake View grounds. Rajans taking the first turn of the wicket went on to score 216 runs in 32 overs. L. Dissanayake top scored with 80 runs and M. Hapuarachchi with 30. P. Rathnayake bowled well to take 4 for 21 and M. Rajakaruna 2 for 3 runs. St. Mary's were all out for 92 with Thisara Wanninayake taking 2 for 16.

Chief scores:
Dharmaraja College - 216 in 32 overs (L. Dissanayake 80, M. Hapuarachchi 30, P. Rathnayake 4/21, M. Rajakaruna 2/3)
St. Mary's College - 92 all out (Thisara Wanninayake 2/16)

Fast Bowling Coach David Saker resigns



David Saker

National Fast Bowling Coach David Saker announced his resignation from his position, with immediate effect, a Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) media release stated yesterday.

The 54-year-old former Australian First-Class cricketer, who joined SLC in December 2019, had cited personal reasons for

his decision, the media release added further.

Earlier SLC's Sports Science and Medicine Manager Paul Khoury also tendered his resignation on January 31 for same reasons.

Khoury joined SLC on February 15 2018 and was based at the SLC High-Performance Centre.



Action from the match between New Youngs SC and Sea Hawks SC

Renown Coach, two players test positive

ALTHAF NAWAZ
The Pre-League Football Tournament match between Renown SC and Defenders SC, scheduled for yesterday at the Sugathadasa Stadium, was postponed after Renown SC coach and two other players were tested positive for COVID-19.

Due to this situation, they were requested to self isolate and a further PCR test will be conducted in six days to observe the status of them before they are cleared to play the cancelled fixture.

"The coach and the two players of Renown

SC were tested positive for COVID-19 and as per the Ministry of Health (MOH) guidelines we were compelled to reschedule the match to a later date, Anura de Silva, President of SLF told the Daily News yesterday.

"Incidents of this nature tend to occur and for which they have to be isolated. The next PCR test in six days will give us an indi-



cation whether these players and officials are cleared for the pandemic and depending on that report they could pro-

ceed to play the match," a senior doctor of the MOH said.

"Sports in the country should be conducted with the day-to-day activities. We can't reject the requests of the sporting bodies due to this new variant," he further added.

Meanwhile, New Youngs SC and Sea Hawks SC drew 1-1 in Wednesday's second match of the day played at the Sugathadasa Stadium.

Ruvi emerge U-14 champion at Colombo Open

Ruvi Lewkebandara emerged champion of the Girls' Under-14 Singles event at the Colombo Open Tennis Tournament, which continued at the SLTA Courts in Green Path yesterday.

The schoolgirl from Gateway College, Colombo powered her way into a straight set 6-2, 6-1 victory over Dinara de Silva in the final encounter.

The results:
Boys' Under-12 (final):

Lithum Jayabandu beat Methika Wickramasinghe 2-6, 6-2, 10-6.

Girls' Under-14 (final): Ruvi Lewkebandara beat Dinara de Silva 6-2, 6-1.

Boys' Under-14 Double (final): Ransath Peiris and Sandaru Guruge beat S. Usgodaarachchi and Thatuk Marasinghe 6-1, 7-6 (3).

Girls' Under-16 (semi-finals): Hasali Gajaba beat Vishmi Serasinghe 6-3, 6-4. (A.N)



Ruvi Lewkebandara in action

Munchee Super League VB from Feb. 20

BERNARD PERERA
The Sri Lanka Volleyball Federation (SLVB) organised National Super League Volleyball Championship for Men and Women will commence on February 20 at the Dadella Volleyball House in Galle.

Ceylon Biscuits who are the main sponsor for the Championship will Award the 'Munchee Trophy' for the winners of both categories.

The Federation has made arrangements to play all matches at the Dadella Volleyball House with the sole intention of promoting the National Sport in the out-

stations and also to attract all volleyball fans in the Galle District.

The teams
Women's (Group 'A'): Air Force, Ports Authority, MAS Casual Line, Hirdaramani SC.

Women's (Group 'B'): Navy, Army, National Youth Services Council, Mahauswewa SC.

Men's (Group 'A'): Army, Ceylon Electricity Board, Navy, Police, Ocean Lanka SC.

Men's (Group 'B'): Ports Authority, Bitulink SC, Air Force, National Youth Services Council, Wasana SC.



Action from last year's tournament

Karunaratne brothers dominate Badminton Nationals

Karunaratne brothers, Niluka, Dinuka and Chamika dominated the second day and entered the pre quarter-finals of the National Badminton Championships, which continued at the SLBA, MBA and Otter AC Indoor Stadium yesterday.

The defending champion Niluka cruised to a 21-11, 21-12 win over S. Naveenraj in the Men's Singles encounter.

In addition, bottom seed Dinuka defeated T. Sil-

vidan 21-6, 21-9 while Chamika also outclassed Treogan Gunawardena 21-10, 21-12.

Meanwhile three seeded players Akira Edirisinghe, Roshan Kumara and Chamath Dias were knocked-out from the third-round of the Men's Singles.

Results
Men's Singles (third round): Lochna de Silva beat Banisha Perera 21-9, 21-19. Chamika Karunaratne beat Trojan

Gunawardena 21-10, 21-12. Ranthushka Karunatileka beat Bhagya Ranasinghe 21-3, 21-11.

Chirath Illeperuma beat Hasitha Chanaka 21-14, 21-10. Niluka Karunaratne beat S. Naveenraj 21-11, 21-12. Siyath Senaratne beat Bihandu Edirisinghe 21-6, 21-16. Lahiru Weerasinghe beat Akira Edirisinghe 12-21, 21-12, 21-10. Shamika de Silva beat Dinal Jalith 21-14, 21-15. Dumindu Abeywickrama beat Vikum Fer-

nando 21-6, 21-8. Nilesh Wijesekara beat Roshan Kumara 20-22, 21-16, 21-8. Sachin Dias beat Dulaj Nagahawatte 21-3, 21-6. Viren Nettasinghe beat Rajaram Hariharan 21-6, 21-6. Rasindu Hendahewa beat Thushan Shashi 21-7, 21-6. Chaniru Mirando beat Chamath Dias 21-18, 18-21, 21-14. Buwaneka Gunathilleka beat Ashisna Herath 21-9, 21-12. Dinuka Karunaratne beat T. Sil-

vidan 21-6, 21-9.

Daily News Business

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Korea's Lodule to ink IJV for Lanka's Smartphone

CEO, Kim holds discussions with Ambassador, Dr. Saj Mendis



Senior Director Donghan Shin, Chairman Lodule, Byungchul Kim with Ambassador Dr. Mendis and Embassy officials

Kim, and the Senior Director of the Company explained and expounded, in detail, to Dr. Mendis and senior officials of the Commercial Division of the Embassy of their Company and the functionaries of the company since its formation in 2004. Chairman Kim stated that most of the products and goods manufactured in Lodule International are being exported to other countries mostly to the ASEAN and China. He added that Lodule has a large facility in China, and along with the facilities in the RoK, they produce contactless

thermometers, Android cloud tablets, iPhones and Smartphones mostly for the export market. During the meeting, Ambassador Dr. Mendis and Commercial Division of the Embassy had a zoom/virtual conference call with joint venture (IJV) partner in Sri Lanka, Chairman of Micro Electric International in Sri Lanka, Dhammika Samarawickrama to discuss the strategy to expedite the IJV in Sri Lanka. During the zoom/virtual conference call at the Embassy, with the intervention and intercession of the Ambassador Dr. Mendis, Chairman

Byungchul Kim and Chairman of Micro Electric International Samarawickrama, discussed that the Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) had to be agreed upon by both the sides and would follow up with an MoU, thus paving the way for the operation of the proposed IJV to manufacture smart/mobile phones in Sri Lanka. The two IJV partners from the RoK and Sri Lanka were, first, introduced to each other by the Most Venerable Katuwana Vijithawansa Thera of Sri Lankaramaya Temple in the City of Daegu in the RoK. According to both the partners of the IJV and Dr. Men-

dis that this initiative would function as an investment and commercial catalyst with a synergistic impact for more IJVs and investments to flow from the RoK to Sri Lanka. Ambassador Dr. Mendis and senior officials of the Commercial Division of the Embassy, during the zoom/virtual conference call, stated that there are a number of large corporates and chaebols in the RoK awaiting to commit investments in Sri Lanka since the investment milieu is most congenial and conducive with increasing economic and commercial opportunities and vistas, particularly, given the location of Sri Lanka.

TRC urges speed up of smartphone production

The Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (TRC) has requested the Chairman of Micro Electric International in Sri Lanka, Dhammika Samarawickrama (Pictured) to speed up the process to manufacture Sri Lanka's first ever smartphone. Samarawickrama said that he met TRC, Director General Oshada Senanayake to explain the progress of the venture and he pledged all support from the government towards this historic project. **TO PAGE 14**



SHIRAJIV SIRIMANE
The CEO of Lodule International Ltd. in South Korea, Byungchul Kim and Senior Director Donghan Shin called on the Ambassador of Sri Lanka, Dr. A. Saj U. Mendis, at the Embassy to further discuss the aforementioned international joint venture (IJV) and to find the most efficacious navigation of the pro-

posed IJV in Sri Lanka to manufacture a smartphone in Sri Lanka. This would be the first ever occasion that a smartphone is manufactured, solely, in Sri Lanka and this news was first **EXCLUSIVELY** reported in 'Daily News Business' by this writer. The CEO of Lodule International Ltd., Byungchul

Govt moots paradigm shift to organic fertilizer

DINESH PERERA

The government over 10 years expects to bring to a negligible level the usage of chemical fertilizer emulating the success of Vietnam and Norway. "The task is no small feat as countries like India and Nepal have had issues trying to achieve the same policy," Chairman Ceylon Fertilizer Corporation (CFC) Methsiri Wijegoonawardana told the Daily News Business at their Head Office in Hunupitiya, Wattala. In the medium term, the company plans to switch from chemical fertilizers to organic fertilizer to reduce external damage to both the environment and affected populations. On the long term plan to switch to organic fertilizer Wijegoonawardana noted that there would be problems with government intervention. If the government is to incentivize the usage of organic fertilizer then



CFC Hunupitiya, Wattala warehouse and Chairman Methsiri Wijegoonawardana. Pictures by Dinesh Perera.

it must be at least the same price as chemical fertilizer. Wijegoonawardana cautioned over the requirement to rethink pricing if the 3-year goal of bringing down chemical fertilizer usage by 25% was to be achieved. Drip irrigation technology was cited as a method to reduce inputs in farming but the

know-how remains with the developed nations. Fertilizer subsidy is placed at the point of importation. Even large private companies benefit from treasury subsidy on the importation of fertilizer. Under the current government, there has been a policy that Colombo Commercial Fertilizers (CCF) distributes fertilizer free of charge to paddy farmers. **TO PAGE 14**

ABANS Group records outstanding Rs. 1.5 bn PAT for nine months

Abans Group emerged victorious in a highly volatile business atmosphere with a sharp increase of 187% was depicted in the Group Profit After Tax to end at Rs 1.5 billion for the nine-month-period ending December 2020 (compared to last year's Rs 520 million); while a 175% year-on-year growth was noted in the Profit-After-Tax of Abans PLC (the company) to end at Rs 1.45 billion, compared to the previous year's Rs 527.1 million. Abans Group scored a record top performance for the third quarter (Q3) for the Financial Year 2020/21 with a Profit After Tax of Rs 793 million, seeing a significant 144% increase compared to the year before. The Company reported a PAT of Rs 750.6 million for Q3, a 105%

increase from last year, which proves the resilience of the company to adapt to any change in market conditions. "Foresight, smart strategy and strong implementation has enabled Abans to rise to leadership positions in many of the sectors they operate in. However, it was necessary to recalibrate strategy to ensure they were geared for the new normal, for an era driven by artificial intelligence and big data, which would provide significant competitive advantage to those who were fast enough to embrace it. Following these strategies have proven to be quite effective, as seen by the remarkable results displayed by the Financials up to December 2020."



Aban Pestonjee, Chairperson Behman Pestonjee Managing Director

stated Aban Pestonjee, Chairperson and Founder of Abans Group of Companies. Despite the severe repercussions of the Covid-19 pandemic on several businesses, revenue for Q3 reached a growth of 40%, at both Group and Company level, while Cumulative Revenue for nine months depicted a year-on-year growth of 9%, which is a noteworthy achievement during the past period. **TO PAGE 14**

NDB posts PAT of Rs. 5.5 bn, up by 8%



Director/Group CEO Dimantha Seneviratne and Chairman Eshana De Silva

National Development Bank PLC posted solid financial results for the financial year ended 31 December 2020. Gross income growth moderated to 3% in 2020 compared to 2019 (YoY) to LKR 60.7 Bn, reflecting reduced business volumes in the year, impact of interest rates concessions and interest deferrals stemming from moratoria granted - phenomena experienced across the industry due to the effects of the pandemic.

As a result, NII was LKR 17.7 Bn, with a narrow growth compared to 2019. Interest income slightly dipped over that of 2019, to LKR 53 Bn, whilst interest expenses reduced by 1% to LKR 35 Bn, largely attributable to the rate reductions led by the CBSL as stimulus to economic growth. Pressure exerted on the NIM by interest rate concessions on loans brought the ratio down to 3.1% (2019: 3.5%).

However, Net fee and commission income bolstered overall income with a growth of 9% YoY to LKR 4 Bn. Exponential growth in the use of digital banking services, driven by the pandemic impact and the user-friendly features available in the NDB NEOS digital banking platform together with the Bank's continued focus on enhancing fee based income, were key contributors in this aspect.

Net gains from trading for FY 2020 was LKR 967 Mn a marginal decrease of 2% YoY. However, the Bank realized capital gains from Government Securities portfolio, as reflected under net gains from de-recognition of financial assets amounting to LKR 1.5 Bn. Accordingly, Total Operating Income recorded a healthy growth of 7% to LKR 25.4 Bn.

Impairment charges for loans and other losses for FY 2020 was LKR 6.8 Bn, an increase of 63% YoY. Individual impairment increased by 41%, whilst collective impairment increased by 113% to LKR 3.8 Bn and LKR 2.4 Bn respectively. Director/ Group Chief Executive Officer Dimantha Seneviratne, reflecting on the year stated that 2020 was one which put to test, **TO PAGE 14**

Softlogic Life grows 25% in 2020 to Rs. 15.6 bn; PAT Rs. 1.5 bn

Softlogic Life announced that despite all the difficulties associated with a thoroughly disrupted COVID year 2020, the Company grew revenues to record Gross Written Premium (GWP) of Rs. 15.6 billion, an increase of 25% making it the fastest Company to that mark.

The strong growth follows a similar 25% growth that was achieved by the Company in the previous year when the economy was badly impacted by the Easter attacks in 2019. The Company is proud to note its contribution to increasing insurance penetration in the country with 265,617 policies

issued during the year 2020, 33% of total industry that cover all segments of society. One in every three policies taken up in 2020 was a Softlogic Life policy with the Company insuring over 1.5 million Sri Lankan lives.

Their Profit before tax for the financial year ended December 31, 2020 was Rs. 2.1 billion and Profit after tax was Rs 1.5 billion. Total assets of the Company were Rs.33.2 billion indicating a growth of 61%. The Company paid claims totaling Rs. 3.5 billion during the year in accordance with its unique claims settlement philosophy with 87% of claims settled in one single

day. Ashok Pathirage, Chairman of Softlogic Life Insurance PLC stated, "We continue to remain fully confident of Sri Lanka's growth prospects and see the low penetration in the life insurance industry as a great opportunity for future growth."

"We have also demonstrated our commitment to increasing insurance penetration in the country where one in every three life insurance policies sold in the market was from Softlogic Life, which shows that we cover almost the entirety of customer segments."

"It is really encouraging to see the results that have been achieved



Chairman Ashok Pathirage and MD, Iftikar Ahamed

during a very difficult year that bears testimony to the extremely talented and hugely motivated team that we have at Softlogic Life.

Each area of the Company has delivered in an exemplary manner to enable the overall outcome which places us in a great position going forward" said Iftikar Ahamed, Managing Director of Softlogic Life Insurance PLC.

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071 9 788 788

NDB Wealth Management
Licensed by the Securities & Exchange Commission

HELP KEEP COLOMBO CITY CLEAN

SEGREGATE YOUR WASTE AS GIVEN BELOW

Degradable Waste

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

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



Recyclable Waste

Following materials must be clean:

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



Non - Recyclable Waste

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



SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION
COLOMBO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
W: www.colombo.mc.gov.lk
T: 011 236 4473

District D5

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

cleantech
because we care

SHARES - COLOMBO STOCK EXCHANGE

Market Statistics on 18.02.2021

Table with columns: Security, Volume, V.W.A. Previous Close, Open, High, Low, V.W.A. Yesterday's Close, Change (Rs.). Contains two main sections of stock data.

COCONUTS

Coconut Products - Prices on 18.02.2021

Table listing coconut products and prices. Columns include product name, price per unit, and market status. Includes categories like FRESH COCONUT, COPRA, DESICCATED COCONUT, COCONUT OIL, etc.

EXCHANGE RATES

Table showing exchange rates for various currencies as of 2021.02.18. Columns include Currency, Buying Rate, and Selling Rate.

ABANS Group records outstanding... From Page 13

The Group Gross Profit stood at Rs 7.4 billion and Rs 3 billion for nine months and three months (Q3) respectively. "Abans has continued to focus on diversification that fuels growth and aids in the company's resilience. Diversification has enabled the business to continue the growth trajectory amidst volatile market conditions."

TRC urges speed up... From Page 13

"We were planning to put out the product in December and the TRC is keen that we put the phone out by August 2021 and we are now working towards this." Samarawickrama said

Govt moots paradigm... From Page 13

He noted that the previous policy of making payment directly to the farmer was unsuitable. He said many issues arose with direct payments. The direct payment policy was also hurt by the imposition of price controls that created a shortage of fertilizer in the market.

NDB posts PAT... From Page 13

the capabilities and capacities of each one of us to adapt to unforeseen challenges. NDB stood up to these challenges boldly and gracefully, demonstrating NDB's dynamism, versatility and proficiency in serving the nation through many economic cycles."

ABANS Group records outstanding... From Page 13

"The Group's financial and business strength and stability has placed Abans at a prominent position of being able to pursue greater heights and achievements in the years to come." Abans Driven by strategic cost reduction policies and working capital management strategies carried out in the past nine months, the Group's (as well as the company's) Admin and Selling Expenses noted a decrease to Rs 4.9 billion, compared to Rs 5.6 billion from the previous year. Furthermore, Net Finance Cost for the nine-month-period was reduced to Rs 619 million from Rs 921 million; whereas for the 3rd quarter, the same was reduced to Rs 119 million compared to Rs 286 million last year.

Govt moots paradigm... From Page 13

The government's policy of switching to organic fertilizer comes after considerable evidence of the harmful impact of farming inputs on both the health of society and the damage it causes to the soil and environment. Colombo Commercial Fertilizer currently provides 40% of the supply

ABANS Group records outstanding... From Page 13

to paddy farmers. Under the new arrangement, there is a National Fertilizer Secretariat which assesses the requirement for fertilizer for both the Yala and Maha season. On the calculations of the Secretariat CCF and Ceylon Fertilizers (Lak-phora) procure the required quantities and to be financially viable the company has obtained the assistance of Rs 36 billion from the treasury. The distribution is subsequently made with the assistance of agrarian service centres to paddy farmers with less than a 2-hectare landholding free of charge. Wijegoonawardana said this had happened without major issues.

NDB posts PAT... From Page 13

recorded a marginal reduction in 2020 compared to 2019 and was LKR 9.4 Bn. The total tax charge of the Bank for FY 2020 was LKR 3.7 Bn (2019: LKR 4.9 Bn) whilst the effective tax rate was 39.9% (2019: 49.2%). During 2020 Nation Building Tax (NBT) on Financial Services and Debt Repayment Levy were abolished.

NEWS

Most Admired Companies of SL honours Gen. Shavendra Silva's Leadership Traits

Last week evening's "Most Admired Companies of Sri Lanka-2020" Awards Ceremony at BMICH in an exclusive gesture of appreciation presented a rare and distinguished recognition of 'Leadership with Distinction' Award to General Shavendra Silva, Chief of Defence Staff and Commander of the Army, who graced the awarding ceremony as the Chief Guest.

Organized jointly by the International Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka

(ICCSL), the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) and well-known media institute, this year's "Most Admired Companies of Sri Lanka-2020" Awards Ceremony had General Shavendra Silva, Chief of Defence Staff and Commander of the Army as the Chief Guest and Deputy High Commissioner of India HE Vinod K Jacob as the Guest of Honour.

