

SRI LANKA, PAKISTAN INK MOUS ON TOURISM, INVESTMENT, TECHNOLOGY AND EDUCATION

AGREE ON CURBING ARMS, DRUG SMUGGLING THROUGH INFORMATION SHARING

RUKSHANA RIZWIE

Sri Lanka and Pakistan inked several pacts ranging from tourism, investment, technology to education while reaching a mutual consensus for information as part of an ambitious action plan to curb arms and drug smuggling yesterday during bilateral talks between Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa and Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan. **TO PAGE 02**



Visiting Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa before they held the bi-lateral meeting at Temple Trees yesterday. *Picture by PM's Media Division.*

WARM WELCOME FOR PAKISTAN PRIME MINISTER IMRAN KHAN

MOHAMMED RASOOLDEEN

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan arrived here on a two-day official visit yesterday. On arrival, the visiting Premier was received by Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa at the Bandaranaike International Airport in Colombo. **TO PAGE 02**

BASL to elect new President today

LAKMAL SOORIYAGODA

A new President for the Bar Association of Sri Lanka (BASL) for 2021-2022 will be elected from BASL members today (24).

Today's election is expected to be a battle

between two prominent President's Counsel Saliya Pieris and Kuvera de Zoysa. BASL Secretary Rajeev Amarasinghe said arrangements have been taken to hold the election in 85 Bar Association centres countrywide. **TO PAGE 02**

PCoI Report on Easter Sunday Attacks

Strictures on former President, former PM, former IGP and Senior DIG



The Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) which investigated the Easter Sunday attacks has proposed that the Attorney General look into the possibility of filing criminal charges against former

President Maithripala Sirisena. The Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) which investigated the Easter Sunday attacks handed over the report to the Speaker yesterday. **TO PAGE 02**

Cabinet approves COVID jab for 14 million persons

Serum Institute gets US\$ 52.5 mn order for 10 million doses

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

The government plans to vaccinate 14 million out of the country's total population against COVID-19.

Co-Cabinet Spokesman Plantation

Minister Dr. Ramesh Pathirana said the Cabinet of Ministers approved the proposal submitted by acting Health Minister Prof. Channa Jayasumana to take all necessary measures for this. **TO PAGE 02**



US COVID DEATHS EXCEED 500,000 - PAGE 12

Speaker gets Easter Sunday Attack Report

SANDASEN MARASINGHE, CAMELIA NATHANIEL and AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI

The final report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) on the Easter Sunday attack was submitted to Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena and Parliament yesterday. **TO PAGE 02**

No rise in fuel prices for six months - Minister

SANDASEN MARASINGHE, CAMELIA NATHANIEL and AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI

The government has no intention of increasing fuel prices in the next six months, Energy Minister Udaya Gammanpila assured in Parliament yesterday. **TO PAGE 02**



PMB to purchase paddy at market rates to keep 'big millers' at bay

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

Cabinet approval has been granted to purchase paddy from local farmers competitively with the private sector to provide a higher price for farmers under the government's rice purchasing programme of the Maha Season of 2020/21.

The Cabinet of Ministers has also decided to maintain the price of Nadu at Rs.98 per kilogram in the future, without any changes despite paddy being purchased at a higher price by the businessmen. **TO PAGE 02**

Treasury Secretary to head Investment Management Committee

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

The Cabinet has approved Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa's proposal to appoint a committee named Investment Management Committee to take necessary measures to grant approval for investment proposals, Co-Cabinet Spokesman Mass Media Minister Keheliya Rambukwella said. **TO PAGE 02**



Speaker tells Sajith why Ramanayake can't be in Parliament

Opposition Leader wants him transferred to Welikada prison



SANDASEN MARASINGHE, CAMELIA NATHANIEL and AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI

Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa called on Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena to intervene to transfer former MP Ranjan Ramanayake to another prison from Angunakolapelessa Prison yesterday.

Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena yesterday announced that as former State Minister Ranjan Ramanayake was convicted and sentenced by a three judge bench of the Supreme Court for Contempt of Court, there is no Court to appeal against the judgement. **TO PAGE 02**

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Sri Lanka calls on UNHRC to hold the scales even

Announces withdrawal from co-sponsorship of Resolution 30/1

RUKSHANA RIZWIE

Foreign Affairs Minister Dinesh Gunawardena in his video address to the 46th Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) called the UN resolution 30/1 against Sri Lanka as being "politically motivated" and that it was the result of "hegemonic forces colluding with each other" to bring a resolution "that has unjustifiably expanded its scope." **TO PAGE 02**



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Shani's bail request: Justice Wijesundera recuses

Two new CA judges to hear bail application

LAKMAL SOORIYAGODA

Court of Appeal Judge Justice Menaka Wijesundera yesterday recused herself from hearing a revision application filed on behalf of former CID former Director Shani Abaysekara and Sub Inspector Sugath Mendis, citing personal reasons. **TO PAGE 02**



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Former Akuressa PS Chairman seeks bail

LAKMAL SOORIYAGODA

Former Akuressa Pradeshiya Sabha (PS) Chairman Saruwa Liyanage Sunil, who was sentenced to 15 years' Rigorous Imprisonment by the Colombo High Court for allegedly raping a girl, has filed a revision application in the Court of Appeal seeking an order to release him on bail.

The former PS Chairman has already filed an appeal seeking the jurisdiction of the Court of Appeal to review and set aside his conviction and the Rigorous Imprisonment imposed by the High Court on January 17, 2020.

Filing this revision petition through Counsel Darshana Kuruppu, the Petitioner is seeking an order to revise the Colombo High Court's order to refuse to grant bail on him. The Petitioner said the main victim of the case has categorically denied that the Petitioner raped her and thereby he urged this fact be considered as an exceptional circumstance. The Petitioner further said that he is more vul-

nerable to the COVID-19 and especially its new variant, as there are many inmates who have tested positive for the virus. The Attorney General had filed an indictment against the former PS Chairman Saruwa Liyanage Sunil for allegedly raping a girl in Akuressa between May 23, 2012 and July 2, 2012.

A woman along with her 3-year-old child had jumped into a well after an altercation with her husband, in Badullagamana, Bibile yesterday. The deceased have been identified as Binikona Mudiyansele Nadeeka Priyadarshani, 24, and her daughter, Nethsa Dewmini. Her husband was a soldier. She had been living with her parents-in-law. She had engaged in an argument with her husband over the phone on Monday night, police said. Her farther-in-law later had seen the child's body in the well. Bibile police dispatched the bodies to the Moneragala District Hospital for post mortem and PCR tests yesterday morning. Investigations are continuing.

Woman jumps into well along with child

D S GUNATHILAKE, Wellassa Group Corr.

The deceased have been identified as Binikona Mudiyansele Nadeeka Priyadarshani, 24, and her daughter, Nethsa Dewmini. Her husband was a soldier. She had been living with her parents-in-law. She had engaged in an argument with her husband over the phone on Monday night, police said. Her farther-in-law later had seen the child's body in the well. Bibile police dispatched the bodies to the Moneragala District Hospital for post mortem and PCR tests yesterday morning. Investigations are continuing.

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Quack arrested in Gampaha

ASELA KURULUWANSHA

A quack was arrested by the Kandy Special Crimes Branch yesterday in Gampaha. She has been acting as a doctor

who has been registered with the Medical Council as an obstetrician and gynecologist and working at the Kandy National Hospital. She was arrested after

a complaint by a doctor. The woman has published that she studied at the University of California. She has been treating a number of patients in

Gampaha for many years. The investigations are continuing under the direction of Kandy SSP Sudath Masinghe and Chief Inspector Thusitha Halangoda.

Blood donation in Kalutara

LAHIRU FERNANDO

The All Island Blood Donors' Association (AIBDA) will conduct its Kalutara District Blood Donation Campaign at the Panadura Galgoda Sri Maha Temple on February 27 from 9.00 a.m. to 3 p.m. with the support of the National Blood Transfusion Service (NBTS).

It was sponsored by the Panadura Media Society and Rangana Muniratne.

According to the NBTS, the blood reserves in the blood bank are decreasing gradually because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, the AIBDA is organizing series of blood donation campaigns.

The AIBDA is a volunteer organisation that supports the NBTS. Donors will be issued with certificates, the AIBDA said.



Minister Sathasivam Viyalendran along with officials at the meeting.

More development projects for Batticaloa

SIVAM PACKIYANATHAN, Batticaloa Special Corr.

Backward Rural Areas Development and Promotion of Domestic Animal Husbandry and Minor Economic Crop Cultivation State Minister Sathasivam Viyalendran said that many development projects will be started in the Batticaloa

District soon. He was speaking at a meeting at the Batticaloa District Secretariat on February 22.

The State Minister said that Rs. 100 million was allocated by the State Ministry to buy machinery to produce fertiliser in Hambantota, Kandy, Matale, Trincomalee,

Ampara and Batticaloa. Rs. 27.5 million have been allocated for the Batticaloa District, he said.

The State Minister said that Rs. 50 million has been allocated to cultivate secondary crops in Batticaloa by the Agriculture Ministry and Rs. 100 million to grow turmeric

and animal husbandry. Rs. 150 million has been allocated to construct warehouses and to produce fertilizer, he said. Project proposals will be submitted by the Divisional Secretaries, Planning Directors, the Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Departments, the State Minister said.

'Park and Ride' comes to Piliyandala

IRANGIKA RANGE

Transport Minister Gamini Lokuge said that the Park and Ride City Bus Service will be operated from Piliyandala Main Bus Stand as well.

New buses will be deployed and a stringent timetable will also be prepared for passenger transport ensuring efficiency of the service, he said.

The Government will also identify shortcomings in the Park and Ride

City Bus Service, which is now operating between Kottawa, Makumbura Multipurpose Center and Colombo Fort and also launch it in several other transport corridors to provide comfortable bus services for the people entering Colombo.

The Minister was addressing a meeting yesterday that was held to evaluate the progress of the pilot bus service between Kottawa and Colombo Fort.

Quarantined students facilitated at O/L Exam Centres

S.M.WIJAYARATNE, Kurunegala Daily News Corr.

Commissioner General of Examinations B. Sanath Pujitha has informed school heads that the Examinations Department has made arrangements for the candidates under quarantine to sit for the O/L Exam 2020. The exam will be held from March 1 to 10.

An additional classroom is arranged for such candidates at every examination centre.

At every Administrative District, two special examination centres have been arranged for the COVID-19 infected students, the Commissioner said. About 622,352 candidates have qualified to sit for the exam at 4,513 centres countrywide.

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PAKISTANI PM WARMLY WELCOMED



Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan was accorded a red-carpet reception upon his arrival at the Bandaranaike International Airport yesterday evening.

Prime Minister Khan was received by Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa.

The Pakistani Prime Minister was given a 19-gun salute. The visiting Prime Minister also inspected an impressive Guard-of-Honour, following which the national anthems of both countries were played.

Prime Minister Khan also signed the Visitors' Book.

Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena, Cabinet Ministers, Ministers of State, Members of Parliament, Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister Yoshitha Rajapaksa and a large number of senior Government officials were present at the event.



Pictures by Sulochana Gamage



Imports will be discouraged to gain self-sufficiency - Minister Wimal

NIMAL WIJESINGHE,
Anuradhapura Additional District Group Corr.

The food stuffs that we can grow in the country will not be imported hereafter. The COVID-19 pandemic has given us extra strength to gain self-sufficiency in every aspect, Industries Minister Wimal Weerawansa said.

He was participating in the Colours Night of the Anuradhapura District Chamber of Commerce recently as its Chief Guest.

Twelve budding entrepreneurs received gold and silver awards for their achievements at the event. Dr. C.B. Ekanayake of the Orient Group of Companies received the Platinum Award.

Minister Weerawansa said that the National Enterprise Development Authority will always support budding entrepreneurs. "The Government encourages those who seek new avenues to promote exports and march towards self-sufficiency for the country," he said.



Dr. C.B. Ekanayake receiving the award from Minister Wimal Weerawansa.

Suspect arrested with 7,000 foreign fags

A suspect has been arrested for smuggling a stock of foreign cigarettes worth Rs 2 million from a housing scheme in Goonesingepura, Pettah.

The stock that contained over 7,000 foreign cigarettes was seized by the Colombo Crimes Division on a tip off.

Police said that 14 persons were allegedly involved in various offences including smuggling of drugs and counterfeit cigarettes.

The suspect who was among the 14 has failed to state how he received the stock.

Foreign liquor that has been banned in Sri Lanka was also seized.

The suspect may have received the stock from a third party, police said.

Colombo Crimes Division OIC Chief Inspector Anselm Silva is leading the investigations.

Four men remanded for removing mangroves



A location where mangroves have been removed.

PRASAD PURNAMAL,
Puttalam District Group Corr.

Four men who removed mangroves at the Anavilundawa Ramsar Wetland have been remanded until March 2 by the Chilaw Magistrate yesterday.

The Anavilundawa Wildlife Office lodged a complaint with

Arachchikattuwa Police on February 22 in this regard.

A team of police officers led by Arachchikattuwa Police OIC Anuradha Herath arrested three suspects in Muthupanthiya, Arachchikattuwa in Chilaw. The suspects had deforested a large area at the wetland, police said.

Elpitiya residents seek Medical Officer

I.M.V.C. GUNASEKARA,
Elpitiya Group Corr.

Nearly two months have passed since the transfer of the Elpitiya Medical Officer of Health, but no substitute Medical Officer has been appointed so far, residents of the area said.

The former Medical Officer was transferred by the Health Ministry to the Balapitiya Hospital as a Psychiatrist on December 31. The Additional Health Officer who was there at that time has been

appointed as the Acting Medical Officer of Health.

The residents have urged authorities to fill the vacancy as there has been an increase in COVID-19 positive patients from Elpitiya but their request has been neglected so far.

Director of Health Services Dr. Chandima Siritunga said that the transfer was made by the Galle District Office and the former Medical Officer of Health had been released without a successor.

Sri Lanka's Envoy in France calls on Indian Ambassador

Ambassador-designate of Sri Lanka to France Prof. Kshanika Hirimburegama paid a courtesy call on the Ambassador of India Jawed Ashraf on February 15 at the Embassy of India in Paris.

Ambassador Jawed Ashraf warmly welcomed and congratulated Ambassador-designate Hirimburegama on assuming her duties in France and expressed his willingness to work in partnership with Sri Lanka.

While discussing the long-standing relationship between the two countries, Sri Lanka and India, Prof. Kshanika Hirimburegama highlighted that Sri Lanka sees India as their "big brother". The two Ambassadors further exchanged views on their relations with France and along with some areas of cooperation that Sri Lanka could work on to enhance their partnership with the Hexagon.

Sri Lanka being an island and France being a maritime nation, it would be mutually beneficial to develop projects around the ocean. Ambassador Jawed Ashraf also affirmed India's commitment to projects promoting the blue economy, sustainable energies, and biodiversity protection. He informed that India and France have launched 2021-22 as the Indo-French year of the Environment. The Indian Ambassador stated that he has been impressed with Sri Lanka's green and clean environs at every visit, adding that he believes Sri Lanka has a lot to bring to the environmental table.

They later exchanged views on their respective scientific collaboration with France and many opportunities of collaborating with some of the renowned establishments in France such as the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) and the French Development Agency (AFD).

The COVID-19 situation was also discussed, with the expressed hope that there will be some improvements by summer. Ambassador Hirimburegama expressed her gratitude to the Ambassador of India for the donation of vaccines to Sri Lanka which has enabled vaccination campaign to begin in earnest.

The meeting ended with a photo opportunity for the two ambassadors in front of Mahatma Gandhi's a photograph and a reaffirmation of their willingness to strengthen future cooperation.

ADA KOTIPATHI - Wednesday
Draw No.: 1204 Colour: Pink
Date: 24.02.2021
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SUPER BALL
Draw Number: 1376 Colour: Purple
Draw Date: 22.02.2021 Date: Monday
Winning English Letter and Numbers
H 25 31 39 57
The winning tickets will be valid for 6 months.
Total Value of Prizes
Rs. 4,372,820/-
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For Results www.dlb.lk

කයෝද
Date: 22-02-2021
Draw Number: 1735 | Colour: Yellow
Super Jackpot
Rs. 21,913,740/-
Winning Numbers: 16 47 67 69
English Letter: X
Total Value of Prizes
Rs. 3,048,300/-
Next Super Jackpot
Rs. 22,070,444/-
The winning ticket will be valid for 6 months.
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ADA KOTIPATHI
අද සතෙකුත් අද කෙටිපිටි
Monday
Date: 22.02.2021
Draw No.: 1202
Colour: Red
Total Value of Prizes
Rs. 4,900,360/-
Winning Numbers: 30 46 50 76
English Letter: Z
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සතෙකු
Date: 22-02-2021
Draw Number: 3083
Colour: Yellow
SUPER JACKPOT
Rs. 2,185,337/-
The winning ticket will be valid for 6 months.
Winning Numbers: 32 33 48 52
Scorpio
TOTAL VALUE OF PRIZES
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ශනිදා
අඟුණ - Shanida
Monday
Date: 22.02.2021
Draw No.: 3532
Colour: Blue
Total Value of Prizes
Rs. 4,399,920/-
Winning Numbers: 02 05 59 60
English Letter: S
Winning tickets are valid only for six months.
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Minister Dinesh enlightens Opposition Leader

Leader of the House Minister Dinesh Gunawardena yesterday requested the Opposition Leader to not insult the Speaker by leveling allegations against him.

Minister Dinesh Gunawardena was referring to the Opposition Leader's claim in Parliament that the Speaker "ran away" from the Chair without answering Opposition's queries.

Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena, who was chairing the House proceedings from its commencement transferred the responsibilities to the Deputy Speaker and departed the Chamber around 11.40 a.m. The Speaker left the Chamber during Opposition Leader's speech on allowing MP Ranjan Ramanayake to participate in Parliament proceedings. Upon the Speaker's exit,

the Opposition Leader alleged that the Speaker is running away from responding to the Opposition's demand.

Leader of the House Minister Dinesh Gunawardena then rose to deny the allegation of the Opposition Leader.

"Do not level allegations against the Speaker and insult him without knowing the facts. All of us have been invited today to par-



ticipate in the meeting of the Sri Lanka-Pakistan Parliamentary Friendship Association. The Speaker had to leave the Chamber because he has to Chair that meeting. The Speaker

is representing all of us at this meeting. So do not insult the Speaker without getting your facts straight. Is this the way the Opposition is treating the hand of friendship extended by a neighbouring country? Speaker left the House to represent all of us. So, I would kindly request the Deputy Speaker to carry out the proceedings of the House," Minister Gunawardena said.



Sandasen Marasinghe, Camelia Nathaniel and Amali Mallawaarachchi

Bond scam should be investigated further

— State Minister Cabraal

Investigations should be conducted further on the bond scam in 2015 to uncover more irregularities and their instigators, Money and Capital Market and State Enterprise Reforms State Minister Ajith Nivard Cabraal said in Parliament yesterday.

He was responding to MP Shantha Bandara during the Oral Questions Round.

The State Minister expressed his dissatisfaction in certain aspects of the investigations into the Treasury Bond issue.

"This issue immensely damaged the image of our country. Investigations into this matter are not over yet. These investigations should be carried out further. Some aspects of the investigations were limited. How the Bank of Ceylon immediately disbursed Rs. 10 million is questionable. We are yet to know under whose approval such a decision was made. Aspects as these were not adequately investigated. Some reports do not make any observations on such issues. Therefore, further investigations

should be carried out. The mastermind of the scam should be investigated. The investigations in this regard were unsatisfactory. Therefore, investigations should be carried out without letting the masterminds behind this scam to walk free," the State Minister said.

"As per the report by the Presidential Commission of inquiry investigating into the issuance of bonds from 2015 February 1 – 2016 March 31 and on the forensic audit on the same, there have been a series of discrepancies in the matter during the time. Several experts have voiced their scientific analysis and opinion on this matter that solidify that a scam has taken place. As per the report, the Government and State agencies have lost Rs. 8.59 billion because of these scams. As per the fourth Forensic Audit Report, the total loss to the government has been estimated between Rs. 6.63 BN – Rs. 9.68 BN. The total



impact of the bond scam on the economy is humongous and it is difficult to be calculated. The loss should be around Rs. 145 BN, taking the interest rate that has gone

up into consideration," the State Minister said.

"The Government is implementing now or has already implemented the recommendations of the report of the Treasury Bond Commission or the fourth Forensic Audit done on the matter. The whole issue was created as a result of the then CBSL Governor Arjun Mahendran's decision to change the method of issuing Treasury Bonds. In June 2017, the method was changed again and until then, the losses happened regularly. The Attorney General has already filed a case against the Perpetual Treasuries (Pvt.) Limited to obtain the improper profits they had made by the errant bond issuances. Rs. 10,890 BN of the PTL in the RTGS account has also been frozen," the State Minister said.

'Opposition Leader misinterprets Speaker's duty'

Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena yesterday said that his official duty was misinterpreted by Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa without knowing proper facts.

The Speaker refuted the Opposition Leader's allegation of 'running away' from the duty. He said that he assigned the Deputy Speaker to take the Chair as he had to officially accept the final report of

the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) on the Easter Sunday attack submitted by Hariguptha Rohanadheera, the Director General (Legal), Presidential Secretariat, on the directive given by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa. The Speaker said that the copies for the members were not handed over to him.