The keynote speaker was Alpesh Shah, Managing

Director of India's Boston Consulting Group and Senior Partner who touched on the thematic 'Challenges for Business Post COVID-19' in his address.

The day's spectacle reached its climax as the compere without mincing words invited the day's Chief Guest, General Shavendra Silva on stage for distribution of ten top company awards in the "Most Admired Companies of Sri Lanka-2020" ceremony as being the only one of its

kind in Sri Lanka. The organizers, well convinced of unparalleled leadership traits in General Shavendra Silva, particularly his dynamic and challenging role as Head of the Task Force for Control of COVID-19 epidemic in Sri Lanka amid roars of applause then invited him to accept a Special Award, dedicated to his "Leadership with Distinction in Heading the Task Force on COVID-19 in Sri Lanka".

Doctors and Hospital



Gen. Shavendra Silva receiving the award

staff at the IDH Hospital and Aban Pestonjee were also among recipients of special Awards on the same occasion. As the final segment, several awards were also presented to "Most Admired Leaders" in business by the organizers invit-

Litro Gas Lanka maintained stabilized prices despite global price increase

With the COVID-19 pandemic impacting markets across the world and the currency fluctuations taking place, the global prices of LPG as one of the world's most widely used energy sources have been volatile throughout the world.

According to Argus Independent Commodity Price Reporting Agency, leading independent provider of energy and commodity price benchmarks, rising prices and uncertain economic forecasts overshadow the LPG industry globally. The Argus pricing benchmark 'Argus Far East Index' is used widely in Asia, while Saudi Aramco Index is also used in countries such as Sri Lanka. "LPG is more than a commodity in Sri Lanka - it is an economic indicator that keeps home fires cooking and multiple industries running. We understand the importance of passing on the economic benefit to the end user as indicated in the Government's vision for the nation. As a result, despite currency fluctuations and LPG prices going up worldwide, we have consistently maintained our prices in accordance to this vision", he adds.

While it is becoming more difficult to predict the pricing structure due to external factors, global indicators such as fluctuating world LPG prices, currency fluidity and industry demand may result in price variations, adds Janaka Pathirathna, Director - Sales & Marketing/Corporate Affairs at Litro Gas Lanka Limited.

In commenting on the way forward for LPG markets amidst COVID-19, Argus Report states that growth is expected in 2021 resulting in which rising prices are likely to continue until year end. While seasonality will also drive demand, Argus Report also acknowledges that petroleum price reversals are likely to result in uncertainty of global LPG prices.

Industry experts affirm that while in the developing world, LPG is utilized for domestic and cooking primarily, in the developed world; it is used widely for indoor heating.

"As the national LPG provider, Litro Gas Lanka understands the importance of stabilized pricing - however the rising international prices and rising international shipping and freight rates could burden us further," says Janaka Pathirathna in conclusion.



Pelwatte Dairy receives Rs. 463 mn Project Facility from SAPP

Pelwatte Dairy has secured Rs 463 million from the SAPP (Smallholder Agribusiness Partnerships Programme). Pelwatte Industries reveals its plans to catalyze and distribute it among 1,000 Dairy Farmers in the upcoming 6 months as its first phase.

SAPP is a programme implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture that aims to facilitate rural small holder farmers with a key focus driver of 'Public - Private - Producer Partnership' in terms of building commercial partnerships, in providing access to finance, improving technical know-how and financial literacy while focusing on assisting the farmers to improve their technology and resources by introducing mechanization and towards implementing sustainable agricultural practices. The project facility revolves around a 4P Value Chain model that brings Public Sector, rural smallholder farmers

and private sector companies to a common platform, uplifting the economic and social standards of the rural farmer communities while improving the overall productivity of Milk Production.

Commenting on the Project facility and execution, Susantha Malwatte, the Deputy General Manager said, "I am really delighted that Pelwatte Dairy is a recipient of the Prestigious SAPP Project facility. We currently have a registered dairy Farmer base of over 12,500, with over 40 milk collecting centers encompassing the Uva, Central, Eastern, North Central and North Western Provinces, we hoard over 100,000 litres a day collectively. I believe that our engagement with SAPP will support the economic and social upliftment. As our first phase, we hope to SAPP to support 1,000 dairy farmers in 6 months to come." As a beneficiary of the project facility, Pelwatte

Dairy would be able to double the existing daily milk production by the third year from now through effective and strategic productive measures. It will improve quality of the milk and improve herd management.

Beneficiary farmers will be able to avail themselves to credit facilities with subsidized interest rates under easy payment schemes. The project will create new jobs and opportunities while also developing women empowerment and improving youth participation in the industry. The Initiative will promote youth entrepreneurship with several with the overlook of several mentors. SAPP will educate beneficiaries on the impacts of climate change and resilience. The project facility will also be able to create Fodder and Silage providers and AI technician Specialists.

Pelwatte Dairy Intel reveals that the 1,000 beneficiary farmers will



be able to produce over 45,000 Liters a day after the third year of the intervention. This will bring in the farmers at least Rs 130,000 per month. The company hopes to train and facilitate at least 10 youth to be AI technicians. While also develop 10 commercial fodder growers to support project beneficiaries by the 1st year of interven-

tion. In addition to all this, the company hopes to develop dairy training and research centres by the 2nd year of intervention.

Pelwatte Dairy has already taken steps to ensure effective and efficient usage of the project facility, thereby hoping to improve productivity, uplift lives and revive the industry and the economy.

KBSL first in SL to receive Master Services Competency in Data Center Virtualization

KBSL Information Technologies, a leading provider of technical solutions in the island, has received the Master Services Competency on Data Center Virtualization - the highest technical certification given to a VMware partner. This achievement makes KBSL the first partner in Sri Lanka to receive the certification, exemplifying their commitment to achieving excellence in order to deliver exceptional services to customers.

Asela Seneviratne, Chief Delivery Officer at KBSL said: "At KBSL, we always look ahead and transform our solutions to be future proof. For us, virtualization is a part of the digital transformation journey and we are incredibly delighted to have achieved this certification in Data Center Virtualization being the first in Sri Lanka."

Master Services Competencies (MSCs) are VMware partner designations designed to recognize services-capable partners with delivery expertise and experience within a VMware solution area.

Each MSC requires advanced technical certifications and proof of high-level service capability and expertise validated by customers. Achieving a Master Services competency in Data Center Virtualization validates KBSL as having a high-level understanding of data center virtualization design principles and methodologies.


"There is an immense digital opportunity for Sri Lanka to unlock as organizations adapt,



Asela Seneviratne : Chief Delivery Officer and Dr. Harshana De Silva, Manager - Data Center Solutions at KBSL.

respond and accelerate to the new digital-first future," said, Devendra Manuvel, Country Manager, Sri Lanka and the Maldives, VMware. "VMware is always excited to work with forward-looking and like-minded organizations to strengthen Sri Lanka's innovation economy. KBSL's achievement in being the first in Sri Lanka to receive this certification on Data Center Virtualization is a testament to their commitment in providing customers with the speed, agility and flexibility they require in their transformation journeys. We look forward to our partnership as we strive to take businesses to new heights in the years to come."

KBSL is one of the leading Information/Systems Integrators of ICT solutions for Enterprises in Sri Lanka and in the region.



STATE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, COAST CONSERVATION, WASTE DISPOSAL AND COMMUNITY CLEANLINESS
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
 Call Request For Proposals (RFP)






EXCEPTIONAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY
 for Development of Eco-Friendly Bird Park Project at Madiwela, Colombo on Design, Build, Finance Operate Basis

Location	Ref. to the Survey Plan	Land Extent	Base value (LKR)	Bid Bond (LKR)	Lease Period
Madiwela, Sri Jayawardanepura Kotte	Survey plan No. 6412 dated 11.01.2021.	37 A 1 R 20.44 P (15.1245 Hectares)	127,200,000/-	3,000,000/-	30 Years

Urban Development Authority (UDA) wishes to call Request for Proposals (RFP) from potential bidders (Investors/Developers) either local or international in order to develop a bird park within the UDA land at Madiwela on Design, Build, Finance Operate basis. The proposed development should be in line with the guidelines mentioned in the RFP document.

Interested parties may purchase the RFP document from Real Estate Development and Management Division, Urban Development Authority, 8th Floor Sethsiripaya Stage I, Battaramulla, from 9.00 a.m to 2.30 p.m on working days from 22nd February 2021 to 19th March 2021, after payment of non-refundable fee of Rupees 25,000/- including taxes in cash to the Finance Division, 6th Floor of Urban Development Authority.

Accepting of Proposals will be closed at 02.00 p.m. on 25th March 2021 and the technical proposal will be opened immediately thereafter at 18th Floor, State Ministry of Urban Development, Coast Conservation, Waste Disposal and Community Cleanliness, "Suhurupaya", Subhuthipura Road, Battaramulla.

The Bidder or his/her authorized representative allow to be present at the time of the Bid Opening.

A pre bid meeting will be held at 10.00 a.m. on 10th March 2021 at Urban Development Authority Auditorium, 9th Floor, "Sethsiripaya" Stage 1, Battaramulla

Additional Information shall be obtained from the Director (Real Estate Development), Urban Development Authority, 8th Floor Sethsiripaya Stage I, Battaramulla Telephone: 011 2875921, 011-3611950, or 011-2875916-18,20 Ext: 2965-2967 Fax: 011-2875900. Email: realestatedivisionuda@gmail.com Web: www.uda.gov.lk

Chairman, Standing Cabinet Appointed Negotiation Committee, 18th Floor, State Ministry Of Urban Development, Coast Conservation, Waste Disposal And Community Cleanliness "Suhurupaya", Battaramulla.

Good response for Mode Group's third apartment project

Mode Group of Companies laid the foundation stone for their at IBC Road Wellawatte. This will be a 30 unit project.

Managing Director Arundawanathan Anoson and Director Hamzapriya (both qualified Structural and Civil Engineers) said that they received very good response from buyers and already 15 units have been sold.

Mode Group and other subsidiaries, have been contributing towards the entire profit portfolio of the group. Mode Group with subsidiaries companies, Mode Engineering, Mode Trading Ltd and Mode Maintenance Ltd of Company first launched their 32 unit apartment project also at IBC Road, Wellawatte and all 32 Units were sold.

Their second 28 unit project was at Beach Road, Mount Lavinia and the final construction is now in progress and 25 units have already been reserved. In addition to their engagement of developing condominium properties, Mode Engineering which has been established in 2017 is also involved in number of government projects. Managing Director Anoson said the company is planning to launch several other projects in 2021.



Managing Director Arundawanathan Anoson and Director Hamzapriya at the ground braking



ComBank receives ICCSL-CIMA '10 Most Admired Companies' award

The Commercial Bank of Ceylon was recently presented the award for being one of the 10 'Most Admired Companies in Sri Lanka' in 2019-20 by the International Chamber of Commerce Sri Lanka (ICCSL) in collaboration with the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA). The award was accepted on behalf of the Bank by its Managing Director, S. Renganathan at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH).

This is the third time the Bank was honoured with this accolade. The award was presented to the Bank for being a cut above the rest in terms of the value it creates for its shareholders, customers, employees, and the wider community in general.



Commercial Bank Managing Director S. Renganathan receives the award.

AIA Insurance launches Customer Portal

AIA, announces the launch of the all-new AIA Customer Portal, a one stop digital solution to access and manage your AIA policies anytime, anywhere. This revamped and improved version of the previous portal enables AIA's customers to have full online access to their insurance policy, payment details, claims information and much more.

The new Customer Portal which is more secure and uses the latest technology is tri-lingual and allows customers more control of their policies. It is a fast and convenient real time platform that enables customers to connect with AIA with ease.

Customers can use this platform to pay premiums, check policy status, access policy details and initiate service requests all from the safety and comfort of their homes. So, no more having to visit AIA offices or spend time on the phone with the call centre. All their policy information is now at their fingertips.

The new portal has been designed to work seamlessly with mobile



phones, tablets and personal computers.

The new Customer Portal also serves to make agent interactions with customers more efficient while creating a platform for easier engagement. It reduces wait times at service touch points while enabling faster process-

ing speeds and easy access to customer information.

At the end of the day it saves time, increases convenience and makes customer service more efficient and accurate, benefiting the customers and ensuring a smooth experience for them.

Pickme Nena Pahana distributes school supplies to staff drivers



Isira Perera, COO PickMe symbolically handing over gifts to a driver partner

PickMe, recently distributed school supplies and stationary in lieu of the new school year under its CSR initiative, PickMe Nena Pahana. The beneficiaries of this project were the children of best-rated PickMe drivers islandwide.

This was the 5th instalment of Nena Pahana whereby 1600 students were provided with stationery items worth of 4 million rupees. The items were delivered to the residences of deserving drivers - as a gesture of appreciation for the service rendered, in keeping with health & safety regulations- following a simple ceremony at PickMe Headquarters in Colombo.

"Our drivers and riders are the lifeblood of PickMe; I hope this simple gesture will serve to incentivise them to perform even better this year. We particularly appreciate them rising to the occasion at the peak of the pandemic last year, during the two back to back lockdowns. We're deeply appreciative of the dedication & commitment," said CEO of PickMe, Zulfer Jifry.

COO Isira Perera said: "Best performing drivers are ambassadors of the company."

We are glad the list of recipients is longer this time which is reflective of customer satisfaction.

It is apt to say the recipients were not handpicked by PickMe, but, rather, our loyal clientele. I invite customers to use the rating option so we can reward the good and weed out the bad, if any."

AAT Sri Lanka hosts 18th annual conference, 'Steer the Change'

The 18th Annual Conference of the Association of Accounting Technicians of Sri Lanka (AAT Sri Lanka) was held recently at the AAT Centre.

Deliberations on the theme 'Steer the Change' a topic which is more relevant in the country.

This topic was selected based on what the country needs at this moment during the pandemic situation, which is a contribution of committed professionals to rebuild our economy with a view to attracting more investments for the economic growth of the country.

The conference was inaugurated with the participation of the speaker of the parliament, Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena as the Chief Guest and the State Minister of Money and Capital Markets Ajith Nivard

Cabraal as the Guest of Honour and the keynote speaker.

Stimulating Technical Sessions have been planned to coincide with the substance and the significance of the theme presented by eminent resource personnel respectively.

The topics were 'Lead from the front Steering above and beyond', 'No turning back Steer the skill and the will' and 'Take the wheel Steer through tax reforms'. Due to the current situation of the country, AAT conducted the inauguration ceremony physically with limited invitees and most of the members were joined online via zoom platform.

The conference facilitates exchange of profound expertise of 16 resource personnel in chosen fields and expects to attract over 400 participants for the conference.



Highlights from AAT Sri Lanka hosted 18th annual conference



LAUGFS Supermarkets celebrates 20 years

LAUGFS Supermarkets began operations on October 31, 2000, with its first outlet opening in Havelock Town and they celebrate 20th year anniversary in this October 2020.

Today the supermarket chain has expanded to 38 outlets with 36 of them located in the Western Province and two outlets located in Kurunegala and Chilaw.

The chain which was initially named 'Sun-Up', was rebranded as 'LAUGFS Supermarkets' in 2011.

The re-branding follows a two-tier model with LAUGFS Super and LAUGFS SuperMart being the flagship brands.

LAUGFS Super offers a larger scale store with an even wider range of products for customers to choose from and LAUGFS SuperMart provides customers with a compact, convenient and easily accessible selection of daily necessities.

From its inception, the organisation operated with innovation at its core; the Havelock Town outlet was the first supermarket in Sri Lanka to introduce the 24 hour retailing concept which has now extended to 7 additional

outlets located in Wellawatte, Rajagiriya, Maharagama, Kandana, Negombo 2, Kolonnawa and Pelawatte.

Furthermore, LAUGFS Supermarkets was also the first supermarket brand in Sri Lanka to operate alongside their own LAUGFS brand of fuel stations, providing customers with additional shopping convenience.

Adding to its long list of milestones, the organization began operations of Medz pharmacy, its very own pharmacy chain, across 19 outlets. At present it caters to over 35,000 monthly customers with a wide range of over 2,500 products.

LAUGFS Supermarkets also owns and operates Crimson Bakeries, its own brand of bakeries producing fresh baked goods. Crimson products are featured across all 38 outlets, with two standalone Crimson bakery outlets located in Bellanthara and Nedimala. In addition to fresh produce, groceries and everyday necessities, the supermarkets also facilitate the payment of utility bills such as water, electricity, e-channelling, insurance and mobile bills. LAUGFS Supermarkets has



The LAUGFS team

its own loyalty card programme; the "LAUGFS One" loyalty card. Commenting on the occasion of its 20th anniversary, Chief Executive Officer of LAUGFS Supermarkets Lilanthi Herath, said, "We began operations with the goal of bringing our shoppers, a fresh and friendly experience with every visit they make to a LAUGFS Supermarket. We have continued to consistently enhance this objective over the last 20 years."

During the initial lock-down in March owing to onset of the COVID-19 pandemic,

LAUGFS Supermarkets rose to the occasion by activating its online ordering and delivery systems to meet the needs of its customers.

Despite the economic and business volatility in 2020, LAUGFS Supermarkets opened its 38th outlet in the University Hospital, Kotelawala Defence University to cater to Sri Lanka's defense forces as well as medical personnel, who selflessly fight on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic.

LAUGFS Supermarkets is a subsidiary of LAUGFS Holdings Limited.



Collaboration - Coca-Cola's Mario Perera and Pankaj Sinha with Bhanuka Harischandra of Avocado

Coca-Cola whose purpose is to refresh the world and make a difference. The company has entered into a partnership with Avocado, a leading Sri Lankan food-based loyalty app to make meal times more fun and rewarding for consumers.

Avocado app users can

Coca-Cola, Avocado partnership to reward food experiences

click and upload photos of their Coke over a meal with family and friends till the 12th of March and be entitled to win a Grand Prize of an iPhone 12 Pro and exciting gift vouchers worth Rs.100,000 from Avocado's network of partners.

The Avocado app enables users to get rewarded for every picture or video they upload of them enjoying Coca-Cola with their family, friends or a loved one. The

more unique the content is, the more points the user can generate. Users who send in content that gets the highest points stand a chance to win the grand prize and gift vouchers.

Having spent nearly a year at home due to the lockdowns, consumers have found meal times at home to be a more meaningful experience as everyone gathers around and enjoys each other's company while enjoying

their meals. They are also gradually awakening to the realities of the "new normal" and venturing out while taking necessary health precautions and one of the most loved things to do outside is eating out at their favourite restaurants.

Mobile and social media platforms are helping people share creative photos of their meals before they enjoy them with friends and family. Meal times, whether they are at

home or at a restaurant, are now more than just enjoying food.

Pankaj Sinha, Managing Director, Coca-Cola Sri Lanka Private Limited said, "The act of sharing a meal with friends and family, treasuring each moment and bonding with them has become more important than ever before."

This partnership with Avocado is unique as social media is a natural home for



Digital food content creators - Aaliya Mohamed, Stephanie Sansoni and Sarah Faisal

foodies. We look forward to our consumers sharing authentic and creative pictures of mouth-watering dishes along with the taste of Coca-Cola."

Nations Trust Bank American Express partners SLT-Mobitel For 'Pump Fuel and Win' promotion

Nations Trust Bank American Express is back with the 'Pump Fuel and Win' campaign to reward its loyal Card Members, with the ultimate prize of the latest Apple iPhones in partnership with SLT-Mobitel.

All Nations Trust Bank American Express Card Members who pump fuel from December 15 to March 31 are eligible for the draw where three lucky winners will have the opportunity to walk away with an Apple iPhone 12 each courtesy of Nations Trust Bank American Express and SLT-Mobitel Pvt Ltd.

To be part of this promotion, Card Members simply need to use their

Nations Trust Bank American Express Card to pump fuel and stand a chance to win the iPhone 12: a 6.1-inch 5G phone with the latest A14 Bionic, an edge-to-edge OLED display, Ceramic Shield and Night mode on every camera.

"The Pump Fuel and Win campaign is one of our long-standing promotions where we always look to reward our American Express Card Members for their loyalty. One of the many privileges of being an American Express Card Member is being rewarded for everyday expenses.

This time, we've partnered with SLT-Mobitel to reward our Card

Members with the latest of the Apple iPhone series; iPhone 12, and we are pleased to offer three of those to our own Card Members through the 'Pump Fuel and Win' campaign." Niluka Gunatilake, Head of Cards at Nations Trust Bank said, commenting on the campaign.