He added that he sent his copy to the Parliament

Library and the members could refer to it, as they wish. He added that he would make the copies available at the members' desks no sooner he received them.

The Speaker, who was chairing the House proceedings from its commencement, transferred the responsibilities to the



Deputy Speaker and departed the Chamber around 11.40 a.m. The Speaker left the Chamber during the Opposition Leader's speech on allowing MP Ranjan Ramanayake to participate in Parliament proceedings. Upon the Speaker's exit, the Opposition Leader alleged that the Speaker is running away from giving

a reply to the Opposition's demand. However when the Speaker was not in the Chair, MP Harin Fernando asked where was the final report of the Presidential Commission of Inquiry (PCoI) on the Easter Sunday attack.

Opposition Members said that it was stated in the media that the report would be submitted in Parliament yesterday but it was not true.

Minister assures Ranjan's safety

The safety of the former Minister Ranjan Ramanayake, who is serving a four years' RI for committing the offence of Contempt of Courts, will be assured by the Ministry, Prison Management and Prisoner's Rehabilitation State Minister Lohan Ratwatte said in Parliament yesterday.

"I will take the responsibility of the protection of Ranjan Ramanayake," State Minister Ratwatte said.

He was responding to Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa, who said that the life of Ranjan Ramanayake

was at risk. The Opposition Leader said that he met Ramanayake in the Angunakolepeena Prison yesterday. "He was living in a miserable situation among drug traffickers and murderers in the prison. His life was at risk there as he spoke against the murderers and drug offenders. The Government and the Speaker should take responsibility if something happened to Ranjan Ramanayake," he said. The



Opposition Leader demanded the Chair to transfer Ranjan Ramanayake to the Welikada Prison.

State Minister Ratwatte said that Ranjan Ramanayake was with nearly 10 inmates in a spacious room with a television. He added that, however, following the concern of the Opposition Leader and opposition members of Ranjan's security, he was separated from other inmates and directed to an isolated cell in the prison.

'Sathosa losses in previous regime reduced now'

The Government has reduced the Sathosa losses that occurred during the previous regime, Trade Minister Bandula Gunawardena said in Parliament yesterday.

He said that the Opposition recently accused the Prime Minister and the Cost of Living Committee of causing huge losses to Sathosa by reducing the prices of 27 items below the ongoing market prices.

"The prices of these commodities have been reduced to below market prices in a manner that does not cause any loss to the Sathosa. It was the previous government that ruined the



CWE in various frauds by the then Minister Rishad Bathiudeen. In 2015, the loss to Sathosa was Rs. 1.9 Billion, in 2016 it was Rs. 5.1 Billion and in 2017, Rs. 2.7 Billion," he said.

Cricket Board officials' salaries have not been increased that much — Minister Namal

Salaries of Cricket Board officials have not been increased by hundreds of thousands of rupees, Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa said.

He was responding to MP Thushara Indunil in the Oral Response Round in Parliament yesterday.

The Minister said that the salary increase for the officers of the Board of Cricket is done on a percentage basis subject to the approval of its Executive Committee.

He expressed regret over the resignation of Chaminda Vaas and said that losing such a talented player and coach is a huge loss to the Sri Lanka Cricket team. The Minister said

that there was a procedure for a coach or a player to negotiate their contracts and that Chaminda Vaas had entered into an agreement with the Cricket Board for a specific sum. "However, he said that a separate amount was paid when they participate in a tour," the Minister said.

He said he had appointed a committee headed by Aravinda de Silva to make decisions related to cricket. Subsequent to the decision to appoint Chaminda Vaas as the coach, the agreements related to the contracts should be made with the Cricket Board,



the Minister said and refused to have further discussion regarding the demand for an increase in payment just prior to engaging in a tour.

"The Chairman or the CEO of the Board of Control for Cricket cannot allocate funds as and when they want and is subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. If not, as you pointed out, this would be questioned by the COPE Committee," he said.

Minister Rajapaksa said that for this tour alone, it had been agreed to pay Rs. 450,000. In accordance with the Board of Control

for Cricket agreement, there is an additional tour fee apart from the agreement. The Cricket Board had agreed to pay this Rs. 450,000 in addition to the tour fee as well.

He said that Chaminda Vaas had not accepted the Rs. 450,000 and had tendered his resignation. The Cricket Board, therefore, had accepted his resignation.

"There is a procedure followed when payments are made to players or coaches and we will follow those procedures. We only consider a player's or coach's ability and their race, religion or country is irrelevant," the Sports Minister said.

Gem Industry should be facilitated soon — MP Seneviratne

The Government should immediately provide sufficient infrastructure facilities to the gem industry if it wants to create an international gem market in the country, Ratnapura District MP John Seneviratne yesterday said in Parliament.

MP Seneviratne requested the Highways Minister to take swift measures to construct the Colombo-Ratnapura Expressway as difficulties in transportation facilities is a major hindrance to develop the gem industry. MP Seneviratne said that the Government should lessen the complexities in obtaining a gem mining licence as numerous delays discourage the businessmen from taking up the difficult task. He commended the Government's move to establish a gem-tower in

Ratnapura to turn it into an international gem market.

MP Seneviratne was opening the Second Day Debate on several regulations under the National Gem and Jewellery Authority Act in Parliament yesterday. The debate commenced on February 10, however, considering the limited time allocated for the debate, Minister Vasudeva Nanayakkara requested the Speaker to continue the debate for another day, to which the House agreed. The debate, therefore, was taken up yesterday.

"The Gem and Jewellery Industry is an important sector in our country. Sri Lanka has been famous for gems throughout the history. The gem industry has been going on for three thousand years. Our country is very proud to know that our gems have been used for crowns, thrones and statues all over the world. We receive a large amount of foreign exchange from the precious gems in our country. In 2019, we received a foreign USD 300 MN. In 2020, it was reduced to USD 119 MN as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The gem trade became very limited because of lockdowns and travel restrictions. This resource is spread across 70 per cent of the land of our country. However, only 20 per cent of our country's gem resources have



been explored," the MP said.

"We as a country need to employ high-tech methods to extract the gem resource. We need to do research and provide the necessary information to the institutions. Then, we can increase the number of businessmen in the gem industry. We also have major opportunities to export gems. Today, Bangkok, Hong Kong, have become the international gem market. Gems in Bangkok are taken from the Sri Lankan market. Eighty per cent of Sri Lanka's gems are found in the gem market. Therefore, instead of going to Bangkok and selling the gems of this country, we should create an international market in Sri Lanka and sell them to foreign buyers directly," the MP said.

Import restrictions imposed to ease pressure on Exchange Rate — State Minister Cabraal

Import restrictions had to be imposed on selected non-essential items, including motor vehicles to ease the severe pressure on the exchange rate caused by the unlimited loans that had been obtained by the Yahapalana regime and for the COVID-19 pandemic, State Minister Ajith Nivard Cabraal said in Parliament yesterday.

State Minister Cabraal was responding to Leader of the Opposition Sajith Premadasa under Standing Order 27 (2), regarding the situation that has arisen because of the importation of vehicles and the imposition of import restrictions by the Government to prevent the devaluation of the Rupee.

"Does the Government admit that limitation of vehicles has done injustice to the professionals and vehicle importers who have complied with the Government's decision to restrict the import of motor vehicles? Will the government take action to alleviate the inconvenience caused to them by having to pay interest on bank loans, warehousing and rental vehicles?" the Opposition Leader asked.

"Will the Government take steps to provide solutions or relief to those employed in the motor import sector who are facing difficulties due to this import ban? If so, what are the steps taken so far? The vehicle market is in a state of uncertainty as the prices of vehicles have skyrocketed and there is

no definite or temporary date to lift the import ban. Does the Government have a plan on how to lift the import ban to alleviate this situation?" he asked.

State Minister Cabraal said that Sri Lanka had to pay Rs. 5 billion in international sovereign bonds in 2014, while the country's reserves stood at Rs. 8 billion and the interest rate at 5.71 per cent. State Minister Cabraal said that the amount that had to be paid as interest was 28 million and based on the value of the Rupee, the Government had to allocate Rs. 37.3 BN. As a result, the amount of Sri Lanka's international bonds was about 6.73 per cent of its GDP. He said that by 2019, there were 15 billion international sovereign bond issues, which is an increase of over 10 billion, and it resulted in an increase in the interest rate on loans to 7.4 per cent. Rs. 201 billion had to be spent to debt services as the value of the rupee had further decreased, he added.

said that during the Yahapalana regime, the GDP growth of the economy had increased only from 71 to 83 billion and then the amount of sovereign bonds increased from 6 per cent to 18 per cent as a percentage of the GDP.

Obituaries

DE SILVA VALENTINE - (Former Financial Controller at Colombo Dockyard Ltd). Beloved husband of Prema, father of Nilantha, Saman and Aloka, father-in-law of Kumudunne, Thamara and Eranga, passed away peacefully on the 22nd February. His remains will lie for last respects at **Mahinda Panagoda Funeral Parlour, Koswatta, Battaramulla** on the 24th February from 9.00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. and Cremation at Thalahaena Cemetery at 5.00 p.m. 014489

SAPARAMADU - TISSA - Loved son of late Julian Saparamadu and Violet Saparamadu, brother of Rohan, late Sunil, Jayendra, Priyanjanie and Sriyal, brother-in-law of late Ligia, Seline, Kanthi, Kusum Gunawardene and Shyamanie, expired. Remains lie at house **No. 50, Beach Road, Negombo**. Funeral will take place at E/ Kaluwarippuwa Cemetery, Katana at 3.30 p.m. on Wednesday 24th 2021. 014437



Safe in the arms of Jesus

Mercy Horshington (nee Rajiah)

91 years of faithful service to God and her family

Beloved sister of the late Edwin, Violet John (India), Nelson, Joe (UK) and of Sam, Wilson, Reggie and Stella Joseph. Sister-in-law of late Pansy, Kanagan (India), Leonard and of Ranji, Raneer and Ariam.

Devoted mother of Rani and Theeps Theeparajah (Canada), Julie and Nimal Sureweere (Canada), Anna and Willie Godridge, Richard and Shiro (USA) and of the late Revd, Russell Rebert.

Precious grandmother of Chris and Karyn, Jenn, Niroshi, Dilshan and Jenn, Johann and Natasha, James and Liza, Rachel, Joshua.

Blessed great grandmother of ten - Alisha, Mikhail, Jonathan, Jake, Leanna, Alana, Carter, Mateo, Maëlle and Emily.

Her love lives on.

For your safety and to comply with Covid-19 guidance private arrangements have been made. A Thanksgiving Service to celebrate the life of our darling mother will be held in due course.



CABINET DECISIONS

Finance Commission Recommendation for 2021

The President should be furnished with recommendations on the policies to be followed in distributing funds by the annual budget to the Provincial Councils by the Finance Commission established as per the Statute 154 R of the Constitution. The Commission, therefore, has submitted the recommendations for the financial year 2021 to the President. The Cabinet granted approval for the resolution by the President to implement those recommendations by the Finance Commission and to table the recommendations to Parliament as per the Statute 154 R (7) of the Constitution.

Submitting regulations issued under Import and Export (Control) Act No. 1 of 1969

The Extraordinary Gazette Notification Nos. 2206/5 and 2207/15 on the December 14, 2020 and December 24, 2020 have been published including the regulations published under the Import and Export (Control) Act No. 1 of 1969 for releasing the import limitations of the regulation of import of local handloom and Batik fabrics, the regulation of the import of fisheries vessels, passenger boats and boats and the import of selected goods not locally manufactured for local industry requirements. The Cabinet approved the resolution by the Prime Minister as the Finance Minister for presenting to Parliament for the approval of the regulations.

Accelerating investments

Recently several international investors showed their enthusiasm for investing in Sri Lanka. However, the Board of Investment (BOI) has to make an attempt to implement the project through the investment authorities in Sri Lanka. The Government has well

understood the accelerated requirement of establishment of a more formal methodology for encouraging such investments. Therefore, the Cabinet approved the proposal by the Prime Minister as the Finance Minister to appoint an 'Investment Management Committee' with the chairing of the Secretary to the Treasury and the participation of members comprised of the Secretaries to the Ministries and the Chairperson of the Investment Board and to entrust that committee to take necessary measures for granting approval for investing.

Wild Elephant Management Reserve in Hambantota

The habitats and corridors of wild elephants and other wildlife are being severely affected in the accelerated development projects in the Hambantota District. Therefore, the human-elephant conflict in the District is developing and the Department of Wildlife Conservation has taken the initial steps to declare an Elephant Management Reserve for the elephants and other wildlife subsequent to researches. A land of 23,746.55 hectares of the Forest Conservation Department and the Mahaweli Authority has been identified for the proposed reserve. The Gazette Notifications containing the guidelines and regulations for the purpose. The Cabinet granted their consent for the combined resolution by the Irrigation Minister and the Wildlife and Forest Conservation Minister to publish the gazette subsequent to obtaining the agreement of the Legal Draftsman to publish the gazette notification.

Transferring Industries Ministry Office to Urban Development Authority and setting up Ministry in a new office The Industries Ministry is on a land of 1.7 acre, which has been estimated having a higher economic and commercial value. The value of the land is approximately Rs. 2.32 billion according to the estimation of the Govern-

ment Valuer. The Cabinet approved the proposal by the Industries Minister to transfer the land to the Urban Development Authority so that the land can be utilised for an economically more productive purpose, and obtain a building with 50,000 square feet with other facilities including furniture and a space to park around 75 vehicles.

Expanding Kalutara Industrial Zone

The Kalutara Industrial Zone is on a 50-acre land called "Fullerton Estate" in the Kalutara Divisional Secretariat Division. Thirty three investors have commenced industries now. They have invested approximately Rs. 837 million and have generated around 775 jobs.

Although local and foreign investors have come forward to start industries in the Western Province, there are no more vacant lands in all eight industrial zones of the Province. Therefore, the Cabinet granted approval to the proposal by the Industries Ministry to allocate the crown land of 1,946 hectares adjoining the Kalutara Industrial Zone to expand the Zone and to distribute lands among the industrialists under the Regional Industrial Zones Development Programme after furnishing the infrastructure facilities.

Disposal of confiscated timber, sand

The Cabinet granted approval to provide sand and timber that have been confiscated by courts at concessionary rates to construct and renovate shrines. The approval in this regard expired on December 31, 2020. The Cabinet, therefore, approved the proposal by the Justice Minister to revise and further implement the methodology under the programme

National Action Plan 2021-2025 to Monitor and Combat Human Trafficking

Taking into account the experience gained in the implementation of the National action plan 2015-2019 to monitor and combat human trafficking and the views expressed by the relevant parties, a National Action Plan to monitor and combat human trafficking is designed to be implemented

during 2021-2025. The Cabinet approved the proposal by Justice Minister to implement the National Action Plan to Monitor and Combat Human Trafficking 2021-2025

COVID-19 Vaccination Programme

The Health Ministry plans to vaccinate 14 million people against the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, the Cabinet approved the proposals by the Acting Health Minister, which include: To sign the Standardized Indemnification Agreement submitted by the COYAX mechanism to expedite the vaccination under the COYAX facility.

• To purchase 10 million Oxford Astra Zeneca vaccines for \$ 52.5 million as a direct procurement from the Serum Institute Private Limited, India.

• To enter into an agreement between AstraZenca Institute in Britain and the Sri Lanka State Pharmaceutical Corporation to purchase 3.5 million of COVID-19 vaccine from the Institute.

Eco-Friendly organic fertiliser distribution project during Yala Season 2021 for paddy cultivation

A Pilot Project has been implemented to provide organic fertiliser and liquid organic fertiliser for the farmers of the selected districts to promote eco-friendly organic fertiliser during the Yala Season 2020 and the Maha Season 2020/21. At least four seasons should be cultivated according to the method to ascertain the efficiency of the Pilot Project.

The Cabinet, therefore, approved the proposal by the Agriculture Minister to implement the Pilot Project in the Yala Season 2021 to appoint a Negotiation Committee to purchase organic fertiliser and liquid organic fertiliser from licensed fertiliser manufacturers upon the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Fertiliser and to provide fertiliser for the selected farmers of the districts upon the recommendations of the committee. 2,000 Three Wheelers for Police The Cabinet approved the proposal by the Public Security Minister to purchase 2,000 Three Wheelers for the Police because it has no adequate number of vehicles to perform its duties.

Statement of Intent to co-operate the COMSATS University, Pakistan and Institute of Technical Technology (ITT)

It has been proposed to sign a Statement of Intent to co-operate on Education and Research works between the COMSATS University, Pakistan and the Institute of Technical Technology (ITT). Therefore, the proposal by the President as the Technology Minister to sign the Statement of Intent was approved by the Cabinet.

MoU for research studies

It has been proposed to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Academics and Research works between the International Centre for Chemistry and the Bio Science of the University of Karachi, Pakistan and the Institute of Technical Technology (ITT). Therefore, the proposal by the President as the Technology Minister to sign the MoU was approved by the Cabinet.

MoU on Co-operation between Bol and Pakistani Bol

It has been proposed to enter into an MoU on Co-Operation between the Bol and the Board of Investments of Pakistan to promote investment Co-Operation. As per the proposal by the Prime Minister as the Finance Minister to enter into the MoU on Co-operation was approved by the Cabinet.

Implementing Budget Proposals; Amending Tax Laws

All parties of the economy have been introduced a simple, transparent and efficient Tax System by the Budget Proposals of 2021. The proposal by the Prime Minister as the Finance Minister to draft a Bill to implement the proposal and take mesarous was approved by the Cabinet. Maha Season 2020/21

Rice Purchasing Programme

The Cabinet reviewed the progress of the Rice Purchasing Programme of the Maha Season 2020/21.

The Cabinet granted approval to purchase rice competitively with the private sector to receive a highest price for the farmers under the programme.

The Cabinet also decided to maintain the price of Nadu kilo at Rs. 98 per in the future without any change, even though paddy was bought at a higher price.

Pakistani Premier's visit will enhance bilateral ties - ACYMMAC

LAHIRU FERNANDO

The visit of Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan will pave way for joint ventures that mutually benefit both nations, the All Ceylon Young Men's Muslim Association Conference (ACYMMAC) said.

Issuing a message to welcome him on his first visit to Sri Lanka, the President and Executive Committee of the ACYMMAC said that the visit will undoubtedly

ly further reinforce the bilateral relationship between Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

"Sri Lanka and Pakistan have enjoyed a friendly and cordial relationship as the connection between the people of both countries is rooted deep in history. This tradition of goodwill continued in the years after the two countries gained independence, leading to a broad-based relationship

covering trade, commerce, culture and defence," the message further said.

The Government of Pakistan had gifted the ACYMMAC the Pakistan Computer Centre in 2006 and re-launched it in 2017 after being up-graded. The centre has been influential to enhance the skills building with better educational opportunities for the Sri Lankan youth from all communities.

Kandy Hospital website hacked

LAHIRU FERNANDO

The official website of the Center for Research of the National Hospital Kandy, www.c4rnk.org, had undergone a cyber attack on Sunday (21) morning.

According to the Information Technology Society of Sri Lanka, a team of foreign hackers named, 'United Babgladsheli Hackers' have been identified as responsible for the attack.

The website has been restored and investigations are on, it is reported.

'LG bodies will be strengthened to achieve development goals'

IRANGIKA RANGE

The Government will bring amendments to make Local Government Authorities stronger and more stable to achieve development goals," Public Services, Provincial Councils and Local Government Minister Janaka Bandara Tennakoon said.

The previous govern-

ment deliberately neglected the Local Government Institutions and let them decay to disguise their political defeat. Ultimately, the rural people missed development opportunities," he said.

The Minister was addressing the gathering at a ceremony where office equipment worth Rs.11

million was distributed for four Local Government Institutions in Dambulla recently.

The victory at the Local Government Elections was a main reason for the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) forward march. We must make them stronger for the benefit of the rural people," he said.

He said that a Cabinet memorandum to amend the Local Government Authorities Act, which is almost 30 years old, will be presented to the Cabinet shortly. Once the approval is given, the Act will be amended and strengthened the Local Government Authorities," he said.

Police to receive 2,000 trishaws

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

The Cabinet approved a proposal by Public Security Minister Sarath Weerasekara to buy 2000 three-wheelers for the Police, Co-Cabinet Spokesman Plantation Minister Dr. Ramesh Pathirana said.

He was speaking at the Cabinet media briefing yesterday at the Government Information Department.

Minister Pathirana said that the decision to buy three wheelers had been made to resolve the shortage

of vehicles at the Police. He said that the Police is the main institute that is responsible for enforcing law and keeping peace throughout the island. But it does not have an adequate number of vehicles to perform its duties.