"We at SLT-Mobitel believe that the partnership with Nations Trust Bank is a strategic fit as it falls in line with our ethos of providing unique experiences to Sri Lankans. Mobitel being the pioneer in providing superior 4G connectivity along with world class services for Apple products and services, we look forward to



facilitating the winners with Apple's latest iPhone 12 smartphones powered by Mobitel's unmatched connectivity and streaming experience.

As the National Mobile Service Provider, we are committed to exploring innovative opportunities to constantly deliver the best services to our esteemed customers," Shashika Senarath, Chief Marketing Officer at Mobitel said.

People's Bank presents gift hampers to Western Union promotion winners

People's Bank launched a promotional programme to distribute gift hampers worth Rs.10,000 each to selected winners chosen out of people who received funds sent via Western Union from People's Bank. Accordingly, The winners of Colombo Outer Region in the months of October, November and December were announced and were presented with their gift hampers

recently. Present at this occasion were Assistant Regional Managers of People's Bank Priyanka Rathnasiri and Vinodani Pieris, Maharagama Branch Manager W. D. S Jayanthika, Piliyandala City Branch Manager Harindani Abeywickrama, Gangodawila Branch Manager Kusala Samarawickrama, Moratumulla Branch Manager Dilini Ailapperuma and other officials.



The winners Sarath Darshana Priyanjith of Gangodawila and Rev. Fr. R. N. D Dissanayaka of Pannipitiya and Dumindu Randir Wijayapala of Madapatha, Piliyandala and Srinath Jayanath of Moratuwa receiving gift hampers.

Daily News TENDER AND OTHER ADVERTISEMENTS



INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

SUPPLY AND DELIVER OF HAND TRACTORS AND TRAILERS CONTRACT NO - SLC /NDC /2021 /002

Sri Lanka Cricket now invites sealed bids from the Manufacturers and authorized Agents for the supply of following items:

Requirement :

No	Items	Qty
1	Hand Tractors	10
2	Gang Mower With Grass Collector	10
3	Trailers	10

Interested and eligible bidders may obtain further information from Manager Administration, (Tel:0112681601-4 Ext. 251, Email: asantha.dassanayake@sri.lankacricket.lk) and inspect the document at the Administration Division, Sri Lanka Cricket, No 35, Maitland Place, Colombo 07.

A complete set of Bidding Document in English Language may be purchased by eligible bidders during the normal working days with a **written submission** (Monday to Friday, between 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. from 22nd February 2021 to 02nd March 2021) from the Administration Department, Sri Lanka Cricket, No 35, Maitland Place, Colombo 07, upon a payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs.3,000/- in cash.

Bids in duplicate shall be duly filled and sealed, marked "Procurement of Hand Tractors and Trailers" on the top left hand corner of the cover addressed to The Chief Executive Officer, Sri Lanka Cricket, No 35, Maitland Place, Colombo 7 and submitted on or before 3.00 p.m. on 3rd March 2021. Late bids will be rejected and the valid bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders/representatives who choose to attend at the opening of bids.

Chief Executive Officer, Sri Lanka Cricket,
No. 35, Maitland Place, Colombo 7

NATIONAL HOSPITAL - KANDY INVITATION FOR BIDS

MAINTAINING WELFARE CANTEEN SERVICES - YEAR 2021/2022

Applications are invited by the Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee of the National Hospital, Kandy from eligible bidders for maintaining the canteens mentioned below of this hospital for a period of one year - 2021/2022. Bids will be opened at 10.30 a.m. on 19.03.2021. As such, tenders should be sent before 10.30 a.m. on this day to the "Chairman, Regional Procurement Board, National Hospital, Kandy" or should be inserted in the sealed tender box kept in the Chief Accountant's Office to be received before the stipulated time. The tender opening date and the name of the canteen requested should be marked on the top left-hand corner of the envelope containing the quotation.

	Name of Canteen	Non-refundable Bid Document Fee	Refundable Bid Guarantee	Value of Worth Certificate to be Submitted
1.	Medical Officers Welfare Canteen	5,000.00	10,000.00	20,000.00
2.	Nurses (Heda Sevana) Welfare Canteen	5,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
3.	Staff Welfare Canteen	5,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
4.	Dr. Thilak Abeysekera Kidney Disease Prevention Center Welfare Canteen	5,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00

- Bid documents could be obtained during normal working days from 22.02.2021 up to 18.03.2021 between 9.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. from the National Hospital, Kandy by submitting the original copies of the receipts obtained after paying the non-refundable bid form fees and the refundable bid guarantee to the Shroff of this hospital along with the original copy of the Worth Certificate to the value as mentioned above and the National Identity Card and submitting a letter of request. A letter of authority issued by the applicant and the National Identity Card in proof of identity should be submitted when a representative calls over for this purpose.
- Bids should be submitted according to the conditions and specifications contained in the bid documents.
- Bid documents should be prepared in 2 copies, marked as original and duplicate and submitted in separate covers.
- Bids will be opened at the Director's Office of the National Hospital, Kandy at 10.30 a.m. on 19.03.2021, immediately after closing of accepting bids. The applicant or an authorized representative could participate at the bid opening. A letter of authority issued by the applicant and the National Identity Card in proof of identity should be submitted when a representative calls over for this occasion.
- In the event a bidder is to submit bids for a number of canteens, he should submit bids and worth certificates separately for each of the canteens and the bids thus obtained should be submitted in separate covers as above.
- Bid documents could be inspected free of charge at the Administrative Division of the National Hospital, Kandy, prior to obtaining them.
- Bid documents will not be issued to individuals who have violated Government contract conditions and being blacklisted to those who have neglected payment of arrears due to the Government when operating Government Welfare Canteens and to those or their representatives who have violated agreements.
- The right of accepting bids in entirety or a part of same or the right of rejecting lies with the Regional Procurement Committee of the National Hospital, Kandy.

Chairman,
Regional Procurement Board,
National Hospital,
Kandy.



SRI LANKA PORTS AUTHORITY

INVITATION FOR BIDS

PROPOSED BUILDING FOR CIW STORES, PHI AND STRESS BED STAFFS IN PORT OF COLOMBO

(CONTRACT NO. SLPA/CD/CIW/01)

- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, on behalf of the Chairman, SLPA invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the "Proposed Building for CIW Stores, PHI and Stress bed staffs in Port of Colombo (Contract No. SLPA/CD/CIW/01)". Work under this contract will comprise mainly the Construction of a four storey building with necessary finishes and services. Total floor area approximately is 2000 m².
- To be eligible for the Contract award:
 - Bidder shall meet the CIDA (previously known as ICTAD) Registration Grade C3 Contractor or C2, specialized in Building Construction.
 - Registration of Contract as per the Public Contracts Act No. 03, which shall be obtained by the bidder applying online from the web site: eroc.drc.gov.lk
- Pre Bid meeting followed by a site visit will be held at 10.30 hrs on 05.03.2021 at the Technical Library, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, No. 45, Leyden Bastian Road, Colombo 01.
- Bidding Documents will be issued between 09.30 hrs & 14.00 hrs on working days from 23.02.2021 to 24.03.2021 (both days inclusive) by the Chief Engineer (Contracts & Designs), Contracts & Designs Division, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, No: 45, Leyden Bastian Road, Colombo - 01 on payment of non-refundable tender fee of Rs. 20,000.00 (inclusive of VAT) and submission of a written request. Bidding Documents may be inspected free of charge at the same office.
- Bids shall be valid up to 23.07.2021. (120 days from the date of closing of Bids.)
- Bidding Document enclosed in a securely sealed cover and marked "Proposed Building for CIW Stores, PHI and Stress bed staffs in Port of Colombo (Contract No. SLPA/CD/CIW/01)" on the top left-hand corner, shall be sent by registered post addressed to the Chairman - Department Procurement Committee, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, C/o Chief Engineer (Contracts & Designs) No.45, Leyden Bastian Road, Colombo 01 or placed in the Tender Box kept in the office of the Chief Engineer (Contracts & Designs) on the above address.
- All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of Rs. 1,400,000.00. Bid security shall be valid up to 20.08.2021.
- The time frame for completion of Works shall be 300 days.
- Bids in duplicate shall be submitted by 14.00 hrs on 25.03.2021 and Bids will be opened immediately. Bidders or their authorized representatives are requested to be present at the opening of bids.
- Any further particulars may be obtained from Chief Engineer (Contracts & Designs) on the above address. (T.P. 011 - 2380517)

All above have been published online from the web site, eroc.drc.gov.lk

The Chairman,
Department Procurement Committee,
Sri Lanka Ports Authority
No. 45, Leyden Bastian Road,
Colombo 01.

DEPARTMENT OF TEXTILE INDUSTRY

REGISTRATION OF SUPPLIERS FOR THE YEAR 2021

Suppliers will be registered for the following works and services for the year 2021. Registration could be had by perfecting the form obtainable from the Shroff of the Department of Textile Industries upon payment of a sum of Rs. 1000/- . Registration will be made from 22/02/2021 to 15/03/2021 during office days of the week from 10.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

SUPPLIES

- Stationery
- Handlooms, winding machines, warp rolls
- Handloom equipment and accessories.
- Raw and coloured yarn for weaving of handloom materials.
- Servicing of Computers, fax machines
- Furniture (wooden and steel)
- All vehicle repairs including tinkering, painting, engine defects.
- Servicing of vehicles.
- Building constructions and repairs.
- Cleaning work.
- Video filming and photography
- Printing works
- Supply of loudspeaker facilities on rental basis.
- Preparation of souvenirs and monuments.
- Supply of food and beverages for workshops, seminars and exhibitions.
- Preparation of outdoor advertising boards
- Obtaining of vehicles on hire basis (Passenger and goods transportation)
- Provision of resource personnel services for workshops and personality development workshops related to textile industries field.
- Supply of material required for uniforms
- Supply of electronic equipment
- Hall facilities for exhibitions and other events
- Huts / chairs / flags poles / canopy halls / tent chairs.
- Supply of furniture for events
- Short film documentary programmes
- Supply of computer art work
- Translations (Bilingual)
- Decorating exhibitions
- Maintenance of Websites
- Provision of Security Services

Specimen for registration of Suppliers

No. mentioned in the Newspaper Advertisement	Name of Item of Service Provided	Name and Address of Supplier	Telephone No.	Fax No.	Details of Services provided

Date:-

Signature:-

Official Stamp of the
Institute :-

N.B.: * For building constructions the ICTAD registration grade should be mentioned. Copy of the Business Registration Certificate should be submitted with the applications.

* Other service providing institutions should submit a copy of the Business Registration Certificate.

Director,
Department of Textile Industry,
3rd Floor, Secretariat Building, Maligawatta,
Colombo 10.
Telephone - 0112322896



INVITATION FOR BIDS

MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION



Climate Resilient Integrated Water Management Project - (CRIWMP)

(NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING)

IFB No: CRIWMP/NCB/VIS/2021/Packages from 1 to 11
Date: 19.02.2021

Invitation of Bids for: Rehabilitation of Village Irrigation Systems (VIS) in Anuradhapura & Kurunegala Districts as listed below:

- The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka with the accredited agency of UNDP has secured funding from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) towards the cost of Climate Resilient Integrated Water Management Project. Part of this fund will be used for payments under the contracts indicated below. **The Project Director, on behalf of the Project Procurement Committee, Climate Resilient Integrated Water Management Project (CRIWMP)** invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the contract packages listed below:

No.	Description of Package	IFB No.	Bid Guarantee (Rs)	CIDA Grade
Anuradhapura District, Medawachchiya DS Division, Aluth-Halmillewa Cascade (01-05)				
1	Rehabilitation of Etambagaskada Maha Wewa Village Irrigation System	CRIWMP/NCB/ALUTH/2021/01	200,000.00	C6 & C5
2	Rehabilitation of Pan Wewa and Kongollewa Maha Wewa Village Irrigation Systems	CRIWMP/NCB/ALUTH/2021/02	250,000.00	C6 & C5
3	Rehabilitation of Kongollewa Kuda Wewa and Rathmalwetiya Wewa Village Irrigation Systems	CRIWMP/NCB/ALUTH/2021/03	200,000.00	C6 & C5
4	Rehabilitation of Lolugaswewa Maha Wewa and Dingiri Mamage Amuna (Anicut) Village Irrigation Systems	CRIWMP/NCB/ALUTI-1/2021/04	200,000.00	C6 & C5
5	Rehabilitation of Aluth Halmillewa Wewa Village Irrigation System	CRIWMP/NCB/ALUTH/2021/05	200,000.00	C6 & C5
Anuradhapura District, Horowpothana DS Division, Rathmale Cascade (06-07)				
6	Rehabilitation of Galapitagala Wewa Village Irrigation System	CRIWMP/NCB/RATH/2021/06	150,000.00	C6 & C5
7	Rehabilitation of Thimbiri Wewa Village Irrigation System	CRIWMP/NCB/RATH/2021/07	200,000.00	C6 & C5
Kurunegala District, Galgamuwa DS Division, Kadawala Cascade (08-11)				
8	Rehabilitation of Bora Wewa and Palugas Wewa Village Irrigation Systems	CRIWMP/NCB/KADA/2021/08	200,000.00	C6 & C5
9	Rehabilitation of Dunumadalawa Wewa and Malamiriyagama Wewa Village Irrigation System	CRIWMP/NCB/KADA/2021/09	200,000.00	C6 & C5
10	Rehabilitation of Polagewilla Wewa and Helambagaha Wewa Village Irrigation systems	CRIWMP/NCB/KADA/2021/10	150,000.00	C6 & C5
11	Rehabilitation of Ihalakivul Wewa Village Irrigation System	CRIWMP/NCB/KADA/2021/11	100,000.00	C7 & C6

- The works which consist of tank bund forming, desilting tank bed and construction of spill & sluice structures (Headworks) and Anicuts have to be completed within 120 days.
- Bids will be initially evaluated contract package wise. Bidders have the option to bid for any one or more contract packages. Bidders should indicate their order of preference as indicated in Paragraph Ten (10) below when submitting bids for more than one package. In a case of submitting bids for more than one contract package, the bidder shall submit separate bid security for each contract, as given above, and shall exclusively include the qualification/eligibility criteria indicating machinery, equipment, resource allocation for each contract package listed separately. During final evaluation process, cumulative total of all substantially responsive evaluated bid packages will be considered to decide on the most economical combination to the Project. If a bidder is recommended as the successful bidder for more than one package his order of preference may be given due consideration if it falls within above most economical combination. Bids for other packages from such successful bidders will be evaluated based on their cumulative capacity and remaining qualification /eligibility criteria/resource allocation & award will be restricted to a maximum of two contract packages.
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- Interested bidders may inspect Bidding documents free of charge prior to collection if desired and obtain further information from the Project Director, CRIWMP, Ministry of Irrigation, Contact No: 0112672228 and Email: tendercriwmp@gmail.com
- While the detailed requirements of qualifications are provided in the bidding document, some key qualifications are as mentioned below.
 - Bidders shall have CIDA (ICTAD) registration as given in the table above in the field of Irrigation and Drainage Canals.
 - Construction Experience: Specific experience in successful completion of at least one contract of similar nature within last ten years.
- A complete set of Bidding documents in English language may be purchased during office hours (from 0900 hrs to 1500 hrs) from 19.02.2021 to 12.03.2021 from the office of **Project Director, CRIWMP, Ministry of Irrigation, 12th Floor, No.500, T.B. Jayah Mawatha, Colombo 10** on submission of a 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 one set (package)** of documents.
- Bids shall be valid for a period of 91 days (Bid security valid period 119 days) after the date of bid opening and must be accompanied by a Bid Security of amount as mentioned in the table above drawn in favour of **Project Director, CRIWMP, Ministry of Irrigation.**
- A **Pre-bid meeting** will be held at the Auditorium in "**MAHAWELI CENTER, No 69, Ananda Coomaraswamy Mawatha, Colombo 07** (near Nelum Pokuna & next to Art Gallery) commencing at 1000 hrs on 03.03.2021. Prospective bidders are encouraged to visit and inspect the sites and obtain information for preparing the Bid, at the Bidder's own expense before attending the pre-bid meeting.
- The bidder shall seal the original and the copy of the bid in two inner separate envelopes and one outer envelope which is to be clearly marked package number on top of the left corner and duly marking the inner envelope as "**ORIGINAL**" and "**COPY**". In a case of submitting bids for more than one contract package, the bidder shall prepare separate such envelopes for each package & include all such envelopes in a "**MASTER ENVELOPE**". "Order of Preference List for all submitted packages" duly signed by the contractor should also be included in "**MASTER ENVELOPE**".
- The duly filled bids can be deposited in the tender box which is kept in the office of the Project Director or can be sent by registered post to the address mentioned in Paragraph Seven (07) above, to reach office of Project Director **at or before 1400 hrs on 15.03.2021**. Late submission will be rejected and received bids shall be opened immediately after the closing time in the presence of the contractors or their representatives at the address given in Paragraph Seven (7).
- The Employer will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of bids, including costs and expenses related to site visits.

On behalf of Chairman
Project Procurement Committee
Project Director
Climate Resilient Integrated Water Management Project,
Ministry of Irrigation,
12th Floor, No. 500, T.B. Jayah Mawatha,
Colombo 10.

NOTICE

The following company was incorporated under Section 9(1) of the Companies Act No. 7 of 2007.

Company Name: NAVATKULI LAGOON LAND (PVT) LTD
No. of Registration : PV00234388
Registered address: 143A, Galle Road, Wellawatte, Colombo 6.
Incorporated date: 07th February 2021.
MAHESWARAN BRANAVAN BKK Partnership (Pvt) Ltd., Company Secretaries

NOTICE OF NAME CHANGE OF THE COMPANY

In pursuant of section 9(2) of the companies Act No. 07 of 2007
Earlier Name: Walters Bay Bogawantalawa Estates (Private) Limited
Number: PV 71693
Address: No. 356/2, Kohilawaththa Road, Kadabuthgamuwa, Angoda.
New Name: Walters Bay Teas (Private) Limited
Secretaries (Private) Limited PV 9958

Revocation of Power of Attorney

I, **TAMARA IRANDATHI DE MEL** (Holder of Passport No. N 6967448) of No. 7/2, Queens Court, Colombo 3 presently of 1728, 8th Avenue, Nw, Calgary, Alberta, Canada. T2N1C2 do hereby give notice to the General Public of Sri Lanka that the Power of Attorney granted to **BRAHMACHARIYALAGE JAYARATNE** of No. 130/1/2A, Serpentine Road, Colombo 8 (Holder of NIC No. 701163877 v) by Power of Attorney No. 2464 dated 07.11.2014 and attested by Jayasinghe Herath Mudiyansele Dhamawardhana, Notary Public is hereby cancelled and revoked with immediate effect. I will not be responsible for any act or deed done by the said **BRAHMACHARIYALAGE JAYARATNE** in his capacity as my Attorney.

Date : 17.02.2021

PEOPLE'S BANK

RESOLUTION UNDER SECTION 29D OF THE PEOPLE'S BANK ACT NO. 29 OF 1961 AS AMENDED BY ACT NO. 32 OF 1986 - FAIRWAY GALLE PRIVATE LIMITED

We hereby notice that the resolution published in the Daily News on 25th December 2020 for sale of the assets mortgaged to the bank by Fairway Galle Private Limited wherein the name of the auctioneer should be corrected as MS Schokman & Samerawickreme, Licensed Auctioneer.

Deputy General Manager (Recoveries)

People's Bank,
Recoveries Department
10th Floor, Head Office Building
No. 75, Sir Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mw.,
Colombo 02.
17th February 2021



The Housewives' companion
Classifieds on
Daily News

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIES LANKA MINERAL SANDS LIMITED

SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING OF MOBILE SPIRAL GRAVITY CONCENTRATOR COMPLETE UNITS TO PLANT AT PULMODDAI

- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee (DPC), on behalf of the Lanka Mineral Sands Limited now invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified Bidders as described below.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding procedure (NCB).

BID NO.	DESCRIPTION OF GOODS	NO. OF UNIT	BID SECURITY (RS.)	BID SECURITY SHOULD BE VALID UP TO	BID VALIDITY DAYS	BID OPENING DATE & TIME
LMSL/SUP/DPC/04/2021	Supply, Delivery, Installation and Commissioning of Mobile Spiral Gravity Concentrator Complete Units to Plant at Pulmoddai.	02	1,600,000/=	04.06.2021	91	12/03/2021 14.30 hrs

- Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from Supplies Manager, Lanka Mineral Sands Limited, 341/21, Sarana Mawatha, Rajagiriya and inspect the Bidding Documents at the same address from 09.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs on any working day from 19.02.2021 up to 10.03.2021.
Contact Nos. : 011-2882025 / 2883951 / 2883952.
- A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested Bidders on submission of a written application to the Supplies Manager's Office from 19.02.2021 until 10.03.2021 from 09.00 hrs to 14.00 hrs on payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 25,000.00. The method of payment will be in cash at the Finance Section of Lanka Mineral Sands Limited.
- Perfected Bids shall be delivered or sent, in duplicate "Original" and "Duplicate" enclosed in envelopes separately and both enclosed in a single envelope as follows, by registered post or deposited in the Tender Box made available at the LMSL's Supplies Section, addressed to the **Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, Lanka Mineral Sands Limited, 341/21, Sarana Mawatha, Rajagiriya** to reach on or before as mentioned above. Late Bids will be rejected.
- Bids will be opened as described above in the presence of Bidders or their representatives who choose to attend.
- All Bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security.

Chairman
Department Procurement Committee
Lanka Mineral Sands Limited



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF SRI LANKA

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 12(1) (a) OF THE SRI LANKA ELECTRICITY ACT NO. 20 OF 2009

INTENTION TO GRANT LICENSES

The Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka ("the Commission") hereby gives notice pursuant to Section 12(1) (a) of the Sri Lanka Electricity Act No. 20 of 2009 that the Commission proposes to grant licenses for the purpose of generating electricity to the following persons in order to ensure the availability and continuity of the supply of electricity to consumers.

Application Ref. No.	Applicant	Plant/ Facility Name	Capacity (MW)	Technology
E/AL/N/21/01	Resus Solar PVT LTD	Ampara 1 SBS II (90) 1MW Solar PV Power Plant	1.00	Solar PV
E/AL/N/21/02	Resus Solar PVT LTD	Ampara 2 SBS II (90) 1MW Solar PV Power Plant	1.00	Solar PV
E/AL/N/21/03	Resus Solar PVT LTD	Ampara 3 SBS II (90) 1MW Solar PV Power Plant	1.00	Solar PV
E/AL/N/21/04	Resus Solar PVT LTD	Ampara 4 SBS II (90) 1MW Solar PV Power Plant	1.00	Solar PV
E/AL/N/21/05	Resus Solar PVT LTD	Ampara 5 SBS II (90) 1MW Solar PV Power Plant	1.00	Solar PV
E/AL/N/21/06	Resus Solar PVT LTD	Ampara 6 SBS II (90) 1MW Solar PV Power Plant	1.00	Solar PV
E/AL/N/21/07	Hammalawa Energy (Private) Limited	Pannala 2 SBS II (90) 1 MW Solar PV Power Plant	1.00	Solar PV
E/AL/N/21/08	Habarana Power (Pvt) Limited	Habarana 3 SBSII (90) 1MW Solar PV Power Plant	1.00	Solar PV
E/AL/N/21/09	Solar Universe (Private) Limited	Vavunathivu Solar PV Power Plant	10.00	Solar PV
E/AL/N/21/10	STI Solar One (Private) Limited	Vavuniya 4 SBSII (90) Solar PV Power Plant	1.00	Solar PV

Representations (if any) may be made in writing to the Commission with respect to the above proposals, within twenty eight (28) days of this notice. Please quote the Application Ref. No. when making representations.

Chairman
Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka
Level 06, BoC Merchant Tower, 28, St. Michael's Road, Colombo 03.
Telephone: (011) 2392608
E-mail: licensing@pucls.gov.lk
Fax: (011) 2392641
Website: www.pucls.gov.lk

Date : 19.02.2021

NOTICE
The following company was incorporated under section 9(1) of the Companies Act No. 7 of 2007.
Company Name: ARUN CEYLON SPICES (PVT) LTD
No of Registration : PV00234030
Registered address: 257/2, Stanley Road, Jaffna.
Incorporated date: 31st January 2021.
MAHESWARAN BRANAVAN BKK Partnership (Pvt) Ltd., Company Secretaries

NOTICE
Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 9(1) of the Companies Act No. 7 of 2007 that the following company was incorporated.
Name of the Company: EVERPURE HI TEC (PRIVATE) LIMITED
No. of the Company: PV111016
Date of Incorporation: 05th January 2016.
Registered office: No. 341, K.K.S. Road, Jaffna.
Director

PUBLIC NOTICE HAYLEYS GROUP COMPANIES - SHARE CERTIFICATES

Subdivisions of shares of the following listed Companies have been completed. Effective dates of such subdivision have been given in column (B) of the below table. Consequent to the said subdivision of shares, all the existing share certificates which have been issued by the respective companies are cancelled on the date given in column (C). No new share certificates will be issued after the increase of shares arising from the subdivision of shares. Shareholders who hold shares in share certificate form are kindly requested to contact a stockbroker and open CDS Accounts and communicate to the Company Secretaries, Hayleys Group Services (Pvt) Ltd, No 400, Deans Road, Colombo 10 (Email: info.sec@hayleys.com) enabling the Company Secretaries to deposit the said shares in the CDS accounts directly.

Name of Company (A)	Effective date of the subdivision of shares (B)	Date of cancellation of all existing Share Certificates (C)
Hayleys PLC	10th February 2021 after trading	11th February 2021
Haycarb PLC	10th February 2021 after trading	11th February 2021
Dipped Products PLC	10th February 2021 after trading	11th February 2021
Hayleys Fibre PLC	10th February 2021 after trading	11th February 2021
Hayleys Fabric PLC	10th February 2021 after trading	11th February 2021
Talawakelle Tea Estates PLC	10th February 2021 after trading	11th February 2021
Kelani Valley Plantations PLC	10th February 2021 after trading	11th February 2021
Amaya Leisure PLC	10th February 2021 after trading	11th February 2021

By order of the relevant Boards
HAYLEYS GROUP SERVICES (PVT) LTD
Secretaries
16th February 2021

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Maintaining the Nurses Canteen and the Takeaway Canteen established at the Accident Service Division of the National Hospital of Sri Lanka - 2021

Sealed Bids are invited by the Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee of the National Hospital of Sri Lanka up to 10.00 a.m. on 05.03.2021 for maintaining the Nurses Canteen and the Take-away Canteen established at the Accident Service Division.

- The contract period is one year from the date of awarding of the contract.
- Bidders interested in this matter and possessing experience of having provided satisfactory Canteen Services to leading State and Private Institutions and possessing assets could obtain Bid Applications on working days from 22.02.2021 up to 04.03.2021 between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. from the Hospital Secretary's Office IV of the National Hospital of Sri Lanka.
- The receipt obtained after paying a non-refundable fee of Rs. 2000/= to the Shroff Branch of the National Hospital of Sri Lanka should be submitted.
- Duly completed Bids in two copies for Canteens should be sent to the Chairman, Regional Procurement Committee, National Hospital of Sri Lanka, Colombo 10 by registered post to be received before 10.00 a.m. on 05.03.2021 or should be hand delivered to the Tender Box kept in the Chief Accountant's Office. The words "Nurses Canteen" / "Takeaway Canteen established in the Accident Service Division" should be clearly marked on the top left-hand corner of the envelope containing the quotation.

Bids received late will be rejected and bids will be opened immediately after closing of accepting bids in the presence of Bidders present at the occasion.

**Chairman,
Regional Procurement Committee,
National Hospital of Sri Lanka,
Colombo 10.**

TENDER NOTICE

PATHADUMBARA PRADESHIYA SABHA

SALE BY TENDER OF VEHICLES REMOVED FROM USE / VEHICLE PARTS

- Sealed quotations are invited from 19.02.2021 up to 12.03.2021 for sale of vehicles as mentioned in the Schedule below belonging to the Pathadumbara Pradeshiya Sabha.
- Tender applications could be obtained on weekdays from 19.02.2021 up to 10.03.2021 between 8.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. after paying the non-refundable fee and the refundable deposit as mentioned in the Schedule and the relevant vehicles parked at the Office premises could be inspected during this time period.
- Duly completed Tenders should be inserted in separate covers marked as original and duplicate and thereafter, these two covers should be enclosed in a single envelope marked with Tender No. as appearing in the schedule on the top left-hand corner of this envelope and sent to the "Chairman, Pathadumbara Pradeshiya Sabha, Pitiyegedara, Wattagama" by registered post to be received before 2.00 p.m. on 12.03.2021 or could be inserted in the Tender Box kept in the Sabha Office.
- Tenders will be opened at 2.30 p.m. on 12.03.2021 at the Sabha Office and the Tenderer or his authorized representative could participate on this occasion.
- The complete authority of the final decision regarding this tender lies with the Executive Committee of the Pathadumbara Pradeshiya Sabha.

	Details of Vehicles	Tender No.	Non Refundable Fee	Refundable Deposit Amount
1	Removal of Cabin and rear deck of L-200 Cab Vehicle 252-6379	CPC/PDPS/4/1/50/1	Rs. 2500.00	Rs. 5,000.00
2	49-4391 Ford Tractor (04 Wheel) without Trailer	CPC/PDPS/4/1/50/2		
3	118-4284 Honda Motor Cycle	CPC/PDPS/4/1/50/3		
4	CPRA-7355 Sammy Tractor without Trailer	CPC/PDPS/4/1/50/4		

Contact : 081-2476276 for further details

**Chairman
Pathadumbara Pradeshiya Sabha**

Office of the Pathadumbara Pradeshiya Sabha

17.02.2021

VEHICLES FOR SALE

Vehicle No.	Make	Model	Year
CAR			
CAS-8XXX	HONDA	FIT GPS	2013
CAB			
PE-9XXX	NISSAN	NAVARA	2005
LORRY			
GL-4XXX	TOYOTA	TOYODACE BUE7	1994
LH-1XXX	TATA	LPT1613	2009
PR-2XXX	TATA	ACE	2011
PV-8XXX	MAHINDRA	MAXXIMO PLUS	2013
BUS			
ND-1XXX	MITSUBISHI	ROSA BE640G	2006
THREE WHEELER			
QA-5XXX	BAJAJ	AUTO RE 2 STROKE	2005
QE-4XXX	BAJAJ	AUTO RE 2 STROKE	2006
QF-1XXX	BAJAJ	AUTO RE 2 STROKE	2006
QR-8XXX	BAJAJ	AUTO AR4S	2008
YS-8XXX	BAJAJ	RE 205	2011
AAD-5XXX	BAJAJ	RE 205	2012
AAN-2XXX	BAJAJ	RE 205	2013
AAW-1XXX	BAJAJ	RE 205	2014
BIKE			
BFV-0XXX	TVS	XLWUPER HAVY DUTY	2017
BIK-5XXX	HERO	MAESTRO	2019

Vehicle Inspection:
Mercantile Investments & Finance PLC
Vehicle Yard - No: 176, Lake Road, Maharagama
Tel - 0112 088 505

Dates for inspection of vehicles

19th, 22nd, 23rd & 24th February 2021 from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm at the above address (Acceptance of tenders will be closed at 5.00 pm 24th February 2021)

Tender forms could be obtained from the Mercantile Investments & Finance PLC Vehicle Yards at the above addresses upon making a non-refundable payment of Rs.200/-.
Successful bidders will be notified over the telephone, and they should remove the relevant vehicles within 7 days from the date of notification. The company reserves the right to withdraw any vehicle from the tender without stating any reason. While the successful bidders shall accept the relevant vehicles in the existing condition, any outstanding payment in relation to revenue license and government taxes etc shall have to borne by such bidders.

Decision of the Mercantile Investments & Finance PLC pertaining to this tender shall be final.

Mercantile Investments & Finance PLC

Head Office
236, Galle Road, Colombo 03.
Tel No. 2343720 - 7. EXT: 210

Contact:
Janaka - 071 1024559 / Moditha - 071 9530350

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public notice is hereby given in terms of Section 9(1) of the Companies Act No. 7 of 2007 that:
Name of the Company: SOFTNOLOGY (PRIVATE) LIMITED
Registration No: PV00223627
Incorporated Date: 02.07.2020.
Registered office: No. 295, Malgamuwa, Giriulla, Kurunegala.
Name of the Company: RHINE SYNERGY (PRIVATE) LIMITED
Registration No: PV00229691
Incorporated Date: 28.10.2020.
Registered office: No. 55/5, Nikape, Dehiwala.
Name of the Company: XINATY (PRIVATE) LIMITED
Registration No: PV00229323
Incorporated Date: 20.10.2020.
Registered office: No. 368/3A, Colombo Road, Bokundara, Pitiyandala.
Secretary
A & H Business Systems (Pvt) Ltd.

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PEOPLE'S BANK

RESOLUTION UNDER SECTION 29D OF THE PEOPLE'S BANK ACT NO. 29 OF 1961 AS AMENDED BY ACT NO. 32 OF 1986 - W.M. MENDIS & COMPANY LIMITED

We hereby notice that the resolution published in the Daily News on 5th February 2021 for sale of the assets mortgaged to the bank by **W.M. Mendis & Company Limited** wherein the name of the auctioneer should be corrected as MS Schokman & Samerawickreme, Licensed Auctioneer.

Deputy General Manager (Recoveries)

People's Bank,
Recoveries Department
10th Floor, Head Office Building
No. 75, Sir Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mw.,
Colombo 02.
17th February 2021



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Headquarters,
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Colombo 11.

E-mail: ciu@customs.gov.lk

SRI LANKA THRIPOSHA LIMITED

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Procurement of 2500 MTs of locally grown and produced Maize for Sri Lanka Thriposha Limited

Bid No.: SLTL/TB/03/2021

- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee (Major) invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for supply of **2500MTs of locally grown and produced Maize** for Sri Lanka Thriposha Limited.
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) method.
- To be eligible for contract award, the bidder shall not have been blacklisted and bidder shall be incorporated under the Companies Act No.7 of 2007.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Senior Manager, Sri Lanka Thriposha Limited on working days between 9:00 am. and 3:00 p.m. Tel. 011 2236 588 / 011 2237 418
- A complete set of bidding documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders from the Senior Manager at the Sri Lanka Thriposha Limited, P.O.Box 17, Negombo Road, Kapuwatta, Ja-Ela on working days **between 9:00 am. and 3:00 p.m.**, up to 11.03.2021 on submission of a written request to the address below together with the PCA3 issued by the Registrar of Contracts and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Rs. 21,800.00 by cash**.
- Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before **12.03.2021 at 2.30 p.m.** Late bids will be rejected. Bids shall be valid for 91 days from the date of bid opening from **12.03.2021 up to 11.06.2021**.
- All bids must accompany a bid security issued by a commercial bank operated in Sri Lanka approved by the Central Bank, **amounting to Rs.1,687,500.00**. The validity period of the bid security shall be 119 days from the date of bid opening from **12.03.2021 up to 09.07.2021**.
- Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' authorized representatives at the address below immediately after the time mentioned above (**12.03.2021 at 2.30 p.m.**).

Address referred to above is:

**Chairman,
Major Procurement Committee,
Sri Lanka Thriposha Limited,
PO Box 17,
Kapuwatta,
Ja-Ela.**

Cinema



Daily News Classifieds

Employment

320
Positions Vacant
Hotel & Bakery

Real Estate

602
Luxury Apartments/
Houses / Condominiums
To Let / Lease

Urgent requirement for the following categories of Hawaii Restaurant. Basic salary (per month).
* Rice & Curry Cooks - Rs. 90,000/= * Kitchen Helpers - Rs. 40,000/= * Juice & Fruit Salad Makers - Rs. 50,000/= * Counter Helpers - Rs. 40,000/= * Kottu & Rotty Makers - Rs. 65,000/= - Rs. 70,000/= * Cleaning Staff - Rs. 40,000/= . Company will be providing food & lodging as well as 04 days off per month. Please kindly call for interviews. 0773658648. 011861

Renting apartment - Colombo-6. Sea view/pool & gym. 3 bedroom A/C room, fully furnished complete kitchen items TV with cable connections, hot water, bathrooms, washing machine, fridge are included. Easy access to Marine Drive and Galle Road. Can provide minimum 3 months. Please call for a rent amount. Shiva Shegar 0771434343. Whatsapp/imo/ botim available. 012536

Personal



524
Philatelic & Coins
Monthly stamp and old coin and bank notes sales fair conducted by the Sri Lanka Independence Philatelic Association will be held on 19,20, 21 February at the Public Library premises Colombo 07. 0779785111 Jagath. 010741

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NOTICE UNDER SECTION 07 OF THE LAND ACQUISITION (460) CHAPTER AS AMENDED BY THE ACQUISITION (AMENDED) ACT NO. 28 OF 1964

Reference No. 3/3/10/2/18
Ministry of Land Reference No. 4/3/15/2011/53/190

Government intends to acquire the Land, which is described by the Schedule mentioned below. For further notice follow the Extraordinary Gazette No. 2204/29 of part III of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, published on 06.12.2020.

Schedule
District : Matale
Divisional Secretary's Division : Ukuwela.
Village : Ukuwela.
Situation : Situated at Ukuwela Village in Grama Niladhari Division Nagolla of Divisional Secretariat Ukuwela in the District of Matale.
Name of Land : Welagedara watta, Thunpela Kumbura, Ukuwela watta.
Plan No. and Lot No. : Ma 1594 Lot No. 1 to 18
S.N.K. Serasinghe
Divisional Secretary,
Ukuwela.
Ukuwela Divisional Secretary's Office,
15.02.2021

My No: BD/WM/LND/2/5/AQUS/28
Divisional Secretariat,
Welimada.
10.02.2021

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 7 OF THE LAND ACQUISITION ACT

Notice is hereby given for the general public that the land compensation inquiries under Section 9 of the Land Acquisition Act Pertaining to the undermentioned land which has been acquired under the said Act. Inquiries will be held by me at the Divisional Secretariat, Welimada on **22nd of February, 2021**. Those who hold interest over the said land are required to appear at the said date and place. Please refer the Government Gazette Extraordinary No. **221342** dated **05th of February, 2021** for further details.

SCHEDULE
Divisional Secretariat: Welimada
Base Lot Number : P.P.N.B 740
Number of Lot : 01
Total extent of Land : 0.7452 Hectare
Village : Hewenakumbura
Grama Niladhari Division : 50 A, Ambewela
W.M.C. Weerasinghe,
Divisional Secretary,
Welimada.

NOTICE
Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 5 of the Companies Act, 07 of 2007
Name of the Company: **S.L.F. JOB AGENCY (PRIVATE) LIMITED**
Date of Incorporation: 04.12.2020
No. of the Company: PV 00231245
Registered Office: Samag Mawatha, Bodinayaka, Puttalam
Director

PEOPLE'S BANK

RESOLUTION UNDER SECTION 29D OF THE PEOPLE'S BANK ACT NO. 29 OF 1961 AS AMENDED BY ACT NO. 32 OF 1986 - J N INTERIOR PRIVATE LIMITED

We hereby notice that the resolution published in the Daily News on 17th February 2021 for sale of the assets mortgaged to the bank by J N Interior Private Limited wherein the name of the auctioneer should be corrected as MS Schokman & Samerawickreme, Licensed Auctioneer.

Deputy General Manager (Recoveries)

People's Bank,
Recoveries Department
10th Floor, Head Office Building
No. 75, Sir Chittampalam A. Gardiner Mw.,
Colombo 02.
17th February 2021

TOURIST BOARD (WESTERN PROVINCE)

Regarding re-installing the LED Panel, presently installed at Sangaraja Mawatha, Colombo at a different location.

It is required to select a suitable Institution for re-installing the LED Panel belonging to the Western Provincial Tourist Board and presently installed at Sangaraja Mawatha, Colombo at a different location. Bids are invited for this purpose from 22 February 2021 up to 15 March 2021.

Conditions :-

- Bidders should be institutions registered in the Western Province.
- Should possess a minimum period of 3 years service.
- The Bidder should pay a sum of Rs. 5000.00 to the Western Provincial Tourist Board and obtain a request for proposal form. (Forms will be issued from 22 February 2021 up to 25 February 2021).
- A refundable deposit of Rs. 10,000.00 payable to the Bidder should be paid to the Western Provincial Tourist Board.
- The last date for accepting Bids is 15 March 2021.

Address : Western Provincial Council Office Complex No. 204, 8th Floor, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla, Koswatta.

For further details : 011-2092688 - Kavindu Malinda Perera - Management Assistant (Call on working days only).

Eranga Basnayaka
Chairman,
Tourist Board (W.P.)

AUCTION OF UNREDEEMED PAWNED ARTICLES

Horana Multi-Purpose Co-operative Society Limited sell by Public Auction all the articles pawned up to and yet remain unredeemed at the Rural Bank of,

Uthuru Uduwa / Kaballagoda / Palannoruwa / Horana / Moragahahena / Pokunuwita / Weediyaigoda / Munagama / Ran Surakum Horana / Palannoruwa / Koralaime and Pokunuwita Center on 03, 04 April 2021 at 9.00 a.m. at Head Office Premises.