22.02.2021- TOTAL PRIZE WINNERS PRODUCED BY NATIONAL LOTTERIES BOARD 772,554

TOTAL PRIZE MONEY DISTRIBUTED AMONG WINNERS 30,737,170.00

Rs.2,000,000.00 PRIZES 02 Rs.1,00,000.00 PRIZES 30

DHANA NIDHANAYA Official Results

Date - 22/02/2021

Draw Number - 443

English Letter: F

Winning Number: 06 21 38 50

COMBINATION	PRIZE	NO. OF WINNERS
1 st Prize	Rs. 1,000,000.00	-
2 nd Prize	Rs. 100,000.00	04
3 rd Prize	Rs. 1,000.00	95
4 th Prize	Rs. 1,000.00	215
5 th Prize	Rs. 100.00	5,317
6 th Prize	Rs. 60.00	3,548
7 th Prize	Rs. 20.00	90,308
8 th Prize	Rs. 20.00	16,883

Total prize money won in this draw Rs. 3,781,500.00
Number of Prize Winners in this draw 116,373

Next Draw Super Prize
83,670,707.60

Govisetha Official Results

Draw Number: 2701 Draw Date: 22/02/2021

English Letter: P

Winning Numbers: 12 20 48 54

COMBINATION	PRIZE	NO. OF WINNERS
1 st Prize	Rs. 1,000,000.00	-
2 nd Prize	Rs. 100,000.00	09
3 rd Prize	Rs. 2,000.00	188
4 th Prize	Rs. 1,000.00	391
5 th Prize	Rs. 100.00	10,619
6 th Prize	Rs. 60.00	6,625
7 th Prize	Rs. 20.00	165,615
8 th Prize	Rs. 20.00	30,137

TOTAL WINNERS OF THIS DRAW 213,284

TOTAL PRIZE MONEY WON IN THIS DRAW
Rs. 6,854,940.00

SUPER PRIZE FOR THE NEXT DRAW
Rs. 66,560,834.80

Mega Power Official Results

Draw Number: 772

Official Results

Date: 22.02.2021

English Letter: N

Winning Numbers: 22 15 17 58 65

PRIZE STRUCTURE	PRIZE AMOUNT	NO. OF WINNERS
1 st Prize	Rs. 1,000,000.00	-
2 nd Prize	Rs. 100,000.00	03
3 rd Prize	Rs. 1,000.00	93
4 th Prize	Rs. 500.00	224
5 th Prize	Rs. 100.00	5,293
6 th Prize	Rs. 60.00	3,504
7 th Prize	Rs. 20.00	86,557
8 th Prize	Rs. 20.00	15,863

Next Mega Super Prize
Rs. 117,890,078.00

Next Power Super Prize
Rs. 20,938,204.80

Next Grand Super Prize
Rs. 32,869,777.60

Total Prizes Won in This Draw
Rs. 3,213,660.00

MAHAJANA SAMPATHA Official Results

Draw Number: 4406

Official Results

Date: 22-02-2021

English Letter: N

Winning Numbers: 4 2 2 1 8 2

PRIZE STRUCTURE	PRIZE AMOUNT	NO. OF WINNERS
1 st Prize	Rs. 2,000,000.00	02
2 nd Prize	Rs. 100,000.00	12
3 rd Prize	Rs. 10,000.00	132
4 th Prize	Rs. 1,000.00	1,264
5 th Prize	Rs. 100.00	12,091
6 th Prize	Rs. 20.00	124,063

Value of prizes won in this draw - Rs. 13,598,150.00

The Super Prize of next draw
Rs. 13,312,367.00

Vasana Sampatha Official Results

Draw No. 1668

Date 2021.02.22

English Letter: F

Winning Nos. 07 24 51 73

PRIZE	PRIZE STRUCTURE	PRIZE AMOUNT	NO. OF WINNERS
01 Prize	If only four numbers are correct	500,000.00	-
02 Prize	If three numbers and English letter are correct	100,000.00	02
03 Prize	If only three numbers are correct	1,000.00	60
04 Prize	If two numbers and English Letter are correct	200.00	199
05 Prize	If only two numbers are correct	100.00	4,638
06 Prize	If one number and English Letter are correct	40.00	3,848
07 Prize	If only one number are correct	20.00	96,227
08 Prize	If only English letter is correct	20.00	21,243

Total prize money won in this Draw
Rs. 3,281,920.00

Next Super Prize
Rs. 26,858,106.70

Daily News



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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021

The COVID travel challenge

Vaccination is going on apace in many countries including Sri Lanka. Some countries such as Israel have already vaccinated a considerable percentage of the population and seen a decline in COVID case numbers and hospitalizations. This is a welcome development which means that we might see the end of COVID in a few years if the entire world gets access to the plethora of vaccines already available on the market and those under development.

However, we cannot expect to get back to our normal lives anytime soon – it will take at least until 2025 before we return to normality *per se*. Until then, we will have to live a “New Normal” life, with attendant chores such as handwashing, wearing masks and social distancing.

One of the biggest adverse effects of the Coronavirus pandemic is that we have not been able to travel anywhere internationally and in most cases, even domestically due to lockdowns, border closures and other restrictions on movement. This is understandable, because travel is the number one mode of transmission for any virus. Thanks to international travel, diseases can spread fast. Someone infected with a virus in New York can spread it to another person living in Singapore in less than 24 hours, all due to international travel.

But what is equally true is that we yearn to travel and discover new places. Travel is what makes us human. It is in fact how mankind has spread to all four corners of the world. Sooner or later, in spite of the pandemic, we will want to travel near and far. But the question is, how do we do this safely and how do we ensure that others are not infected in the process.

This is where negative test and vaccination certificates come in. Many countries including Sri Lanka already demand negative PCR test results before visitors are admitted. Many who have been to various African countries do remember the Yellow Card vaccination certificate that proves that one has been vaccinated against Yellow Fever and several other tropical diseases. One still cannot enter certain African countries without producing one of these cards. But in this digital world, paper certificates are *passé*. Besides, paper certificates can easily be forged. Europol recently revealed that a forgery ring in France had been selling negative test results to passengers at Charles de Gaulle Airport and fraudsters had also been apprehended in the UK for selling forged results.

The solution, most experts say, lies in virtual certificates or smartphone applications that can prove you had a negative test result and/or the Coronavirus jab. Several organizations are working on this and the International Air Transport Association (IATA) says it expects its digital smartphone Covid Travel Pass will be ready “within weeks”.

The pass is an app that verifies a passenger has had the Covid-19 tests or vaccines required to enter a country. It also verifies they were administered by an approved authority. The industry body sees the pass as essential for reopening air travel, as many countries still have strict restrictions or quarantines in place.

The key issue is one of confidence. Passengers need to be confident that the testing or vaccine they have taken is accurate and will allow them to enter the country concerned. Governments too need to have the confidence that the tests and vaccines that the passengers claim to have are accurate and meet their entry conditions. IATA says the Travel Pass is designed in a “modular” way, so that it can work with other digital solutions that are being trialled around the world. It will be available on iOS and Android platforms, and is expected to be free to passengers. Singapore Airlines was the first airline to start trials of the travel pass in December. Etihad, Emirates, Qatar Airways and Air New Zealand are among the other airlines currently conducting trials and IATA says it is discussing the pass with airlines throughout the Asia Pacific region. It could go ‘live’ as soon as next month.

The airline industry is pinning hopes on vaccination certificates and quarantine-free travel as Covid has been a total disaster, with demand for travel plummeting nearly 70 percent in 2020 compared to 2019. But even the Travel Pass scheme comes with its own privacy and ethical concerns.

Some travellers may not like to have their travel, vaccination and test details stored in the “cloud” so to speak where it could be open to hacking or leakage. Moreover, if all airlines insist on testing and vaccination prior to travel, it will affect millions in countries that are yet to vaccinate their citizens. In fact, more than 130 countries have not even started vaccination campaigns as developed countries have ordered or hoarded at least a billion more vaccines than they really need.

Also, family travel could be affected as children are not offered the vaccinations yet in any country. There is no easy solution to the “travel during the pandemic” conundrum, but the sooner the vaccines are distributed equally around the world, the better it will be for the travel and tourism industry.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Exploration is really the essence of the human spirit. - Frank Borman

D.R. WIJewardene

A PATRIOTIC TRAILBLAZER

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Only a few people have influenced the course of Sri Lanka's history in the manner that the late D.R. Wijewardene, founder of the Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Limited (ANCL), has done. As we commemorate the 135th birth anniversary of this noble son of Sri Lanka, it is time to reevaluate his yeoman service to the Nation and to journalism.

Wijewardene, founder of ANCL, will always be known as the doyen of the newspaper industry in Sri Lanka. Born on February 23, 1886, Don Richard Wijewardene was the third son of a family of nine. He received his early education at S. Thomas' College, Mount Lavinia and later entered the Cambridge University in England, where he met some leaders of the Independence Movement of India and also witnessed the power of the media in moulding public opinion.

Impressed by the thoughts, words and deeds of the contemporary Indian visitors to Cambridge that every educated young Indian or Lankan had a historic role to play in the public life of his respective country, Wijewardene was fired with the deep commitment to make the monumental sacrifice he was destined to do on his return home after studies.

Wijewardene was in touch with local events and organised the first deputation to the Secretary of State for the Colonies with H.J.C. Pereira. Among the others of the group was E.W. Perera of the Lion flag fame.

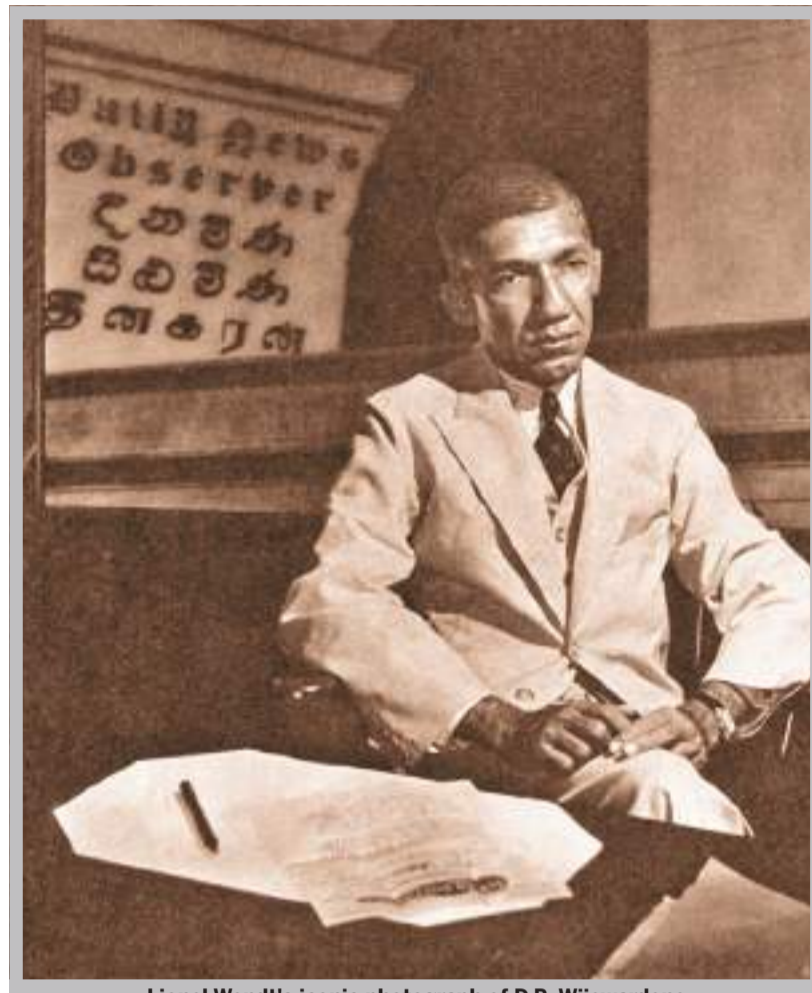
While in England, he had already decided to start a newspaper to fight for the cause of regaining freedom. By the time he arrived, he was fully equipped mentally with the techniques of the trade – how to survive in a competitive world.