General Manager, Horana M.P.C.S. Limited, No. 113, Sri Somananda Mawatha, Horana.

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National Institute of Sports Science

Procurement Notice

Invitation for Bids for the Maintenance of the NISS Sports Cafe

Contract No. – SE/ADM/03/CNT/20

Sealed Bids are invited from qualified institutions for the maintenance of NISS Sports Cafe at No. 100/7, Independence Avenue, Colombo 07 for the year 2021/2022.

- Bid Documents can be obtained from the Administration Division of the National Institute of Sports Science at the above address from 22.02.2021 to 08.03.2021 on working days of the week from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. on submission of a written request to the Director of the National Institute of Sports Science with a receipt obtained on payment of a non-refundable sum of Rs. 1,000/= to the Accountant (Payments), State Ministry of Rural and School Sports Infrastructure Improvement. Further, if you wish to inspect the Bid Documents, that can be done free of charge on the aforesaid dates.
- Sealed Bids should be sent in two copies "Original" and "Duplicate" separately by Registered Post before 10.30 a.m. on 09.03.2021 addressed to Chairman, Procurement Committee, National Institute of Sports Science, 100/7, Independence Avenue, Colombo 07 or should be deposited in the Tender Box kept at the Administration Division. The words "Quotations for NISS Sports Cafe – 2021/2022" should be written on the top left-hand corner of the envelope where quotations are submitted.
- Bids will be opened soon after the closing of tenders at 10.30 a.m. on 09.03.2021 and one of your authorized Representatives can be present at this occasion. Bids received late will be rejected.
- The facilities such as water, electricity, tables and chairs required for the NISS Sports Café will be provided by the institute. Ceramicware will be provided for official functions. You can submit your bids after inspecting the relevant premises.

Further details in this connection can be obtained from the Development Officer – (Procurement) on Telephone No. 011-2674719.

Chairman – Procurement Committee
National Institute of Sports Science
No. 100/7, Independence Avenue,
Colombo 07.
Tel. 0112674718

DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

ISSUE OF TREASURY BILLS

Rs. 42,500 million Treasury Bills are to be issued through an auction on 23rd February 2021

The Details of Treasury Bill issues are as follows :

Maturity Period	91 Days	182 Days	364 Days	Total
ISIN*	LKA09121E286	LKA18221H278	LKA36422B257 ***	
Amount Offered (Rs. Mn.)	7,000	10,500	25,000	42,500
Maximum yield rate for acceptance (%)**			5.09	

Date of Auction : 23rd February 2021
Date of Settlement : 25th February 2021
Date of Issue : 26th February 2021
Closing date and time of bid submission : **Tuesday 23rd February 2021, at 11.00 a.m.**
Minimum amount of a bid : Rupees five million (Rs. 5,000,000/=) and multiples of Rupees one million (Rs. 1,000,000/=) there onwards.

Bids are invited from the Primary Dealers in Government Securities.
Bids should be made only through the electronic bidding facility provided by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL).
The CBSL may accept a higher or lower amount than the offered amounts for each maturity by reallocating amounts between the maturities, depending on the market conditions, but without exceeding the total amount on offer at this auction.

The general public is invited to purchase Treasury Bills from the following Primary Dealers or any other Licensed Commercial Banks

Acuity Securities Ltd.	2206297	NSB Fund Management Co. Ltd.	2425010
Bank of Ceylon	2541938	People's Bank	2206783
Capital Alliance Ltd.	2317777	Sampath Bank PLC	2305842
Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC	2332319	Seylan Bank PLC	2456340
First Capital Treasuries PLC	2639883	WealthTrust Securities Ltd	2675096

* International Securities Identification Number
** The yield rates of 91 day and 182 day maturities will be decided below the level of 364 day maturity at the auction.
*** New holiday treatment for Treasury Bill maturities applies, i.e. effective from 2022, in the event the maturity falls on a bank holiday, payments will be made on the immediate following business day.

M.Z.M. Aazim
Superintendent / Registrar of Public Debt

Issuing Office
Public Debt Department
CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA
30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo 1.
Telephone: +94 112477011 Fax: +94 112477687
Web: www.cbsl.gov.lk

TNC

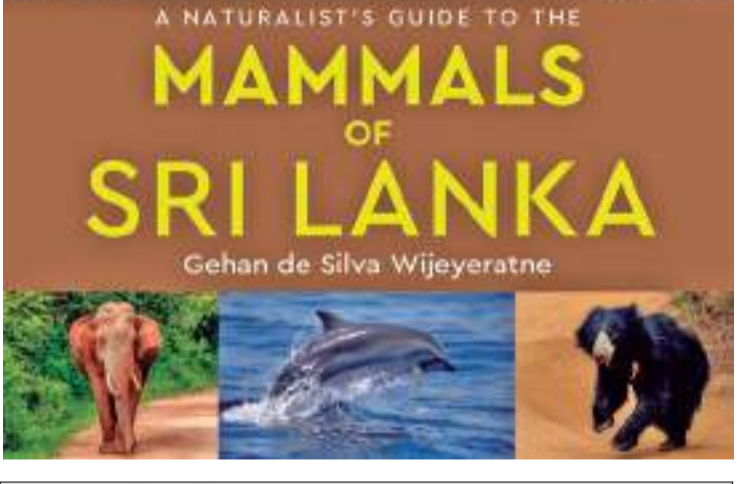
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Gehan de Silva Wijeyeratne. Picture by Ajith Ratnayaka

NATURE'S GREATEST GUIDE!



Spread JBP Naturalists Guide to Mammals of Sri Lanka Pg-34-35 Rodents



Toque Macaque captured at Habarana Lodge. Picture by Gehan de Silva Wijeyeratne



Elephant gathering at Minneriya. Picture by Gehan de Silva Wijeyeratne



Jungle Cat crop face. Picture by Gehan de Silva Wijeyeratne

JULIE COOMBE
Sri Lanka is slowly opening up to tourism giving visitors a unique chance to visit the many different game parks across the island with only a handful of safari jeeps sharing these stunning places. So you can plan and get the most out of a wildlife experience, I suggest picking up wildlife writer Gehan de Silva Wijeyeratne's latest book, *A Naturalist's Guide to the Mammals of Sri Lanka* or any one of his fascinating guides to Sri Lanka's incredibly diverse wildlife published by John Beaufoy Publishing and other British publishers. Gehan is both a writer and photographer (who qualified as a chartered accountant in London) world renowned for demonstrating not once, but on many occasions over the last three decades, that Sri Lanka is the best place in the world to see blue whales, the biggest annually recurring concentration of wild elephants (The Elephant Gathering) and one of the top locations for leopard safaris, bird watching and seeing diversity in flora and fauna.

His passion for wildlife started at a young age and has gained momentum, as he makes time outside his day job to promote Sri Lanka as the best all-round wildlife destination in the world. I asked Gehan which national parks and reserves he would recommend in addition to those which are already well known. For those in an urban environment like Colombo he recommends Talangama Wetland. It is large enough that a person with members of their own household can easily engage in a socially distanced nature walk armed with binoculars and guide books. He also recommends Baddegama Wetland Park and Diyasaru Park, both of which are within a kilometre of the Parliament. With good roads to the East and a broad range of accommodation he also recommends the parks on the East Coast which are less visited. Lahugala National Park in his view has some of the most beautiful examples of intermediate forest trees. He has even had a glimpse of a Red-faced Malkoha in a bird wave (mixed feeding flocks). Gal Oya National Park is another where visitors numbers are low and elephants can be seen. Kuamana or Yala East National Park has leopards and everything else which the adjoining Yala or Ruhuna National Park has but with much fewer visitors. In the North Central Province he recommends Wasgomuwa National Park with elephants that are shyer than those at Uda Walawe. But this is compensated by fewer vehicles in the park. For those who like the cool highlands he recommends the Knuckles which have many species found nowhere else. But he points out that a good naturalist guide is essential as the endemic specialities are small animals. The most biodiverse site in Sri Lanka is the lowland rainforest of Sinharaja. But surprisingly visitor facilities are modest and the road conditions highly variable depending on when the last round of road maintenance was performed. As a result it is not on the itinerary for the mainstream travel groups and serious nature enthusiasts will find they can spend many hours watching endemic birds and mammals away from the crowds.

His latest book covers this and so much more in, *A Naturalist's Guide to the Mammals of Sri Lanka* is a landmark publication, as it is the first portable and affordable, photographic field guide with near comprehensive coverage of 122 of the 127, 96 per cent of all the land and marine mammals recorded in Sri Lanka. The book is the seventh Sri Lankan title by British publisher, John Beaufoy Publishing, who has a long association with Sri Lanka and other countries in Asia. The 176 page book follows the standard format for the *Naturalist's Guide* series and is pocket-sized at 130 mm wide and 180 mm high and light in weight. This helps the book

Meet wildlife expert Gehan de Silva and talk to him about where to go. His most recent book, 'A Naturalist's Guide to the Mammals of Sri Lanka,' will come in handy as the island reopens for tourism

to be a permanent addition to the 'field bag' for keen naturalists. The book uses multiple images with identification-focussed text to provide a compact field guide, which will be useful for resident naturalists and visitors.

Only a handful of countries in the world have a portable photographic field guide to mammals with such wide coverage as this book, and although he is the principal photographer, his book is a collective effort, drawing upon the contributions of forty-one photographers from nine countries, resulting in over 250 images being used. The section on marine mammals is probably the best so far from a book for Asia. This is not surprising given the author's role in the development of commercial whale watching in Sri Lanka. Starting in May 2008, he began a publicity blitz stating that Sri Lanka was Best for Blue Whales. He also publicised Kalpitiya as a whale watching hotspot and a key location for pelagic seabirds. The whale watching publicity campaign that he led with the tourism industry drew the attention of film crews and photographers worldwide. This, in turn, led to local marine biologists being featured in international documentaries. In addition to his own photographs, the author has used images from both local and overseas marine biologists. An especially strong contribution is from US marine biologist Paula Olson. The introduction came through British marine biologist Susannah Calderan who has worked in Sri Lanka with colleagues in the University of Ruhuna. The introduction proved to be very useful as Olson had photographed many of the species seen, but had never been photographed in Sri Lankan waters. As a result, all but one of the cetaceans (whales and dolphins) recorded from Sri Lanka are covered in the book, often with multiple images of the animal at the surface, with identification oriented text and image crops to help observers on whale watching boats. Throughout the book, Gehan mentions the names of several researchers who have undertaken work and draws attention to academics including Professor Wipula Yapa, who has studied bats and supervised a number of PhD studies on bats. Two of his students have contributed images, with an especially strong contribution from Tharaka Kusuminda. Other Sri Lankan researchers who have contributed images include Suyama Meegaskumbura and Ranil Nanayakkara.

'Given that Sri Lanka is one of the best all-round wildlife destinations in the world, the island needed a comprehensive, portable and affordable field guide to mammals,' according to Charmarie Maelge, a former Managing Director of the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau. She says, 'Gehan's line of thought is to create livelihoods through wildlife tourism to provide an economic and sustainable agenda for conservation.'

He has a long track record of enlisting the support of researchers, corporations and conservationists in his work'. According to

Gehan de Silva Wijeyeratne, 'Interestingly, leaving aside foreign visitors, a lot of Sri Lankans will be surprised at the range of mammals to be found in Sri Lanka. In this book readers will find 33 species of bats; golden palm civets; chevrotains, also known as mouse-deer but not real deer, that swim under water to escape predators; shrews, which look like mice but are not related to mice; rats; and a host of other mammals that even professional tourism guides know little about. The real power of the new mammal guide is that because it is not expensive, it will be gifted by both local and foreign tourists to local guides, building capacity and increasing appreciation of the country's biodiversity.'

I asked him how quickly Sri Lanka's travel market will recover. He is quietly optimistic. 'There is a lot of pent up demand' he says. 'People are itching to travel again. There will come a time mid to late 2021 when many people in the G20 countries have been vaccinated. They will look for destinations to which they can travel to with the confidence that they will not find themselves being subject to quarantine on arrival. They also need to be confident that they will not find themselves locked down in a foreign country or locked out of returning to their home country. If Sri Lanka is ready, the visitors will come again'. But he adds with a note of caution, 'A lot depends on the vaccines being effective on new variants for normality to return'. He also cautions against complacency. 'Every destination will be fighting to rebuild their tourism industry. Sri Lanka will need to market itself against stiff competition'.

Until travel resumes, I ask him if his books help those who are isolating. 'Yes', he says, 'Even in a big city like Colombo there are many species of birds, butterflies, dragonflies and even mammals which come to your garden or local park. You can start to enjoy nature by learning to put a name to the things that are around you and develop your natural history skills with these portable and affordable field guides'. He also draws attention to the plant life and in particular the trees. 'Cities like Colombo are a gigantic arboretum with a vast range of trees from all over the world planted in gardens, lining the streets and in our parks'.

He points out that there are a few books on the trees found in Sri Lanka which people can use to learn the trees around them. In fact, 'A Naturalist's Guide to the Trees of Sri Lanka' authored and photographed by him is a thoroughly modern photographic field guide to 125 species of trees.

Over the years Gehan has authored more than 20 books. I ask him if he has anymore in the pipeline.

He explains he is working on a pictorial guide that will have different groups such as birds, butterflies, dragonflies, birds and mammals.

The book will draw on his past books but he will also widen the participation to have guest contributor sections. Inviting guest contributors allows him to draw attention to the work of scientists who are working on other groups which may not have the popularity of birds and mammals but are just as important in appreciating biodiversity. John Beaufoy Publishing has several international titles in the *Naturalist's Guide* series. The other titles relating to Sri Lanka in the series, include: *Birds; Butterflies and Dragonflies; Flowers; Trees and Reptiles*. John Beaufoy Publishing also published 'A Photographic Field Guide to the Birds of Sri Lanka' (the first complete photographic guide) and 'Wild Sri Lanka'.

So if you feel you can't travel right now, get yourself a wildlife book and start planning your next great adventure or just enjoying learning more about Sri Lanka's incredible biodiversity.

ISHARA JAYAWARDANE

The attachment a person can have with his/her home is something that cannot be explained in words. In fact, separation from a house can be as traumatic as being separated from a loved one. The bond with the house and its master or the bond it has with its inhabitants is very strong. *Archworld* speaks to **Principal Architect, Russell Dandeniya Chartered Architects, Director, RDC Architects (Pvt) Ltd, Archt. Russell Dandeniya**, on personal housing that cantake on a life of its own.

"Personalities are different and the needs and aspirations of our clients are also very different. If we are designing a perfect house for a client there are the ideologies, the requirements and the psychological aspects of that particular Client that need to be embedded in that particular house. That is essential," said Dandeniya.

"*The Fall of the House of Usher*" is a short story by American writer Edgar Allan Poe, first published in 1839 that best exemplifies this. The master of the mansion Roderick Usher is convinced that the mansion he lives in is alive and that it has power and control over him and is the cause of his deteriorating health and terrible fears. Though the story may not be true, Poe's story best illustrates the fascinating connection a man can have with his house/ the built environment - a connection between spaces and man.

The narrator of the story says - "*As I came in sight of the place, my spirits sank. They grew as dark and dull as the sky above me, and as sad as the cold, grey walls of the building before my eyes.*"

I did not know the reason for this feeling of extreme misery, unless it resulted from the general appearance of decay in the house. A strange idea grew in my mind. I believed that the air which surrounded the house was different from the rest of God's air."

What is apparent is that there is definitely a connection between house/ built environment and the human. And though Poe's tale may be fictitious, its context today is very relevant.

SIMPLICITY

Dandeniya's creations of course promote minimalism, simplicity and sober characters. But our society is chaotic he points out. Sri

Home is where your heart is

Lanka, he says is much better than what it was previously and everything has become orderly with a nice road network. Whatever the outside environment is, we have to live with that. So the home should be a relaxing place. I think the rooms and the interior should be more simple, elegant and more rustic," said Dandeniya.

He points out that the climate is a very important factor when doing a house. People are moving with air conditioning and various other in-house luxuries as a trend - they do not really need it and ignore the contextual strengths that should be in the design. "If you build a house in a very nice surrounding, then probably air conditioning might not be important throughout the year. February to April could be the hottest time of the year and we feel the rise in temperature. But other than that we have a comfortable climate. When we are planning and designing we have to consider this factor and also the monsoonal rain and wind. So we need to opt for a passive cooling system. So we can create wind corridors in that particular house. But it all depends on the micro climate, because there may be high rise buildings, earth undulation, rocks, large trees, mountains around, so we get different wind patterns. So we have to analyze the wind patterns and the placement of the house accordingly," explained Dandeniya.

OPTIMUM SUNLIGHT

He went onto explain that most importantly we have to analyze the sun path to get opti-



Russell Dandeniya

mum sunlight in to the house to create a healthy environment. The idea is that the bedroom should get morning sunlight to disinfect possible bacterial effects.

"We have to work with four major aspects - the sun path, green & vegetation foliage, cross ventilation with monsoonal rain, monsoonal wind or micro climatic wind condition and a passive cooling system inside the house where we could minimize room temperature at least by three degrees," added Dandeniya.

A personal house is an extension of the person's personality. People like to show their personality through a personalized house - they may request for a more majestic and grandeur design while others may be humble and request for a design that reflects their humility. Perhaps from the outer appearance people won't be able to identify who exactly is living inside. So it all depends on the client. "Actually if we are putting up a very nice house in front of a very busy dusty road then we need to be mindful of the noise coming from the road and also guard against polluted air getting in. So we have to create a calm and cool environment inside that will give the inhabitant peace of mind,"

HEALING ASPECT

A house is for life. The healing aspect should be there irrespective of who the inhabitant is. A nervous disposition may be a temporary state, therefore, he points out that when the client may exhibit a nervous temperament he (the architect) has to come up with a design that has a soothing effect on the mind of the client, a house perhaps that creates a sense of calm using the micro climate - perhaps with a view of lush greenery or a lake nearby or a picturesque surrounding. "Spaces, colors, various attitudes towards



building have to be analyzed carefully as per the requirements of the client. By understanding the client's needs in wider and broader detail, we then design the house through our findings. Some clients come with long and vast requirements. So as architects we have to be more focused and deliver the most appropriate solutions. The ideal house for anyone would depend on their budget and requirements. For me an ideal house would be a flexible and simple one which would grow over time with its requirements. It should be simple and address the immediate needs," said Dandeniya.

Coping with the weather is the most important aspect for Sri Lankan houses. This is when we speak of water proofing, heat proofing when you are using flat slabs on the roof, using doors and windows without any shading devices and minimizing the heat gain. These are the most important aspects. For me tips I would give would be - not to use cement block walls for master bedrooms, the master bedroom should not be placed to the west side where after office hours' a lot of heat gain could be accumulated and also it should not be under a flat concrete slab. Another tip is the multiple usage of spaces. The dining space can be used for tuition for kids, watching TV & for family gatherings also. We have to carefully design those spaces for many purposes.

BE PRACTICAL

He points out that some clients are daydreamers in his words and not at all practical. They have so many requirements but no financial capacity. Others are practical and pragmatic and understand that the architect knows what he or she is talking about. There is also another category who place their faith in myths and astrological beliefs. This is something that Dandeniya does not agree with and quips that they should be sent back to the Astrologer! "I send them all back home because I only work with people who respect architects. I am not interested with these myths that have no practical value. I like dealing with clients who have a proper understanding of their budget and have a certain degree of confidence in the architect," explained Dandeniya.

Dandeniya also stated that he loves to work



with clients who have a good understanding of what they really need and that he loves to work with clients who do not know anything about Architecture since he/she is going to get the service of a member of a field unknown to him/her.

"People with half-baked ideas who know very little about Architecture go on google/ yahoo and come up with notions of the best houses in the world and want to incorporate those ideas into their designs which makes the situation very difficult. The situation is made worse when they also believe in these myths and astrological beliefs.

HIS STRATEGY

My strategy is if a client hires me and allows me to do my job, I charge my standard fee. If he tries to teach me architecture, I am charging twice as much.

If a client is teaching me architecture and how to design the house, I charge three times as much. Then there are clients that respect the architect, that respect us, so working with them is easy and it is a pleasure. They are sensible, they have common sense and they do not have these silly notions," pointed out Dandeniya.

Nowadays technology is very advanced. Architects can create 3-D designs. Once you design and build a house there is no going back. If you want to start over again you will have to demolish the house. But Dandeniya assures us that with the advanced technology available if both the architect and client are on the same page then there won't be a mistake.