A patriot to his fingertips, Wijewardene found the right opening for his anti-colonial mission by purchasing the Sinhala publication *Dinamina* started by legendary editor H.S. Perera. The *Dinamina* had run into financial difficulties by 1914. Wijewardene with his brother, D.C. Wijewardene bought the rights of the *Dinamina* and transformed it into one of the most dynamic dailies in the country. Overnight, the *Dinamina* rose in popularity reaching remote areas of the country. Once, the *Dinamina* was printed in the natural colours of the Lion flag of Lanka. D.C. Vijayavardhana in his book *Revolt in the Temple states*:

“The *Dinamina* edition created quite a stir in the island. The newspaper office which at that time was located in Norris Road (present Olcott Mawatha, Pettah), Colombo, was stormed by crowds clamouring for copies of the paper which by noon was changing hands at five rupees a copy, and telegrams began to pour in from the outstations requesting more copies, but the edition had been exhausted within a few hours of the issue. Vast crowds gathered on the road opposite the newspaper office and police had to be called in to control them.”

That was the first occasion when our people saw for the first time the Lion flag after it was removed by the British and deposited in the Chelsea hospital in London in 1815.

Wijewardene who learnt that E.W. Perera was responsible for obtaining the Lion flag, ordered a copy drawn exactly in the same colours and dispatched, so that he could reproduce the flag in his paper, the *Dinamina*. Although the paper had no front page



Lionel Wendt's iconic photograph of D.R. Wijewardene

pictures and sensational stories, people everywhere – including the Maha Sangha welcomed it.

In 1918, D.R. bought an English paper, *The Ceylonese* which had also run into financial distress. He paid Sir Ponnambalam Arunachalam, its founder, Rs.16,000 (then a massive sum) for the paper and the plant and goodwill. Wijewardene revived it and renamed it the *Ceylon Daily News*.

This newspaper has become such an ingrained part of people's lives that many old timers and even younger readers still call it the CDN, long after the newspaper shed the ‘Ceylon’ tag. It became one of the most influential voices in the local political scene, shaping opinions and creating debate and it remains so, having already passed its centenary three years ago.

He then purchased the *Observer*, which was already 90 years old, having begun publishing in 1834. The *Daily Observer* folded around 10 years ago but the *Sunday Observer*, is as vibrant as ever and nearing 100 years. The Sinhala weekly *Silumina* was started in 1930 and the *Thinakaran* in Tamil followed a couple of years later. He not only established a newspaper business, he also laid the foundation for a newspaper empire where within a short time, newspapers rolled down daily in three languages – English, Sinhala and Tamil. Wijewardene, with his hand-picked team of erudite editors and journalists who shared his noble vision and mission, was in the forefront of the independence struggle through his array of newspapers. In fact, all of Sri Lanka's leading journalists have begun their careers at Lake House.

Wijewardene revolutionized the newspaper industry and journalism in Sri Lanka with his fearless commitment to exposing the truth through ANCL newspapers. As one of his biographers, the one-time Chief Editor of the *Daily News* H.A.J. Hulugalle wrote, “Before he was fifty, D.R. Wijewardene had established several flourishing newspapers, built up a great business and influenced the course of the Island's history. Perseverance, courage and a high sense of

public duty were the main elements of his success.”

He was a perfectionist and a trailblazer. He also installed the latest printing technology available at that time and assured a good working environment for his employees.

Wijewardene also understood the power of the visual medium and established a studio called ChitraFoto at Lake House premises where some of Sri Lanka's foremost photographers honed their skills.

The Lake House edifice, instantly recognized by people across the island, is a proud monument to his lasting legacy. The ANCL was formally established in 1926 and all operations were shifted to the purpose-built ‘Lake House’ building by the banks of the Beira Lake in the heart of Colombo in 1929; hence the name ‘Lake House’. The company, the biggest newspaper publisher in Sri Lanka, still operates from this historic landmark building and the name ‘Lake House’ is now synonymous with ANCL.

Anyone entering the Lake House building would be thoroughly amazed to witness the skillful planning and the deft designing of the entire construction and the interior lay out. The building is constructed in such a way that any type of modern machinery and equipment can be easily installed without major restructuring of the building.

Under any emergency, the entire workforce – can leave their desks and other places of work through the numerous exits. Walking along the corridors one would be overjoyed to appreciate the different kinds of traditional Sinhala motifs adorning the walls.

The grills on the walls in all the floors are adorned with the design of the *Dhammacakka* - the wheel of righteousness. Bordered the ceiling are paintings drawn on similar pattern to the Kelaniya Vihara paintings illustrating Buddhist themes. Though Wijewardene maintained a low-key profile throughout his life, his name became a household word with the ever growing readership of Lake House papers.

Sir Ivor Jennings, an Irish Christian, the first Vice-Chancellor of the Peradeniya University of Sri Lanka commented that, “As a Buddhist he (Wijewardene) could not advocate or allow his newspapers to advocate methods of violence...”

When Sri Lanka's first University was to be constructed in a locality that would be pleasant and second to none in Asia, Wijewardene's advocacy for a residential University located away from all distractions of the capital city of Colombo, finally won the day and the Sri Lanka University came up majestically in the Dumbara Valley in the hill country.

Wijewardene could not live to see the accomplishment of the cause of the University he had championed. The University's Wijewardene Hall stands as a living monument to his ideals.

Before his demise he donated his books from the Donald Ferguson Collection relating to the Dutch and Portuguese period in Lanka and all the maps he purchased in England and elsewhere. Wijewardene also bequeathed a valuable collection of books and manuscripts purchased from the Library of W.A. de Silva to the University Sangharama in Peradeniya.

The Sangharamaya – a residence for the undergraduate Bhikkus of the University had been on his mind during the latter part of his life. His main objective was providing separate accommodation with all facilities provided to the Bhikkus to enable them “to obtain a University education in order that they may be able to perform a Dharmaduta service both in Sri Lanka and in foreign lands.”

Indeed, men of his calibre are few and far between. While the newspaper industry has changed drastically since the 1950s, the ideals he cherished in the field of journalism still hold true. However, not all journalists and media outlets play by these rules. Today, print media outlets are facing stiff competition from electronic and new media – there was no television here during Wijewardene's time.

Newspapers have also embraced the Internet even as they compete with dedicated news websites and citizen journalism websites, not to mention Facebook and Twitter.

All the main ANCL newspapers are available on the web and the *Daily News* and *Dinamina* are also available as apps on iOS and Android platforms. In fact, ANCL was the first in Sri Lanka and South Asia to have web editions with the launch of *Daily News* and *Observer* web editions in 1995 and it has always kept pace with the latest technology. All the media are converging today and one cannot predict what the media landscape would look like even in 2030.

Today, people are bombarded with news 24/7, on their mobiles, on television, radio and the Net. Truth and accuracy often become casualties of this ‘race to be first’ and even national interests are sometimes disregarded. Despite these developments, reports of the death of the (printed) newspaper are greatly exaggerated. Newspapers still have a story to tell – one that is more analytical, more in-depth and assuredly more trustworthy than the sound bites and video clips of the Internet age.

Yes, newspapers will evolve and change over time but all journalists, regardless of their platform, still have to be guided by the principles that Wijewardene believed in – being bold, truthful and objective – in this noble mission.



Lake House in the bygone era.

FARCICAL 'INDEPENDENCE' PIROUETTE BY PARTISAN BASL CONTENDERS

RAJPAL ABEYNAYAKE
The Bar Association of Sri Lanka (BASL) holds elections for office bearers annually, but this year's poll they say, has generated an unusual degree of interest.

This writer does not intend to delve into the contentious issues of who is better than whom in the matter of electing a suitable individual to lead the Bar Association in the years to come. That is a matter for the voters.

However, particularly as a lawyer, I do feel it is best the record be set straight on at least some of the contentious issues that have generated debate and discourse in this BASL election cycle.

Says one candidate up for election, Saliya Peiris, that he is not partisan and that he has stood up for the independence of the judiciary by repudiating the 20th Amendment to the Constitution, etc, etc.

Now, having political affiliations is not necessarily a disqualification for the BASL presidency, even though the BASL is an independent professional body. Innumerable past presidents have had obvious political affiliations including the Founder President H.W. Jayewardene who was the brother of the powerful former President J.R. Jayewardene, the then almighty leader of the UNP. The former was no apolitical brother; he was dyed-in-wool UNP, and was known as his brother's right hand man.

POLITICALLY IDENTIFIED

A former BASL President known to all as Bacon Abeyakoon was identified with the SLFP. This was at a time the Bar was under attack literally with the then JVP-led terror campaign at its peak — with ramifications that led to the murder of lawyers who filed *habeas corpus* applications.

Then, a President of the Bar Association Upul Jayasuriya was appointed as Chairman BOI — in one of the most obvious of political appointments, while he was still in office as the Presi-

dent of BASL. Nobody with any verbose desire for the 'independence' of the Bar Association', least of all Saliya Peiris the current candidate, let out so much as a whimper about the independence of the Bar being compromised at that time. It is true that Jayasuriya was in the last days of his tenure as President of the BASL when he took up the BOI appointment, but appearances matter, and there is no way anyone can say with a straight face that Upul Jayasuriya was an 'Independent President of the Bar' considering that he took up the BOI political appointment anyway, having being BASL President for close to two years.

It does not matter. As stated earlier with reference to Bacon Abeyakoon and the late HWJ, etc, people from all sides of the political aisle have been politically identified with one camp or the other, and still been BASL Presidents — and why should Upul Jayasuriya or anybody else have to be any different?

What does matter is the startling — but also hilarious — hypocrisy regarding these matters. Why are people such as Saliya Peiris, who said nothing about the independence of the Bar being "compromised" when Upul Jayasuriya took up the BOI appointment, now saying that the Bar has to be independent? Saliya Peiris says he always stood for the independence of the Bar and by extension, the Judiciary. Is that how he did it — by maintaining radio silence?