Building your eco-friendly house

Sometimes the most effective new home is an older house. Consider the quantity of building materials and fuel saved by buying an existing home instead of building a replacement one. An honest quality older home is renovated and retrofitted to form it more environmentally friendly, at a lower cost than if you were ranging from scratch.

Higher housing density means more efficient utilities and shorter commutes, so consider that living in a populated area could also be the greener choice. Significantly, by choosing an existing home, you're not transforming wild habitat or agricultural land and contributing to further landscape fragmentation.

Small is big

A smaller home needs fewer building materials and requires less energy to cool down and warmth. When planning a replacement home, ensure to honestly assess your needs, both in terms of the amount of rooms needed,

and therefore the size of these rooms. Tiny homes, currently very fashionable on television shows, are attractive and have clear environmental and energetic advantages.

While most people would have a tough time living permanently in these small spaces, they're a form of laboratory which might provide important lessons about energy efficiency, space use, and general frugality. Your indulgence for these TV shows can provide you with great ideas applicable on a more livable scale.

Build with sustainable materials Today many options exist when selecting environmentally responsible building materials. The alternatives are vast, including sustainability-certified wood products, reclaimed or salvaged wood, and insulation made up of recycled materials.

Another advantage to carefully selecting building materials is best indoor air quality. Many sorts of carpeting, wall coverings, stains, and paints release volatile organic compounds and other air pollutants.



Healthier alternatives exist, like low-VOC paints and hard-wax oil for floors. Given the amount of hours you spend in your house daily, minimizing your exposure to those toxic components is extremely important.

Make it a passive house The passive house concept consists during a series of standards aimed toward maximizing energy efficiency. The concept relies on design elements that target reducing the wants for heating and cooling. The planning elements include:

- Extremely effective wall insulation. The surface shell of the structure must include enough insulation materials to supply a really high R-value.
- Windows have to be made from glass that limits heat transfer, with well insulated frames. In northern climates, this may mean triple-pane windows.
- Heat recovery through a device inbuilt the ventilating system further limits heating needs.
- The house envelope (walls, windows, and roof) has to provide a high degree of airtightness. It doesn't mean the house will feel stuffy, as air change needs are handled by the ventilation and warmth exchanger systems.
- The orientation of the house and

its windows allows for passive solar heating, and for the entry of natural light, limiting further electricity needs.

Passive house designs bring a home with low energy requirements, high indoor air quality, even and steady indoor temperature, and therefore the ability to stay comfortable during power outages. Typically, the upper construction costs of the materials involved within the building of a passive house are offset by simpler architectural elements and smaller heating, cooling, and electric systems. Furthermore, occupants incur substantially lower energy costs.

Conserve water

Residents of the USA and Canada have the unfortunate distinction of using the best amount of water per person, per day.

Giving our increasing population, pervasive pollution, ongoing droughts, and changes caused by warming, our water use habits have to change. Building a replacement house offers many opportunities to save lots of on water. Low volume bathroom and kitchen fixtures are essential, including low flow, dual flush toilets.

Makes energy savings easy

Right from the beginning, experts recommend integrating renewable energy systems into the planning of a replacement home, whether it's solar panels, residential wind turbines, or micro-hydroelectric generation. If the initial investment is just too steep to contemplate at the time of construction, planning during the planning phase for an eventual change by reversal to renewable energy will save the owner considerable trouble (and money) later.

However, even as important because the source of the energy you employ is what proportion of it you employ. A well-designed home should allow you to attenuate your energy needs. This may be accomplished by, as an example, choosing efficient appliances, installing LED lights, and using programmable thermostats which can provide you with the cooling and heating you wish only someone's home. And don't forget the low-tech solutions: an easy clothesline for drying laundry will further impede on energy needs.

Thoughtfully landscaped

The work of building an environmentally friendly home continues outside. Landscaping should be done to

attenuate the house's impact on the landscape:

- Manage rainwater. Collect water runoff from the roof into rain barrels, to be used for watering landscaping plants.

- Minimize impervious surfaces. Make it easier for rainwater to penetrate the soil rather than running off, which allows it to hold nutrients, sediment, and other styles of pollution into nearby waterways. For your driveway and parking areas, choose a permeable material like open-cell pavers or pervious pavers, which can allow water to percolate into the bottom underneath.

- Carefully choose landscaping plant species which require little energy-intensive maintenance like mowing. Favor the choice of native plants with low watering needs. To block water runoff, plant water-loving plants near gutter downspouts, if you're not already collecting roof runoff.

- Small is best: a tiny low yard is simpler to keep up and diminishes your home's impact on the encircling habitat. ensure you discuss with your local code officer for minimum vegetation clearances if you reside in a region vulnerable to wildfires.

- Make your backyard wildlife friendly by providing food, water, and canopy for your wilder neighbors.

- ecobnb.com





Modern Brides and Grooms collection by LOVI Ceylon and friends

Together we're creating moments of happiness and cherished memories for the new couple and their families" said Founder and CEO of LOVI Ceylon, Asanka de Mel, as he introduced LOVI Ceylon's Groom collection. Each groom's look was paired with extraordinary creations from Sri Lanka's top bridal designers, jewelers, florists, hair and make-up artiste and was captured by story-telling photographers.

The presentation graciously hosted by the Taj Samudra and Shangri-La hotels saw 30 leading designers working hand in hand to infuse fresh ideas, celebrate cultural diversity and show-off Sri Lankan couture—the island's hand craft heritage.

The stunning bridal costumes were painstakingly made by renowned designers Messrs. Dhananjaya Bandara, Rishard Raheem, and Michael Wijesuriya as well as Mses. Indi Yapa Abeywardena of Brides by INDI, Sonali Dharmawardena, Darshi Keerthisena of Buddhi Batiks, Ramona Oshini, Sandani Perera of IKI-GAI Bridal, and Jaish Parathalingam of Aashkii. The newcomer, Ms. Anusha David also presented her couture creations under the label Gabriel.

"We want our Groom and all of the men in the wedding including the groomsmen, dads, young boys and friends, to be themselves—to feel rooted in culture, well dressed and at ease on the wedding day," says Asanka. Celebrating the religious and cultural traditions including Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Kandyan, Malay, Muslim, Sinhala, Tamil and western traditions of the island LOVI Ceylon's Grooms' range presented modern sarongs paired with formal shirts, jackets, kurtas and more. They were paired with sarees, dresses, lehengas, pant suits and an array of breathtaking outfits. There were many looks offered for the Sri Lankan diaspora, as well as couples seeking inspiration for destination weddings.

As the designs progressed from sketch to stitching, our jewelry partners Careems, Lalitha, Mallika Hemachandra, Tiesh and Vogue jewelers added their brilliant sparkles with handcrafted fine jewelry made of precious metals encrusted with diamonds, sapphires and rubies. And what wedding would be complete without flowers? Bringing the latest floral creations were florists Designer Flowers, Flowers by Joan and Karen Forbes, Lassana Flora, and Supreme Flora who made the spectacular bridal outfits blossom with their creations.

Breathing life into these wonderful creations with superb hair and make-up was anchor of the shoot, Nadiya Fernando and her collaborator Omesh, while Ramani Fernando Salons, Shane Perera, Viran Peter, Brides by Leena and Talia, also worked magic on the models. The father son duo Dinuka and Dineth Fonseka of Studio3000 took on the herculean task of capturing all the creations as the anchor photography partner. The works of Ashene Bernard, Amarante Studio, Geeshan Bandara, and Portrait Culture were also presented in imaginative and artistic captures.

De Mel also expressed his thanks to the wonderful models from Brian Kerkoven and The Agency.

De Mel expressed his thanks to the wonderful models who brought the visions and fancies of the designers to life, as well as poet and author Ashok Ferrey for being the MC of the shoot and providing an eloquent commentary, delivered with his inimitable panache!

"We have world class craftsmanship here, it's fun to work with so many experts, who just happen to be friends, to present a beautiful collection that could guide the course of Sri Lankan clothing identity" said Asanka when asked about the work that went into this.

As he rightly reminded the gentlemen to choose wisely, "on that special wedding day, when all eyes are on her—her eyes are on you!" -AD

Astra Diriya Wanitha Programme launched



L to R: Owner and Founder of White Flower Academy, Chef Dushanthi Madanayake, Head of Business and Customer Development, Director of Upfield Sri Lanka, Anuruddha Aluvihare, General Secretary of the Association of Samurdhi Officers and Agricultural Research Offices, Jagath Kumara (MP), Senior Country Financial Controller of Upfield Sri Lanka, Krishan Fernando and Marketing Manager for Upfield Sri Lanka, Shehani Liyanage

In a bid to empower women and especially mothers across Sri Lanka, Astra has launched the Astra Diriya Wanitha Programme, in collaboration with the Samurdhi programme. The initiative, which aims to equip women to start their baking businesses, was announced recently at a launch event at the Cinnamon Grand in Colombo.



Jagath Kumara – MP, General Secretary of the Association of Samurdhi Officers and Agricultural Research Offices



Marketing Manager for Upfield Sri Lanka, Shehani Liyanage

In partnership with the Samurdhi Programme, Astra will identify women across the 25 districts of the country and provide them with the training, knowledge, and equipment needed to start their baking businesses. The goal being to improve their livelihoods and support them to become self-sufficient.

Astra launched the programme at a formal event today at Cinnamon Grand, Colombo. Special guests at the event included Hon. Jagath Kumara – MP, General Secretary of the Association of Samurdhi Officers and Agricultural Research Offices, Head of Business and Customer Development Director of Upfield Sri Lanka, Anuruddha Aluvihare, Senior Country Financial Controller of Upfield Sri Lanka, Krishan Fernando, Owner and Founder of White Flower Academy, Chef Dushanthi Madanayake among others.

Speaking at the launch, Customer Development Director Upfield Anuruddha Aluvihare, said: "We believe that every child deserves the opportunity to get the nutrition they need to grow, develop, and reach their full potential at school and later in life. Through our breakfast brands, Upfield has committed to making a nutritious breakfast an everyday reality for 100 million children by 2025. The Astra Diriya Wanitha Campaign in Sri Lanka is part of that commitment as we expect the ripple effect of this initiative will be to empower women to be able to give more nutritious foods and a better education to their children, making our kids, the next generation, healthier and happier."

The Astra Home Bakers Programme will include comprehensive training on all aspects of cake making. Astra's mission is to empower at least one woman from each village division in the country, thereby elevating the living standards of 14,000 families across the country. This will enable her to give better education and more nutritious foods to her children to make them healthy and happy. Previously, Astra has delivered similar initiatives in Colombo

and Kurunegala. The current initiative will be at a larger scale, involving many more beneficiaries and stakeholders.

Commenting on the initiative, MP, Jagath Kumara noted "The onset of the pandemic triggered a number of daunting challenges in the society. Families with children continue to endure economic hardship due to a loss of income. In this context, Astra's initiative to help mothers start their own businesses and earn an additional income is especially commendable. I want to encourage more corporate organizations to take the initiative like Upfield has done to create such projects in partnership with the Government."

Astra has been a household brand since 1966 and has a proud legacy of contributing to the awareness and improvement of child nutrition, a key brand ethos that has been sustained for decades. The 'Astra Diriya Wanitha Programme' is another step in Astra's involvement in raising a healthy, active, and empowered next generation of leaders and achievers.

Shedding more light on the initiative, Marketing Manager for Upfield Sri Lanka, Shehani Liyanage, commented: "Since its inception in 1966, Astra has been advocating the importance of a nutritious breakfast for children and families through a range of products that makes good nutrition accessible to all. The Covid-19 pandemic has created a new set of challenges for mothers, one of which is financial stability. Through this initiative, we hope to combine the decades long connection of Astra with baking with helping mothers in Sri Lanka find financial stability and support for their kids and family during these trying times. Our collaboration with the Samurdhi Programme allows us to identify women who need support and have the passion to initiate and continue successful home-baking businesses." -DR

YouCab, latest "Foodie" in Town!



Being locked in our homes specifically created a need for delivery of food and other basic necessities. Safety and hygiene of such deliveries was an imperative and the ability to deliver to all areas and do so in a timely and courteous manner became all the more important. Taking these factors into consideration homegrown taxi service YouCab rallied together their troops and established a manual delivery network last year.

to expedite the development of Foodie and introduce it to the market at the earliest"

"Even though there is no lockdown per se anymore, the dependency on delivery platforms is so much more. Our attempt is to bridge the gap between the customer and supplier with a touch of inherent Sri Lankan hospitality that is at the very heart of YouCab's operations as well", he added.

YouCab, which is a subsidiary of Virtrans Capital (Pvt) Ltd, brought together contact center staff, travel partners who volunteered their services and Operational Staff members in a team effort that gave birth to Virtrans Capital Delivery (Pvt) Ltd". From the learnings of the delivery service and customer feedback, the "Foodie" app was developed and launched recently.

The Foodie Delivery App simply connects Customers with Merchants or Suppliers who produce or supply food items through Travel Partners who are willing to deliver items ordered to a Customer's door step. The product portfolio is vast and Customers have the ability to select a payment option from online payment to cash on delivery. Furthermore, the App goes beyond radius limitations and allows Customers to order food from their favourite restaurants anywhere within the delivery network map.

Speaking on the launch Virtrans Capital Pvt Ltd CEO Nirthaj Seelanatha said, "When the pandemic and subsequent lockdown struck Sri Lanka in March 2020 people found it difficult to even get the most basic of necessities delivered to their homes. Food delivery in particular was hard to come by. Our taxi operations had been running for more than a year by that time and the introduction of a food delivery platform was in the pipeline. However, the need was such that we needed

Merchants partnering with YouFoodie also have the added benefit of choosing the partnership agreement brackets that suit the nature and size of their business instead of having to pay standard rates to the app owner. Restaurants and home bakers can set their own delivery times, view orders, confirm dispatches and track orders, accept various payment options and set minimum order values and discounts etc. -NG

A 'really short' James Bond?

Spider-Man stepping into the shoes of James Bond? Hollywood actor Tom Holland, who is widely known for playing Spider-Man in the Marvel films, is throwing his name into the discussion around who should be the next Bond after actor Daniel Craig exits the popular role with 'No Time To Die'.

According to a magazine, the 24-year-old actor said on a podcast recently that regardless of his height, he would not hesitate to replace Craig as the next 007 in the iconic James Bond spy films.

Expressing his interest in playing the popular role he said, "I mean, ultimately, as a young British lad who loves cinema, I'd love to be James Bond. So, you know, I'm just putting that out there. I look pretty good in a suit."

Holland jokingly added, "I'd be like a really short James Bond."

The role of James Bond has been played on the big screen by seven actors - Sean Connery, David Niven, George Lazenby, Roger Moore, Timothy Dalton, Pierce Brosnan, and Craig, who is exiting the role after the upcoming movie 'No Time to Die'.

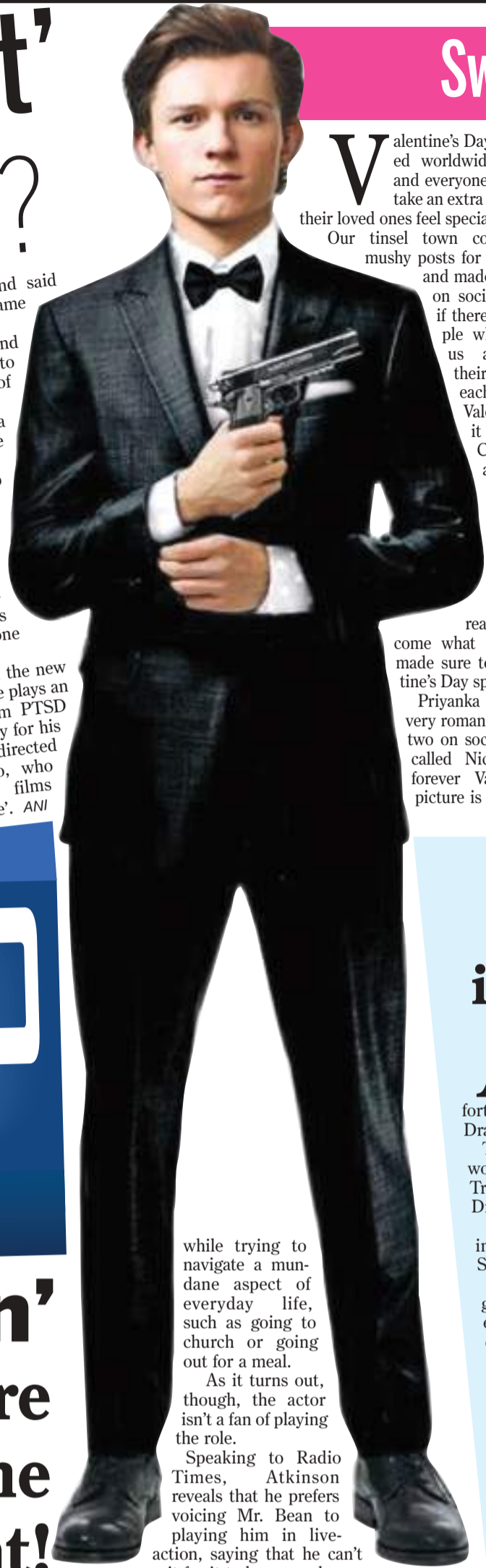
Aside from playing Bond, Holland said that he also hopes to work with Dame Maggie Smith in the future.

"I love her. She's so like English and just seems so sweet. I'd really love to work with Maggie Smith," he said of the Oscar-winning star.

Holland also shared that he has a few more exciting projects in the pipeline.

"I've got two roles coming up that I'm playing in the next few years that I'm really excited about, but I can't talk about them yet," he said without giving away any further details. As for the very anticipated third Spider-Man film, Holland told that "it's the most ambitious standalone superhero movie ever made."

Holland is also set to star in the new crime film 'Cherry', in which he plays an Army medic who suffers from PTSD and starts robbing banks to pay for his opioid addiction. The film is directed by Anthony and Joe Russo, who helmed numerous Marvel films including 'Avengers: Endgame'. ANI



Sweet Valentine's Day surprise

Valentine's Day was celebrated worldwide on Sunday and everyone made sure to take an extra step and make their loved ones feel special.

Our tinsel town couples posted mushy posts for their partners and made us go mushy on social media. But if there was one couple who surely left us amazed with their gesture for each other on Valentine's Day it was Priyanka Chopra Jonas and Nick Jonas.

The couple are currently in two different continents due to professional reasons, but come what may, the two made sure to make Valentine's Day special.

Priyanka first shared a very romantic click of the two on social media and called Nick Jonas her forever Valentine. The picture is all things love



and filled with romance. However later she shared a picture where she showed us innumerable roses sent to her by her husband. Nick Jonas made sure that he sends several red roses for her and makes her feel like a Queen. The actress shared a click where she's seated dreamily amid the roses and said, 'I wish you were here Nick Jonas, just a couple of roses.'

After sending his wife roses, Nick Jonas took to Instagram and now it was

the singer's turn to share a cute click of them and shower her with love. He penned down a sweet note where he says he will be with her, wherever she goes. 'Wherever you go, I'll go, cause we're in it together. For better or worse, hold on, cause it only gets better. Happy Valentine's Day @priyankachopra thank you for filling every day with happiness and peace. I love you to the moon and back.' Too cute! *Filmfare*



'Bean' there done that!

British comic Rowan Atkinson reveals that he doesn't like playing Mr. Bean, as he finds it incredibly stressful and exhausting to perform the role.

The character made Atkinson a global superstar after he appeared in 15 episodes across five years in the 1990s.

Mr. Bean's success made Atkinson synonymous with the strange, childlike man (who may be an alien), overtaking his previous creation, Blackadder, as his most successful role.

The show spawned

two movies, 1997's 'Bean' and 2007's 'Mr. Bean's Holiday', and a long-running animated series. Atkinson's most recent appearance as the character in live-action came at the 2012 London Olympics.

The popularity of Mr. Bean was almost entirely down to Atkinson's mostly wordless performance. The comic worked out the physical gestures and facial expressions down to the minutest detail, putting everything of himself into his performance and elevating the show's juvenile humor into something that appealed to all audiences.

Most of the episodes involved the character getting himself into all sorts of trouble and even committing some near-atrocities

while trying to navigate a mundane aspect of everyday life, such as going to church or going out for a meal.

As it turns out, though, the actor isn't a fan of playing the role.

Speaking to Radio Times, Atkinson reveals that he prefers voicing Mr. Bean to playing him in live-action, saying that he can't wait for it to be over whenever he plays him. He says he not only feels an enormous responsibility to the character but that it's incredibly stressful and exhausting playing him, referring to the precise physical nature of the role.

Atkinson's thoughts about playing the character might be surprising to some, but fans of the show will surely acknowledge it must be a challenging role to take on.