STRANGE CONDITIONS

Saliya Peiris is now a born-again independent, because he wants to allege at least by implication, that his main opponent in the contest is somehow not independent. The hypocrisy inherent in this allegation is mind-boggling. Of all the people on earth, Saliya Peiris says he is independent, and his opponent is not?

Of course Saliya Peiris is independent if blatantly being pro-UNP (and now by default being blatantly pro-SJB) is independent. Do not be too taken aback by this aside. There are thou-



Former CJ Mohan Peiris, now Sri Lanka's Permanent Representative to the UN



Former CJ Shiranee Bandaranayake



sands out there who think if they are UNP/SJB, they are independent; that those two conditions are somehow coterminous. If anybody on the other hand is anything other than pro-UNP/SJB, they try to label him or her as partisan, and definitely not independent.

They think, with straight faces no less, that being transparently UNP/SJB they can call themselves independent, because the UNP and SJB, according to them, stands for independence. With such a definition of independence, it won't be long before Tigers claim they are by definition herbivorous, ergo noble, "because a Tiger after all devours carnivorous animals, noh?"

All of Saliya Peiris's appointments including to the Office on Missing Persons (OMP) post, were political appointments. Who so? Even though he says

the Constitutional Council appointed him, he does not say that this Constitutional Council was also a partisan instrument. It was packed with NGO persons, whose opinions in the newspapers are there for all to see. Those jottings are blatantly partisan UNP, so what does that make the now defunct Constitutional Council, other than blatantly partisan UNP?

But even if that is not accepted by Saliya Peiris, how could he say he is independent, or has always stood for the independence of the Judiciary, when he did not so much as say 'boo' when one fine day there were three Chief Justices in the country, within the span of 24 hours?

That was in 2015 or thereabout. Mohan Peiris, the then Chief Justice was ousted with one stroke of a pen without even an appearance of due process, or non-partisan process, not even a

constitutionally mandated impeachment — however partisan that process could be. Saliya Peiris says in a recent interview that he has always stood up for the independence of the Judiciary, because he opposed the impeachment of the then Chief Justice Shiranee Bandaranayake. But the same Justice Shiranee Bandaranayake was reappointed as Chief Justice in 2015, and then removed within 24 hours without any due process, not even an impeachment. This occasioned even Shiranee Bandaranayake — bless her — to say that at least the Rajapaksa Government afforded her some sort of hearing and due process, whereas the UNP sacked her without so much as a by your leave. Yes, she is on record saying that.

Where was Saliya Peiris when all this happened? Hiding under a rock, singing odes to the independence of the Bar and the judiciary? This guy "always" stood for the independence of the Bar and the judiciary, he says? I mean, is this bloke for real?

The less said about the Office on Missing Persons Peiris headed, the better. No less a person than Manohara de Silva, President's Counsel says the following about the OMP. "The opposition to the OMP was because of a very curious clause in it. This clause dictates that in the event a missing person was located, that person's status as missing can only be changed at the discretion of that person. This means, if the person concerned does not want to be 'found', then his status would remain as 'missing'. In turn, the officer(s) accused for his 'disappearance' would remain under the suspicion of having caused his disappearance. As long as the allegation stands, the Resolution 30/1 seeks to deny that officer from due promotions and other career advancements. He could even be expelled from the Services on these grounds."

OMP VAGARIES

The OMP was created in order to fulfill the obligations of Sri Lanka under terms of Reso-



BASL elections will be held this week



OMP - a flawed mechanism

lution 30/1 of the UNHRC which this country co-sponsored against its own interests. Sri Lanka has now withdrawn from this Resolution. Peiris backed, nay promoted all of these measures from the OMP's office that Manohara de Silva very reasonably — with factual backing — condemns.

These are obvious travesties of justice, that a person can 'opt to go missing', even when he is found, while those who are said to have abducted him are being hounded for no reason.

Saliya Peiris promoted these questionable processes and practices. Why? Because he is demonstrably a political lackey of the former Government, a fact that is so painfully obvious from all of the foregoing regarding his so-called 'positions' on the independence of the Judiciary, etc. Saliya Peiris said nothing when Suhada Gamalath, an upstanding officer with an unimpeachable record in the

AG's Department revealed he had been threatened at Temple Trees and asked to prosecute politicians when he did not have any material to do so. Peiris said nothing about this and other glaring instances of prostitution of legal process by the previous Government — but he says with glee that he opposed the 20th Amendment.

Need anybody have to guess where he is coming from? For Peiris to even suggest that he is remotely independent takes some audacity. He is partisan UNP/SJB to the core, period. That may be ok. There were others who were hardcore UNP or hardcore SLFP previously, who were at the helm of the BASL.

What is hilarious is when somebody as blatantly — nay abjectly — partisan as Saliya Peiris parades himself as being independent. His hypocrisy is good for a few laughs, but it is also a gratuitous insult to the people's intelligence.

UN blueprint for making peace with Nature

MANIPADMA JENA

"Our war on Nature has left the planet broken. This is senseless and suicidal. The consequences of our recklessness are already apparent in human suffering, towering economic losses and the accelerating erosion of life on Earth," António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations said.

"By transforming how we view Nature, we can recognise its true value. By reflecting this value in policies, plans and economic systems, we can channel investments into activities that restore Nature and are rewarded for it," the UN chief told the media while releasing the UN Environment Programme's (UNEP) major new report.

"Making Peace with Nature: A scientific blueprint to tackle the climate, biodiversity and pollution emergencies" lays out the gravity of Earth's triple environmental emergencies of climate, biodiversity loss and pollution but provides detailed solutions too by drawing on global assessments, including those from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, as well as UNEP's Global Environment Outlook report, the UNEP International Resource Panel, and new findings on the emergence of zoonotic diseases such as COVID-19.

"Without Nature's help we will not thrive, not even survive," Guterres cautioned. The UN chief was, however, particularly hopeful that climate and biodiversity commitment will see progress as he is set to welcome the United States back to the Paris Agreement.

The "net-zero club" is growing, Inger Andersen, Executive Director of UNEP said. "Before the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020 was emerging as a moment of truth for our commitment to steer Earth and its people toward sustainability. (But) loss of biodiversity and ecosystem integrity, together with climate change and pollution will undermine our efforts on 80 percent of assessed SDG targets particularly in poverty reduction, hunger, health, water, cities and climate," Anderson



UN Secretary-General António Guterres

said. "Women represent 80 percent of those displaced by climate disruption; polluted water kills a further 1.8 million, predominantly children; and 1.3 billion people remain poor and some 700 million hungry," Guterres said.

Christian Walzer, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Executive Director for Health Programs and one of the co-authors of the Making Peace with Nature report, told *IPS* via email: "Intact and functioning Nature is the foundation on which we must build back better. Trying to separate economic recovery from healthy environments and climate change neglects the essential fact that the solutions to these crises are tightly interconnected and reinforce each other."

He underlined how ecosystem degradation heightens the risk of pathogens making the jump from animals to humans, and the importance of a 'One Health' approach that considers human, animal and planetary health together. Walzer is a veterinarian who leads on One Health issues across the world.

Economic growth has brought uneven gains in prosperity to a fast-growing global population, leaving 1.3 billion people poor, while tripling the extraction of natural resources to damaging levels and creating a planetary emergency. Subsidies on fossil fuels, for instance, and prices that leave out environmental costs are driving the wasteful production and consumption

of energy and natural resources that are behind all three problems.

Guterres pointed out how Governments are still paying more to exploit Nature than to protect it, spending four to six trillion dollars on subsidies that damage environment. He said over-fishing and deforestation is still encouraged by countries globally because it helped GDP growth, despite drastically undermining livelihoods of local fishers and forest dwellers.

In the current growth trajectory despite a temporary decline in emissions due to the pandemic, the earth is heading for at least three degrees Centigrade of global warming this century; more than one million of the estimated eight million plant and animal species are at substantially increased risk of extinction; and diseases caused by pollution are currently killing some nine million people prematurely every year.

The authors of the "Making Peace with Nature" report assess the links between multiple environmental and development challenges and explain how advances in science and bold policymaking can open a pathway towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 and a carbon neutral world by 2050 while bending the curve on biodiver-



sity loss and curbing pollution and waste.

Taking that path means innovation and investment only in activities that protect both people and nature. Success will include restored ecosystems and healthier lives as well as a stable climate.



Amid a wave of investment to re-energise economies hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, the blueprint communicates the opportunity and urgency for ambitious and immediate action. It also lays out the roles that everyone — from governments and businesses to communities and individuals — can and must play.

"The year 2021 is a make-it or break-it year, a mind-shift year," said Guterres. The year 2021, with its upcoming climate and biodiversity convention meetings, is the year where governments must come up with synergistic and ambitious targets to safeguard the planet.

To turn the tide of current unsustainability, the UNEP blueprint has several recommendations some of which include that governments include natural capital while measuring economic performance of both countries and businesses, and putting a price on carbon and shift trillions of dollars in subsidies from fossil fuels, non-sustainable agriculture and transportation towards low-carbon and nature-friendly solutions.

It is high time, the report advises, to expand and improve protected area networks for ambitious international

biodiversity targets. Further, non-government organisations can build networks of stakeholders to ensure their full participation in decisions about sustainable use of land and marine resources, the report recommends.

Financial organisations need to stop lending for fossil fuels, and boost renewable energy expansion. Developing innovative finance for biodiversity conservation and sustainable agriculture is of utmost importance now.

Businesses can adopt the principles of the circular economy to minimise resource use and waste and commit to maintaining transparent and deforestation-free supply chains.

Scientific organisations can pioneer technologies and policies to reduce carbon emissions, increase resource efficiency and lift the resilience of cities, industries, communities and ecosystems

Individuals can reconsider their relationship with nature, learn about sustainability and change their habits to reduce their use of resources, cut waste of food, water and energy, and adopt healthier diets. Two-thirds of global CO2 emissions are linked to households. "People's choices matter," Guterres said. (IPS)

SERVICE TO HUMANITY

ON PRESIDENT'S ORDERS, SLAF CELEBRATES 70TH ANNIVERSARY DEVELOPING KANUGAHAWEWA VILLAGE

The Sri Lanka Air Force (SLAF) is engaged in fulfilling the responsibility entrusted to them by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa to develop the village of Kanugahawewa in Kebethigollewa during his 'Discussion with the Village' programme.

Accordingly, 70 houses are being constructed in the Kanugahawewa village to coincide with the 70th Anniversary of the Air Force.

The fourth phase of the President's 'Discussion with the Village' programme was held on December 30 last year in Kanugahawewa, Kebethigollewa with the aim of resolving some of the issues faced by the village folk.