Most episodes of Mr. Bean required Atkinson to get into some physical confrontation or spend most of its running time pulling a ridiculous face, and it must be tiring to inhabit his strange physicality while shooting.

It's also not surprising that Atkinson has made infrequent appearances as the character in live-action in the past 20 years, given his age, now 66.

Screen Rant

Finding magic in Southeast Asian tradition

All people of Asian heritage are not the same. That's the rather self-evident message from some who have dived into a debate about the forthcoming Disney film, "Raya and the Last Dragon."

The animated movie is about a young woman named Raya (voiced by Kelly Marie Tran, or KMT) on a quest to find the Last Dragon in order to unite a people.

It features stars of Asian ethnicity, also including Golden Globe-winning actress Sandra Oh, Awkwafina and Gemma Chan.

But the casting has sparked conversation, given that the story in the film has a Southeast Asian origin and many of the actors cast are of East Asian ancestry.

"A friendly reminder that actual Southeast Asians are not thrilled for Raya and the Last Dragon," one person tweeted. "They basically put the whole region in a blender and hired so little south-east Asian actors for the roles. It sucks, it feels like Disney didn't care to respect

us." Another tweeted, "I am actually very conflicted about the new Raya and the Last Dragon casting. I love all those cast members. But basically everyone, except KMT is East Asian. Imagine how big it would be they actually casted Southeast Asian actors. SE Asian actors are sorely lacking in Hollywood."

CNN has reached out to Disney for comment. Representation in Hollywood has been a hot topic for years, and there was excitement in 2018 when "Crazy Rich Asians" became the first major studio movie since "The Joy Luck Club" decades prior to feature a predominantly Asian cast.

That same year, Tran wrote an opinion piece for The New York Times after she was harassed online and the target of racist comments.

"You might know me as Kelly. I am the first woman of color to have a leading role in a 'Star Wars' movie," she wrote. "I am the first Asian woman to appear on the cover of Vanity Fair. My real name is Loan. And I am just getting started."

"Raya and the Last Dragon" is set to premiere March 5 on Disney+. CNN



Wedding date postponed!

"Marry Me," Universal's romantic comedy starring Jennifer Lopez, Owen Wilson and Latin pop star Maluma, has been bumped again, this time all the way to Valentine's Day 2022.

"Marry Me" will now open on February 11, 2022, pushed back from its most recent release date on May 14, 2021. It will take the place of an untitled Universal event film on the calendar. The movie was originally meant to open this weekend in time for Valentine's Day 2021 but was delayed until the summer after the studio dropped a teaser trailer.

The studio has also slated an untitled Blumhouse horror film for release on January 28, 2022.

"Marry Me" is directed by Kat Coiro from a screenplay by

John Rogers, Tami Sagher and Harper Dill based on a graphic novel by Bobby Crosby. It also stars Chloe Coleman, Sarah Silverman, John Bradley, Michelle Buteau and Utkarsh Ambudkar.

The film also features original songs from J-Lo and Maluma and is the story about a superstar artist who intends to get married to her partner on stage, only to realize that he's been cheating on her. So in the heat of the moment, she grabs an unsuspecting math teacher played by Wilson out of the crowd and marries him instead.

The film is produced by Elaine Goldsmith-Thomas ("Hustlers," "Maid in Manhattan"), Jennifer Lopez, Benny Medina and John Rogers. The film's executive producers are Alex Brown, Willie Mercer, Pamela Thur and J.B. Roberts.

The Wrap

Janhvi eyes Tollywood

Young Bollywood actress Janhvi Kapoor proved she can carry author-backed roles with Gunjan Saxena. She is now busy with a handful of Bollywood projects and is open to the idea of starring in a straight Telugu film in the near future.

If the latest reports are to be believed, creative director Krishnavamsi is in pole position to launch Janhvi in Tollywood.

Apparently, Krishnavamsi penned a female-oriented script during the lockdown period and he wants to rope in a top star for the film. He is hoping Janhvi would like his story and come on board for the project.

Krishnavamsi has already initiated talks with Janhvi's delegation and even narrated the story to the young starlet. He is in touch with Janhvi's father, Boney Kapoor now.

Janhvi is expected to convey her final decision very soon.

If things pan out as expected for Krishnavamsi, he will be directing Janhvi's debut Telugu film. He is presently busy with 'Rangamarthanda'.

Telugu Bulletin



Daily News TENDER AND OTHER ADVERTISEMENTS

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

The Director-General, Institute of Bankers of Sri Lanka (IBSL) at No: 80A, Elvitigala Mawatha, Colombo 08 invites quotations from the qualified bidders for the supply of 600 mm LED Tube lights for the 600mmx600mm Mirror Louver LED Light Fittings, Installed in the IBSL premises.

- Scope of Work:**
 - The Institute of Bankers of Sri Lanka (IBSL) wishes to receive bids from prospective bidders for the supply of 600 numbers of 600 mm LED T5 Tube light for existing fluorescent luminaires.
 - The supply shall be complete in all respect and shall include the cost of equipment, warranty, freight, tool, and all other appropriate costs.
- Qualifications:**
 - Have an independent legal existence as a validly registered company engage in the supply of lighting for at least 02 years.
 - Be able to provide the supply requirements of IBSL while complying with the minimum prescribed standards specified in the technical specification which can be collected from the Administration & HR Division of the IBSL.
- The participating bidders are requested to visit IBSL Building before quoting and shall get familiarized with the size of the fittings, existing fitting luminaires, and other requirements.
- Advance payment:** 50% of the final quoted value on submission of an advance payment guarantee. Advance payment guarantee shall be for an amount equal to 50% of the quoted value excluding taxes and shall be an on-demand guarantee obtained from a reputed Licenced commercial bank for 02 months. The balance of 50% will be released within 07 days from the delivery of the goods or full payment will be paid upon delivering the ordered quantity.
- Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to **The Director- Administration and HR, Institute of Bankers of Sri Lanka at No: 80A, Elvitigala Mawatha, Colombo 08 on or before 08th March 2021 at 2.30 PM.** Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after the closing time in the presence of the bidder's representatives, who choose to attend.
- For any clarification, you may contact the Director, Facilities Management on 0773074218/0112425755 or the Asst. Director on 0766536703 /0112425756.

Since 1964

IBSL

INSTITUTE OF BANKERS OF SRI LANKA

The Director General

INSTITUTE OF BANKERS OF SRI LANKA

(Established under the Institute of Bankers of Sri Lanka (Incorporation) Act No. 26 of 1979 and managed by a Governing Board representing the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, Licensed Banks, Fellows and Associates of the IBSL.)

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SRILANKAN AIRLINES LTD TENDER NOTICE

TENDER NO: DCSM/ MKTG/ RFP/ 01/ 2021
SELECTION OF A DIGITAL MARKETING AGENCY FOR SRILANKAN AIRLINES

The bidding forms could be downloaded directly from the following link
https://www.srilankan.com/en_uk/corporate/tender-notice
with effect from 19th February 2021, 1100 hrs onwards
(Sri Lankan time GMT + 5:30 Time Zone)

Bid closing date: 01st April 2021 at 1100 hrs
(Sri Lankan time GMT + 5:30 Time Zone)

SENIOR MANAGER MARKETING
SRILANKAN AIRLINES



PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Provincial Health Services Department North Central Province Purchase of Filters / Lubricants / Liquids and Other Materials - 2021

Sealed bids are received by the Chairman, Procurement Committee, North Central Provincial Department of Health Services up to 11.00 a.m. on 10.03.2021 for the supply of following materials for the North Central Provincial Department of Health Services.

Lot No.	Reference No.	Required Equipment	Bid Document Fee (Rs.)	Value of Bid Security valid for 105 days (Rs.)
A	PDHS/F4/2021/P/02/01	Filters for Nissan Vehicles	1000.00	20,000.00
B	PDHS/F4/2021/P/02/02	Filters for Mitsubishi Vehicles	1000.00	20,000.00
C	PDHS/F4/2021/P/02/03	Filters for Toyota Vehicles	1000.00	20,000.00
D	PDHS/F4/2021/P/02/04	Filters for Isuzu, Ford Vehicles	1000.00	20,000.00
E	PDHS/F4/2021/P/02/05	Lubricants	1000.00	20,000.00
F	PDHS/F4/2021/P/02/06	Liquids and Other Materials - High Power Vehicle Washing Liquids, Air Fresheners, Glass Cleaners, Dash Board Polish, Radiator Coolant, Polishing Cloth, Cotton Waste, Safety Goggles, Safety Gum Boots, Safety Helmets, 1/2" Drive Impact Wrench	1000.00	15,000.00

- Local Agents possessing valid Business Registration Certificate are eligible to bid. Complete details and specifications regarding the materials to be purchased may be obtained from the Office of the North Central Provincial Director of Health Services. (Telephone Nos. 025 2050718/025 2223790).
- Bid documents may be obtained from the Office of the North Central Provincial Director of Health Services, Anuradhapura during office hours (9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.) from 17.02.2021 until 09.03.2021 on submission of the Business Registration Certificate upon payment of the non refundable bid document fee and the bid documents may be inspected free of charge.
- Duly perfected bids as per the bid conditions may either be sent by registered post addressed to "Chairman, Provincial Director of Health Services, Provincial Department of Health Services, Bandaranayake Mawatha, Anuradhapura" or deposited in the Procurement Box kept at the Accounts Division of the Office of the Provincial Director of Health Services to receive before 11.00 a.m. on 10.03.2021.
- Bids should be in duplicate as Original and Duplicate in separate covers and both covers should be reinserted in a single cover and submitted. The caption, "Purchase of Filters / Lubricants / Liquids and Other Materials - 2021" should be mentioned on the left hand top corner of the envelope containing the bid.
- Bids will be opened immediately after closing of bids at 11.00 a.m. on 10.03.2021 and the bidders or their authorized representatives may be present at the time of opening of bids.
- Bid security should be either a Bank Guarantee obtained only from a commercial bank registered with the Central Bank valid for 105 days from 10.03.2021 (10.03.2021 to 23.06.2021) or the relevant amount should be deposited with the office of the Provincial Director of Health Services in cash and the receipt should be submitted.
- Decision of the Procurement Committee of the North Central Provincial Department of Health Services will be final regarding this procurement.

Chairman/Provincial Director of Health Services
Provincial Department of Health Services
North Central Province,
Bandaranayake Mawatha, Anuradhapura
17.02.2021

GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC
OF SRI LANKA

MINISTRY OF ROADS AND HIGHWAYS

ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Provincial Director (NWP) on behalf of Road Development Authority invites sealed bids from eligible & qualified licensed surveyors for longitudinal section and cross section survey on 100 kilometers & 50 kilometers of roads (two packages) in Kurunegala District and 50 kilometers in Puttalam District for the roads (two packages) implemented under the 100,000 km Road improvement programme.

Contract No.	Name of the Project	Engineer's Estimate (with Contingencies & without VAT) (Rs.) (Million)	Bid Security (Rs.)	Non-refundable Fee (Rs.)
RDANWP/KURU/PD/LBFP/SURVEY/2021-07	Full Longitudinal Section and Cross Section Survey of 100km of Roads in Kurunegala District - KS 1	15.88	238,200.00	5000.000
RDANWP/KURU/PD/LBFP/SURVEY/2021-08	Full Longitudinal Section and Cross Section Survey of 50km of Roads in Kurunegala District - KS 2	7.94	119,100.00	3500.000
RDANWP/KURU/PD/LBFP/SURVEY/2021-09	Full Longitudinal Section and Cross Section Survey of 50km of Roads in Kurunegala District - KS 3	7.94	119,100.00	3500.000
RDANWP/PUT/PD/LBFP/SURVEY/2021-10	Full Longitudinal Section and Cross Section Survey of 50km of Roads in Puttalam District - PS 1	7.46	111,870.00	3500.000
RDANWP/PUT/PD/LBFP/SURVEY/2021-11	Full Longitudinal Section and Cross Section Survey of 50km of Roads in Puttalam District - PS 2	7.46	111,870.00	3500.000

- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
- The Employer has decided to carry out the full longitudinal section and cross section survey in Contracts which consist of 100 km & 50 km roads in Kurunegala District and 50km roads in Puttalam District, Each Contract to be implemented in two stages.
 - Stage I - Initial survey on existing roads, the contract period is 60 days,
 - Stage II - As-built survey on improved roads, the contract period is 60 days
 There will be approximately 60 days/ lag between the finish date of the Stage 1 and the start date of the Stage II, allowing the duration for construction.
- Pre-bid meeting is scheduled to be held at the Provincial Director's Office, NWP, Road Development Authority, Kurunegala at 10.00 hrs on 25.02.2021.
- Bidders can obtain further information over the following Telephone numbers, fax and Email addresses from the following office during office hours.

Provincial Director (NWP),
Provincial Director's Office, Road Development Authority, Kurunegala.

TP : 037 2056534
Fax : 037 2228076
E-mail address : pdrdanwp2020@gmail.com
- Interested bidders may inspect the bidding documents free of charge during office hours from Provincial Director's Office Kurunegala. And also a complete set of bidding documents in English Language shall be purchased from 18.02.2021 to 04.03.2021 from 09.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs upon payment of a non refundable fee and submission of a written application to the Provincial Director's Office, Kurunegala.
- Bids mentioning on top left hand corner with separate envelopes shall be delivered in duplicate by registered post or hand to the "The Chairman, Provincial Procurement Committee, Provincial Director's Office (NWP), Road Development Authority, on or before 14.00 hrs on 05.03.2021. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing.
- Bids shall be valid up to 05.07.2021.
- Bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security for an amount given in the above table. Bid Security shall be valid up to 05.08.2021.

The Chairman,
Provincial Procurement Committee,
Provincial Director's Office (NWP),
Road Development Authority,
Kurunegala.

GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

MINISTRY OF HIGHWAYS

ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

FUNDED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA (GOSL)
LOCAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

CALLING BIDS FOR SUPPLY OF 1,400 MT OF BULK BITUMEN (60/70) CONTRACT NO: RDA/DPR/SBB-1400/2021/50

- The Chairman, Road Development Authority Procurement Committee, invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the supply of 1,400 MT of bulk (decanted) bitumen (60/70).
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from Director (Procurement), Procurement Division, Road Development Authority, 4th Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamadura", No.216, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Koswatta, Battaramulla. Phone 011-2884790/011-2046200 and can inspect the bidding documents in office hours free of charge
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application with the registration certificate issued by Register of Public Contracts under Act No. 3 of 1987, Department of Registrar of companies for the contract to the Director (Procurement), Procurement Division, Road Development Authority, 4th Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamadura", No.216, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Koswatta, Battaramulla from 19/02/2021 until 01/03/2021 during 9.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs upon payment of non refundable fee of Rs. 3,450.00 (inclusive of VAT). by depositing to the Bank of Ceylon - Corporate Branch Account Number 0000001943 in favor of Director General, Road Development Authority for each Contract. The original payment slip should be produced when purchasing the Bid documents.
- Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the following address "Chairman, Road Development Authority Procurement Committee, C/o Director General, Road Development Authority, 1st Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamadura", No.216, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Koswatta, Battaramulla on or before 14.00 hrs on 02/03/2021. Offers shall be marked on the top left hand corner of the envelope the "Bids for Supply of 1,400 MT of Bulk bitumen (60/70)". Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidder or representative who chooses to attend.
- Bids shall be valid up to 01/06/2021.
- Bid shall be accompanied by a Bid-Security of Rs. 1,500,000.00 and shall be valid up 29/06/2021

Chairman,
Road Development Authority Procurement Committee,
Road Development Authority,
1st Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamadura",
Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Koswatta,
Battaramulla.

Employment Opportunities

VACANCIES

RECRUITMENT OF PROJECT STAFF FOR ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PROJECT

MINISTRY OF WILDLIFE AND FOREST CONSERVATION

The Ministry wishes to invite applications from qualified and devoted Sri Lankan Citizens to recruit Project Management Staff on a "contract basis" for the following positions as per Management Service Department (MSD) Circular 01/2019 for the World Bank funded Ecosystem Conservation and Management Project (ESCOMP) which has been implemented about 1 years.

Applicants should be below 67 years. Proficiency in English, familiarity with government regulations and computer literacy are essential prerequisites.

1. Senior Civil Engineer – 01 Post

Required qualifications :

A successfully completed Bachelor's Degree in the relevant field, which is recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) or a qualification recognized by the UGC as an equivalent qualification to the degree in the relevant field or a professional qualification successfully completed from a recognized professional institute in the relevant field and at least 08 years post qualifying experience in Managerial Level.

OR

A Bachelor's Degree which is recognized by the UGC and a Postgraduate Degree in the relevant field / full membership of a recognized professional institution in the relevant field with at least 07 years post qualifying experience in Managerial Level,

OR

Class I officer of the Government All Island services or a similar status in the relevant field with at least 02 years experience in the Class I post.

Salary Level : PS3 - Rs.125, 000.00 to 140,000.00 *

2. Environment & Social Safeguard Specialist– 01 Post

3. Communication Specialist – 01 Post

4. Community Development and Livelihood Specialist – 01 Post

5. Project Accountant – 01 Post

Required qualifications for posts 2,3,4 and 5

A successfully completed Bachelor's Degree in the relevant field, which is recognized by the UGC or a qualification recognized by the UGC as an equivalent qualification to the degree in the relevant field or a professional qualification successfully completed from a recognized professional institute in the relevant field and at least 06 years post qualifying experience in the relevant field out of which 03 years at Managerial Level

OR

Class II/III officer of the Government all island services in the relevant field with at least 6 years' experience in Class II/III post.

For the Communication Specialist position, candidates should possess a degree in the field of Communication, Journalism and Mass Communication or a Degree including Communication as a subject which is recognized by the UGC and at least 06 years post qualifying experience in the relevant field out of which 03 years at Managerial Level.

Salary Level : PS4 - Rs.100, 000.00 to 115,000.00 *

6. Environmental Officer - 02 Posts

7. Social Development Officer - 01 Post

Required qualifications for posts 6 and 7

A successfully completed Bachelor's Degree in the relevant field, which is recognized by the UGC or a qualification recognized by the UGC as an equivalent qualification to the degree in the relevant field or a professional qualification successfully completed from a recognized professional institute in the relevant field or having obtained a certificate of proficiency not below than the National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Level 7, issued by a Technical / Vocational Training Institute accepted by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission for a post related to Technical field and at least 01 year experience in the relevant area of specialization,

OR

Having obtained a certificate of proficiency not below than the NVQ Level 6, issued by a Technical / Vocational Training Institute accepted by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission for a post related to Technical field with at least 06 years of experience in the relevant area of specialization

OR

Having obtained a certificate of proficiency not below than the NVQ Level 5, issued by a Technical / Vocational Training Institute accepted by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission for a post related to Technical field with at least 11 years of experience in the relevant area of specialization

Salary Level : PS6 - Rs. 58, 000.00 to 63,000.00 *

8. Project Secretary

Required qualifications :

Having passed the G.C.E (O/L) examination in six (6) subjects with three (3) credit passes including English and Sinhala / Tamil language with a secretarial course from a recognized institution or pursuing examinations leading to Chartered Secretary with minimum 03 years experience in the relevant field

OR

A Chartered Secretary with 02 years experience in the relevant field.

Salary Level : PS6 - Rs. 58, 000.00 to 63,000.00 *

*Cost of living allowance will be paid in addition to the salary specified above as per MSD Circular No. 01/2019.

Applications :

The applicants are requested to forward their applications along with their Curriculum Vitae giving educational, professional qualifications and experience with two contacts of non-relative referees. Shortlisted applicants based on highest qualifications & experience, will be called for an interview and selection will be based on merit. Copies of the certificates to prove basic qualifications should be attached with the application and all the incomplete applications will be rejected.

Applicants who are in the Government / Semi Government Sector should forward their applications through their respective Heads of Departments.

Applications should be forwarded separately for each post by registered post on or before **08th March 2021** to reach the address given below and indicate the post applied for, on the top left-hand corner of the envelope.

For the full Terms of Reference visit: www.msdw.gov.lk

Secretary
Ministry of Wildlife and Forest Conservation
No. 1090, Sri Jayawardhanapura Mawatha,
Rajagiriya.

19th February 2021



Telecommunications Regulatory
Commission of Sri Lanka



Vacancies

Posts of Assistant Directors

The Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka (TRCSL) is the regulatory authority for telecommunications sector of the country with responsibility for facilitating the development of competitive, innovative and consumer-focused telecommunications, and is also responsible for managing and regulating the radio frequency spectrum in Sri Lanka.

TRCSL is a multi-disciplined, professional organization operating in a complex, dynamic environment.

We are looking for dynamic, result oriented, qualified and experienced individuals for the following positions in the Compliance Division of TRCSL.

Job Title and Job Description:

No	Job Title	No. of vacancies	Job Description
1	Assistant Director (Compliance)	03	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Handle all the Compliance Issues in the Telecom Sector 2. Monitoring the operators to fulfill their license conditions 3. Monitor the inter-operator relations and negotiations. 4. Design and implementation of incentive schemes for expansion of rural telecommunication services 5. Monitoring and handling issues related to statutory compliance and licence conditions 6. Managing the Consumer issues, Consumer surveys, Quality of Service Standards 7. Handling the Consumer complaints, under section 09 of the Telecommunication Act. 8. Submit the proposals for developing the Consumer relations & Consumer protection 9. Organizing meetings with operators to take relevant steps for developing the consumer rights.
2	Assistant Director (Financial Investigation)	01	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conducting the financial investigations regarding irregularities in the aspects of taxes and charges. 2. Conducting the investigations and preparation of reports and recommendations on revenue, consumer base and taxes in telecom sector, as required by the Director General.
3	Assistant Director (Technical Investigation)	01	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conducting the investigations regarding the technical irregularities in relation to the telecommunication sector. 2. Preparation of reports and recommendations on technical matters as required by the Director General.

Qualifications and Experience :

- 1st or 2nd class Bachelor's (Special Degree) preferably in the Engineering field from any university recognized by University Grant Commission of Sri Lanka or equivalent qualification; and
- Associate membership of the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka (IESL) or similar membership of other professional Engineering Institution recognized by IESL; and
- Minimum of three (03) years professional work experience, ideally in the Telecommunications / Radio Communications sector.

Desired :

- Sound understanding of ICT / telecommunications / radiocommunications technologies; how they are used by Operators or Service Providers & consumers in Sri Lanka.
- Excellent Communication skills (written and oral) in English and Sinhala / Tamil

Age Limit :

Not more than 30 years on the date of closing of applications.

Salary Package :

All-inclusive of Rs. 125,000 per month

Nature of Appointment :

The appointment will be on contract basis with entitlement for EPF & ETF.

Mode of Selection :

Selection will be through a structured interview preceded by a written examination to assess the skills of the applicants based on the criteria in table below. After initial screening, only short-listed applicants will be called for a written examination. Applicants who obtain the highest marks in the written examination will be invited for an interview.

Duration of Contract :

One year with possibility of renewal for additional years.

Merit Pool :

The selection process will establish a merit pool that may be used to fill similar positions within next 12 months.

Mode of Application :

Application giving Full Name, Date of Birth, Age, Nationality, Educational Qualifications, Experience and any other details with names and address of two non-related referees should be forwarded to Director General, Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka, No. 276, Elvitigala Mw, Colombo 08 under registered cover along with copies of relevant certificates to reach on or before **11.03.2021** including the post for which the application is made on top left hand cover of the envelope.

Director General

The Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka
No. 276, Elvitigala Mawatha,
Colombo 08.



**Telecommunications Regulatory
Commission of Sri Lanka**



Vacancies

Posts of Assistant Directors

The Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka (TRCSL) is the regulatory authority for telecommunications sector of the country with responsibility for facilitating the development of competitive, innovative and consumer-focused telecommunications, and is also responsible for managing and regulating the radio frequency spectrum in Sri Lanka.

The management of the radio spectrum involves the careful consideration and balancing of a broad range of factors (technical, regulatory, social, economic and administrative) with a view to ensuring that the radio spectrum is optimally and efficiently managed.

TRCSL is a multi-disciplined, professional organization operating in a complex, dynamic environment.

We are looking for dynamic, result oriented, qualified and experienced individuals for the following positions in the Spectrum Management division of TRCSL.

Job Title and Job Description :

Job Title	Job Description
1. Assistant Director / Spectrum Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain National Frequency Allocation Table(NFAT) of Sri Lanka Plan the radio frequency spectrum to improve spectrum efficiency and flexibility to implement new technologies such as SDR, Cognitive radios etc. Implement Spectrum re-farming strategies for the accommodation of future Broadband Wireless Access Services Review existing sharing and compatibility studies between radiocommunication services in co-channel and/or adjacent frequency bands, with focus on co-existence between cellular and satellite services Analyze and evaluate technical parameters of various radiocommunication services, e.g. Fixed, mobile, satellite, and broadcasting Conduct and review existing sharing and compatibility studies between radiocommunication services in co-channel and/or adjacent frequency bands, with focus on co-existence between cellular and satellite services Use propagation and system modelling to assess coexistence scenarios between different wireless technologies Assist to conduct national and international frequency coordination Keeping database records for the coordination activities with neighbouring countries Generating ITU notification forms for frequency assignments requiring international coordination Assess the impacts of new radio applications on existing investment in spectrum bands
2. Assistant Director / Spectrum Licensing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate application forms for assignment of frequencies for all categories of radio communication Services (Point- to- Point, Point- to- Multi points, Satellite Public Mobiles, Private Mobile, WLAN etc.) Assist to issue invoices for new assignments/renewal of licenses and issuance of frequency licenses Oversee collection of license fee for the renewal of frequency licenses Assist to relinquish spectrum that is not being used efficiently or effectively Carry out on-site inspection prior to issuance of license and post- licensing inspection Carry out Radio site engineering surveys for all the services Assess the effective & efficient utilization of spectrum bands assigned to fixed/mobile Operators Assist to perform spectrum audits Assess the utilization of radio spectrum bands assigned to mobile networks Ensure that the use of radio and radio frequencies throughout the spectrum conforms to license requirements Enforcement of license terms and conditions to enable users to operate without causing interference to each other
3. Assistant Director / Spectrum Monitoring & Enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carryout activities related to radio spectrum monitoring and perform testing Investigate interference complaints & eliminate of harmful interference Identify of illegal/unlicensed use of spectrum in the country and take regulatory actions against unauthorized (does not comply with the license condition) users/ illegal use of spectrum carry out on-site inspection in case of reported harmful interference and analysis process spectrum monitoring reports on harmful interference Assist to investigate interference complaints and resolve interference issues Assist law enforcement agencies to conduct raids against illegal use of radio equipment Maintenance and calibration of laboratory test equipment and other equipment used by the inspection and monitoring elements of the organization Carry out Radio compatibility and EMC studies
4. Assistant Director / Spectrum Engineering Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use propagation and system modelling to assess coexistence scenarios between different wireless technologies Propagation prediction using digital terrain elevation data and propagation models recommended by ITU Calculation of the station coverage area and displaying on digital maps Microwave link analysis Intra-service interference analysis in analogue radio/TV and cellular mobile services Compatibility calculations between the sound broadcasting service in the band of about 87-108 MHz and the aeronautical services in the band 108-137 MHz Intermodulation interference and desensitization analyses Analyze and evaluate technical parameters of various radiocommunication services, e.g. mobile, satellite, fixed, radar and broadcast Calculation of the coordination contours for earth stations of geostationary satellites according to ITU Radio Regulations and determination of terrestrial radio stations being inside this contour and sharing the same frequency band Perform analysis using spectrum engineering tools to determine the radio performance of mobile cellular and other wireless networks, e.g. coverage, radio interference, co-existence parameters that promote efficient and effective spectrum use Measure the real impact of new radio systems on the wireless environment and use these results to facilitate new options for spectrum sharing
5. Assistant Director / IoT Wireless Technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify availability of spectrum that suitable for Internet-of-Things(IoT) applications in following range of networks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wireless Personal Area Network WPAN/ Wireless-Local Area Network (WLAN) - Bluetooth, BLE, INSTEDON, IrDA,6LoWPAN, RFID, NFC, Z-Wave, ZigBee, wireless USB. Low Power Wide Area Network (LPWAN) -Sigfox, Lora WAN, Cat-M1, Cat-NB1, Weightless-P, Wi-SUN, Ingenu, etc. Wireless Wide Area Network (WWAN) -GPRS, 3G, 4G, Cat-1, 5G, Satellite. Study and develop technical standards for wireless IoT technologies being used in in WPAN/WLAN, LPWAN and WWAN Identify the spectrum ranges suitable for narrowband, wideband, short or long-range IoT applications in Sri Lanka and Allocation Develop domain specific strategies for IoT applications in Agriculture, Health, Education, Environment, Water quality, Transportation, Vehicular Traffic, Public Security & Safety, etc by use of wireless technologies Develop network infrastructure related to IoT based project plans to be shared with various Government Authorities

Qualifications and Experience :

- 1st or 2nd class Bachelor's (Special Degree) preferably in the Engineering field from any university recognized by University Grant Commission of Sri Lanka or equivalent qualification; and
- Associate membership of the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka(IESL) or similar membership of other professional Engineering Institution recognized by IESL; and
- Minimum of three (03) years professional work experience, ideally in the Telecommunications/Radio Communications sector.

Desired :

- Sound understanding of ICT/telecommunications /radiocommunications technologies; how they are used by Operators or Service Providers & consumers in Sri Lanka.
- High level of computing competence in applications such as Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Project GIS knowledge.

Age Limit :

Not more than 30 years on the date of closing of applications.

Salary Package:

All-inclusive of Rs. 125,000 per month

Nature of Appointment:

The appointment will be on contract basis with entitlement for EPF & ETF.

Mode of Selection:

Selection will be through a structured interview preceded by a written examination to assess the skills of the applicants based on the criteria in table below. After initial screening, only short-listed applicants will be called for a written examination. Applicants who obtain the highest marks in the written examination will be invited for an interview.

Skill	Description
Relevant Qualifications and Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practical technical / engineering experience in the coordination and delivery of operational activities across a range of radio communication services Experience in the field of Telecommunications preferably in Radio Communication Understanding of new technologies in Telecommunications and Radio Communications Understands basic concepts of Telecommunication regulations and Radio Spectrum Management Strong organizational skills, with the ability to establish plans and priorities and implement activities effectively proven multi-tasking skills Effectiveness in managing human resources
Strategic Thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A proven ability to apply analytical and critical thinking techniques to solving problems quickly and effectively. Focuses strategically Harnesses information and opportunities Shows judgement, intelligence and common-sense Assesses the environmental impacts due to activities of the industry
Achievement of Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good technical and analytical problem-solving skills including a demonstrated ability to understand and analyze complex situations Demonstrates professional expertise Steers and implements changes and deals with uncertainties Proven ability to develop systems and implement Proven ability to use engineering principles to solve the issues of the industry & public
Cultivation of Productive Relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to work effectively with the people who have different professional & social backgrounds (internal and external) Promotes and enhances team performance through working collaboratively and in cooperation with others to achieve goals Values individual differences and diversity
Demonstration of Personal Drive and Integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates public service professionalism Engages with risk and shows personal courage Commits to work Displays resilience Understanding of professional codes of ethics for Engineers
Communication Ability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to communicate clearly, concisely and effectively both orally and in writing Strong written communications skills with experience in drafting reports, concept papers Ability to understand and express views within a multi-disciplinary environment.

Duration of Contract :

One year with possibility of renewal for additional years.

Merit Pool :

The selection process will establish a merit pool that may be used to fill similar positions within next 12 months.

Mode of Application :

Application giving Full Name, Date of Birth, Age, Nationality, Educational Qualifications, Experience and any other details with names and address of two non-related referees should be forwarded to Director General, Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka, No.276, Elvitigala Mw, Colombo 08 under registered cover along with copies of relevant certificates to reach on or before **11.03.2021** including the post for which the application is made on top left hand cover of the envelope.

**Director General
The Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka
No.276, Elvitigala Mawatha,
Colombo 08.**



MINISTRY OF WATER SUPPLY WATER RESOURCES BOARD



VACANCIES

Applications are invited from eligible Sri Lankans to fill vacancies for the posts mentioned below lying vacant at the Board. You are kindly informed to browse through the Institutions website: www.wrb@gov.lk to obtain details of the relevant qualifications and experience for filling the posts mentioned below:

1. **General Manager** (HM 2-1)
2. **Deputy General Manager (Operations)** (HM 1-3)
3. **Deputy General Manager (Research & Development)** (HM 1-3)
4. **Assistant General Manager (Engineering)** (HM 1-1)
5. **Legal Officer** (MM 1-1)

General Conditions:

1. Payment of salaries will be based according to Circular No. MSD 02/2016 issued by the Management Services Department. The government approved Cost of Living allowance and other relevant allowances will be paid.
2. An official vehicle and fuel allowance will be provided according to the State Administration Circular for Senior Management (HM) management posts.
3. Age limits will not be considered from applicants in the state sector.
4. Officers in the Government Service or State / Corporations or Boards should process their applications through the relevant heads of institutions.
5. The name of the post applying for should be marked on the top left-hand corner of the envelope.
6. Applications containing your complete bio-data and copies of certificates with names and addresses of two non-related referees should be sent to the Chairman, Water Resources Board, 2A, Hector Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Colombo 07 by registered post to be received on or before 10.03.2021.

Chairman,
Water Resources Board,
2A, Hector Kobbekaduwa Mawatha,
Colombo 07.

19.02.2021

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MINISTRY OF TRADE

VACANCIES

The Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB), is the apex government organization responsible for development and promotion of exports from Sri Lanka. Applications are invited from citizens of Sri Lanka possessing professional skills with proven ability to join the EDB in the following position who could contribute to ensuring the achievement of export goals articulated in the strategic plan of the EDB.

MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT (NON TECHNOLOGICAL) (MA 1-1)

Job Description :

- Attending to all clerical and secretarial work pertaining to the activities carried out by the respective Divisions
- Maintenance of files
- Updating and monitoring records quarterly and annually

Qualifications :

- a) Having passed the G.C.E. (O/L) examination in six subjects in one sitting with credit passes for four subjects including Sinhala/Tamil, English Language and Maths/Arithmetic
- And
- b) Having passed at least three subjects (other than the General Paper) at the G.C.E. (A/L) Examination.

Additional Qualifications :

- Speed of 30-40 w.p.m. in typing in English/Sinhala
- Ability to converse in English
- Ability to operate a Telephone Switch Board/PABX
- Knowledge of computer work and experience in the related field

Salary Scale MA 1-1 : Rs. 27,910/- 10x300 - 7x350 - 4x495 - 20x660 - Rs. 48,540/- per month plus and Government approved allowances.

Method of Selection :

On the results of a written competitive examination and a structured interview.

Age :

Should be not less than 18 years and not more than 45 years. However, the upper age limit would not apply to candidates in the Government Departments, Corporations & Statutory Institutions and to internal candidates.

Other benefits :

- * EDB Medical Assistance Scheme
- * Transport facility
- * Encashment of unutilized Medical Leave /Annual Bonus
- * Housing Loan Scheme and Distress Loan at concessionary rates of interest
- * EPF - Employee - 10%; Board - 15% & ETF - Board 3%

The applications should be made on the prescribed form which could be accessed by visiting www.srilankabusiness.com [under the section of "Announcements"] or the application forms could be collected from the HRM Division, Level 5, EDB. The duly completed applications along with the relevant copies of certificates should be sent under Registered Cover addressed to the Director General EDB on or before **05.03.2021**, mentioning the title of the post on the top left-hand corner of the envelope. **Any application that is not submitted in the prescribed form (EDB application) and not supported with the relevant copies of certificates will be rejected.**

Applications from State Sector employees should be forwarded through their Heads of Institutions. We advise you to send copies of such state sector employees' applications in advance to reach the EDB before the closing date.

Director General

SRI LANKA EXPORT DEVELOPMENT BOARD
NDB-EDB Tower, 42, Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 02.

Tel: 011-2300700 Fax: 011-2300715

Web: www.srilankabusiness.com



Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka



Vacancies

The Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka (TRCSL) is seeking the service of an Internal Auditor to undertake an Internal Audits (Non-Technical Audit) focusing on the financial audit and governance aspect of the Colombo Lotus Tower project's constructions.

This appointment will be on an Assignment Basis for a period of six months commencing from starting date this assignment.

01. Scope :-

The scope of internal audit work covers the financial audits and governance aspects of the Colombo Lotus Tower (CLT). The scope of work is based on the management's assessment of the inherent risks and the significance of these risks. This should not exclude the outsourced activities relating to the project.

The purpose of the Internal Audit is to provide an independent objective assurance and recommendations to add value and improve the control environment relating to operations of the CLT. In order to carry out this responsibility, selected internal auditor has responsibility to:

- a. Develop a flexible Internal Audit Plan using an appropriate risk based methodology and submit the plan along with the resource requirements to the Commission of TRCSL.
- b. Implement the Internal Audit Plan and any special audits requested by the Commission of TRCSL.
- c. Report significant issues encountered in the process of conducting audit to the Commission of TRCSL.
- d. Conduct spot checks and reviews depending on the requirements. Report the progress of conduct of audits to the Commission of TRCSL.
- e. Submit activity reports to the Commission of TRCSL and Auditor General if requested.

Selected internal auditor should conduct his internal audit in professional and timely manner. It is the responsibility of the management of TRCSL to implement the action plans as endorsed by the Commission of TRCSL.

02. Qualifications :-

The eligible candidate should be a Chartered Accountant prefer with the qualification of Construction Audit and He/ She should have the experience in carrying out at least two Assignment in Financial Audit and governance aspect of the constructions.

03. Salary :- Rs. 200,000.00 per month (Negotiable)

04. Recruitment Procedure :- On the result of a Structured Interview

05. Closing Date of Application :- 11.03.2021

06. Method of Application :- Application together with Bio-Data and copies of supporting documents should be forwarded under registered cover to reach the Director General, Telecommunication Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka No, 276, Elvitigala Mawatha, Colombo 08, on or before **11.03.2021**. The applicant should provide following essential information in their applications:-

- Full Name :-
- Name with initials :-
- Gender :-
- Date of Birth :- National Identity Card No :-
- Present Position :-
- Postal Address :-
- E mail Address :-
- Contract Numbers :-
- Educational and Professional Qualifications :-
- Experience :-
- Any other information :-

Date : Signature of the Applicant :

Applicants are requested to state "Post of Internal Auditor" on the top left of the envelop containing their applications.

Director General

The Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka

No. 276, Elvitigala Mawatha,

Colombo 08.



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

PROJECT OF CONSTRUCTING THE MEDICAL FACULTY OF UNIVERSITY OF SABARAGAMUWA

Applications are invited from qualified citizens of Sri Lanka for the below mentioned posts of the Project of Constructing the Medical Faculty of University of Sabaragamuwa, which is implemented by the Higher Education Division of the Ministry of Education under loan grants of the Government of Saudi Arabia. This project has been established as a Project Management Unit in conformity with the provisions of the Circular No. 01/2019 dated 05.03.2019 issued by the Department of Management Services, and the total value of the cost is US \$ 70 million, approximately.

Designation	Number of Posts	Salary Level
Project Engineer	1	PS 4

The basic qualifications required for the recruitment to the above post and general conditions are as follows:

Required Qualifications for the Post

1. PROJECT ENGINEER (PS 4)

Minimum Qualifications & Experience:

- (1). A successfully completed Bachelor's Degree in the relevant field which is recognized by the University Grants Commission

Or

 A qualification recognized by the University Grants Commission as an equivalent qualification to the Degree in the relevant field

Or

 An Associate Membership / A similar professional qualification obtained from a recognized professional institution in the relevant field

With

 At least 07 years post qualifying experience in the relevant field
- (2). An officer of the Government All Island Services Class III/II or above or similar status in the relevant field

With

 At least 07 years of experience in Class III/II post

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

1. It is compulsory to fulfil all the qualifications relevant to the post by each applicant on or before the date of calling applications.
2. Experience in Saudi Fund or other foreign funded construction development project will be a special qualification.
3. **Age Limit:** Maximum age of 64 years or less than that
4. **Salary :** Salary and other allowances entitled in terms of the Circular No. 01/2019 dated 05.03.2019 issued by the Department of Management Services of the Ministry of Finance.
5. **Service Conditions:**
Will be appointed to one year duration on contract basis. It will be considered to extend that period annually for a maximum of two more years considering the performance and the service requirement.
6. **Other Benefits:**
For the Employees Provident Fund, the employee will contribute 8% and the employer will contribute 12% and the employer will contribute 3% to the Employees' Trust Fund.
The self-made application mentioning complete details on qualifications, experience, and other relevant details together with the names of two non-related referees should be sent by the Registered Post to the address of **Secretary, Ministry of Education, No. 18, Ward Place, Colombo 07** on or before 15.03.2021. **It is required to mention the post which you are applying for on the top left-hand corner of the envelope.**

Prof. K. Kapila C.K. Perera
Secretary,
Ministry of Education,
No. 18, Ward Place, Colombo 07
19.02.2021