While the Air Force had planned to celebrate its 70th Anniversary in grand style by organising an air tattoo, the President had instead instructed the Air Force to utilise these funds and develop the Kanugahawewa village in keeping with the 70th Air Force Day which falls on March 2.

Under this development programme, temples, Dhamma schools and school buildings in the area are being developed, including an electric fence to prevent elephants from encroaching into the village and endangering their lives.

Therefore, the Air Force is conducting many development projects in the Kanugahawewa village, including the construction of new houses for 70

"For people like us building a house like this is only a dream. We are very grateful to the President and the Air Force for building a permanent house for us and making our dream a reality," said one of the residents who is scheduled to receive a new house in place of his mud and thatched roof house which is in a dilapidated condition.

CAMELIA NATHANIEL

ty," said one of the residents who is scheduled to receive a new house in place of his mud and thatched roof house which is in a dilapidated condition.

Also speaking to the *Daily News* W.M. Sujani said, "It is not a small feat to build houses for people and it is a meritorious deed to give these people houses in which they could live comfortably. I will be receiving my house in the second stage of this project. I am waiting eagerly to receive my house. My three daughters are also very excited."

Sujani and her husband Sanka Mahesh Tillakaratne live in a small mud house with their three daughters Sakunika, Sasali and Sanjana. There is hardly any room to move around and they sleep, cook and do all their studies, etc, in this little space. Sakunika is the only one schooling and she has to walk three kilometres to school and the same distance back every single day. In addition, there is an acute shortage of drinking water and they either have to walk three kilometres to fetch water from a spring or purchase water at between Rs. 35 to Rs. 40 per gallon of water. This water they use sparingly. If there is rain, they harvest the rainwater and use it for washing and bathing, but when there is no rain, they use a small amount of the drinking water to wash their faces only.

It is hard to imagine how the people of Kanugahawewa village are struggling to survive with such limited resources. Although there is a tank in sight, the farmers in the area prevent them from utilising that water as they need it for their cultivations. With such limited resources, these people somehow manage to grow some vegetables in their gardens which they use for their daily consumption.

In addition to their hardship to survive and raise their families with the greatest of difficulties, sometimes wild elephants enter their village and destroy their houses, their crops and at times, even their lives.

According to Sujani, the elephants can easily destroy their mud houses and when they know elephants have entered their village, she gathers her children and runs elsewhere to safety. "We live in utter fear as these elephants can kill us in one strike if we are in their way. We grow vegetables in our gardens for our consumption and also engage in farming amidst all odds and when the elephants come and destroy all that we have toiled for, our lives are shattered as we have to start from scratch again and we don't have the money to do that."

Hence, these families in the Kanugahawewa village are grateful to the Air Force for constructing permanent and sturdy houses for them and most of all, the electric fence to stop the elephants from encroaching into their village.

In addition, the Army, Navy and Air Force medical personnel conducted a medical camp for the people of Kanugahawewa last Saturday (20) where an eye clinic, dental clinic, mental health clinic and other general clinics were conducted.

Every resident of the Kanugahawewa village was subjected to complete medical screening during this clinic and a medical file was opened for each

of them comprising their entire medical history from their blood group to all their ailments, in keeping with the President's concept of enabling all citizens to hold a medical file which would be useful when obtaining treatment at any hospital.

The Chief Incumbent of the Kanugahawewa Abinawarama Viharaya, the Kanugahawewa Grama Niladari and residents of Kanugahawewa discussed their needs with the Divisional Secretary who drafted a proposal on what was needed by the people. Based on the proposal, the Urban Development Authority has planned to develop the village of Kanugahawewa as a Model Village together with the Sri Lanka Air Force. The entire project is conducted under the guidance of the Air Force Commander Air Marshal Sudarshana Pathirana who appointed a Steering Committee led by SLAF Director Ground Operations Air Vice Marshal Camillus Labroo.

Other members of this committee are Air Commodore Udula Wijesinghe, the Senior Staff Officer of the Directorate of Civil Engineering and the Base Commander of SLAF Base Vavuniya, Air Commodore Deshapriya Silva.

Kanugahawewa village is located around 22km from Vavuniya town. The Kanugahawewa Vidyalaya conducts classes up to Grade 5 and the school now has around 86 students and seven teachers including CSD teachers. Speaking to the media, the Principal of the Kanugahawewa Vidyalaya W. Anuratillake said, "After the President visited the village, we have received teachers and even an English teacher. So we are very grateful to him and the Air Force for renovating and upgrading our school and teachers quarters."

He said that in this village all the families are low-income families and believes that providing education to the children is the only way to get them out of poverty. He said that all

The Air Force will construct 70 houses in Kanugahawewa village to coincide with its 70th Anniversary.



Pictures of the medical camp organized by the Tri Forces that was held in Kanugahawewa village recently, as well as pictures of the construction of permanent houses by the SLAF. Pictures by Mei Ling Hsu



It is hard to imagine how the people of Kanugahawewa village are struggling to survive with such limited resources.



the children in the village of school-going age are attending school currently.

Kanugahawewa village is home to 314 families and approximately 942 civilians. Based on the needs of those in Kanugahawewa, renovation of the Kanugahawewa Abinawarama Viharaya and Kanugahawewa Vidyalaya, houses for those who cannot afford to build a house on their own and many other development projects have been undertaken by the Sri Lanka Air Force.

Signifying the commencement of the development project of this Model Village, Air Marshal Sudarshana Pathirana on January 28 placed the cornerstones for the teachers' quarters at Kanugahawewa Primary School, a bell tower at the Kanugahawewa Abinawarama Viharaya and for 10 houses which will be constructed during stage 1. The Commander also symbolically commenced the construction of the 13km-long electric fence which will in time protect the villagers from the elephant threat they face at present. This construction has been undertaken by SLAF Station Morawewa under the leadership of the Commanding Officer Group Captain Hiyumal Dharmadasa.



Dyslexia is not about lack of intelligence; it is important to understand that dyslexic children are as intelligent as non-dyslexic children.

"I can't spell it and read it"

Diagnosing dyslexia in young children



unique to the two languages. Therefore, dyslexic children whose first language is Sinhala may struggle when learning English.

How is it diagnosed?

If a child shows such difficulties, it is important for parents and teachers to pay attention to them without coming to conclusions immediately. The child should be observed for a time – about six weeks – and their difficulties noted, in order to analyse if they show the same difficulty very often. For example, if a child mixes up letters, either the teacher or the parents, or both can keep a record of the number of times this happens within the observation period. Keeping a record of all the difficulties that the child shows and the number of occurrences will be helpful in diagnosing if the child is dyslexic. When it comes to identifying something as a 'difficulty' we need to do it comparatively. For example, if a child takes ten minutes to read two sentences and if the other children in the same class do not take that amount of time to do that, it can be considered 'a difficulty' that the child encounters.

If the teachers' and parents' observations reveal that the child regularly shows difficulties in some aspects mentioned above, for a considerable period of time, the child can be screened with standard tests which are helpful in identifying children at risk of having dyslexia.

Coming to a diagnosis is not straightforward and simple. It is a collective decision, taken along with many exclusions, after a period of thorough evaluation with multiple standard tests. If the evaluation, remediation and re-evaluation suggest a full diagnostic assessment, it is possible to get a diagnosis with a complete profile of the child's strengths and weaknesses from a professional dyslexia assessor. However, it is important to note that such holistic assessments are not

Dr. **BIMALI INDRARATHNE**
University of York, UK
and Dr. **NADHEE PERIES**
Health Ministry, Sri Lanka

- Have you come across children struggling with spelling?
- Have you come across children who struggle to read?
- Have you come across children who have incorrect letter patterns?
- Have you noticed some children struggling to pronounce certain sounds?
- Have you come across children who are forgetful?

Children with dyslexia usually show such difficulties. Dyslexia comes under the category of specific learning difficulties (SpLDs). Sometimes the term is used to describe reading difficulty; however, there are other difficulties that learners with dyslexia encounter (Kormos & Smith, 2012).

They include difficulties in sound, letter and word recognition (e.g. they may be unable to differentiate between the sounds /sh/, /s/ and /z/), pronunciation issues, poor spelling, mixing up letters and words (e.g. b with d), difficulties in understanding and following long instructions, poor handwriting, difficulties in organising ideas, taking time to respond when someone asks something, being messy and having a short attention span.

They may also lack social skills and prefer to be with the same friends or on their own. We should also remember that some children may experience some of these difficulties but will outgrow them with their development. Hence, having some of these difficulties does not mean that the child is dyslexic; a proper observation and diagnosis should be done to verify it.

If someone is dyslexic, they may encounter these difficulties when they learn their first language. For example, they may take more time to read and understand texts. However, not all dyslexic children will show these difficulties when learning their first language. This is the case when learning another language, particularly when their first language is very different to the new language that they are learning. For example, English and Sinhala have many differences. The word order is different and some sounds are



4 QUICK FACTS ABOUT
Dyslexia

DID YOU KNOW?

1 in 10 people are dyslexic

Those with dyslexia have a **creative, unique and logical way of thinking**

Famous pioneers
Albert Einstein
Leonardo da Vinci
Thomas Edison
were dyslexic

1896 saw the first mention of dyslexia as "word blindness"

widely available in Sri Lanka. In addition, it is highly recommended to use first language tests (Huang, Chen & Sun, 2018) while diagnosing dyslexia and such tests are unfortunately not yet available in Sinhala or Tamil in Sri Lanka.

Even if a standard diagnosis is not done, it is important for teachers and parents to observe the difficulties that children show and come up with a plan to help them. Regular discussions between teachers and the parents may be helpful in helping the struggling children.

Not a lack of intelligence

Dyslexia is not about lack of intelligence; it is important to understand that dyslexic children are as intelligent as non-dyslexic children. There is research evidence to show that it is genetic, but it is not a disease and thus there is no specific medication.

There can be children who are severely dyslexic, and some who may show mild dyslexia. Depending on that, the difficulties that they show may vary. Also, all dyslexic children do not show all these difficulties. Instead, each individual dyslexic child has their own profile, i.e. their own strengths and weaknesses. Therefore, it is not accurate to recognise a child as dyslexic only by observing one of the difficulties.

If a child is dyslexic, or if a child regularly shows the difficulties mentioned above, it is possible to use some techniques to

help them. One of the recommended teaching approaches is called Multisensory Structured Language Teaching (MSLT) (International Dyslexia Association, 2002). In this approach, different sensory pathways are simultaneously used. For example, imagine that the teacher has to teach the word run. The teacher pronounces it several times (auditory pathway), then the teacher shows a picture of someone running and also writes the word on the board (visual pathway). The teacher can also imitate running (kinaesthetic-tactile pathway). With such input, it is also important to ensure learners practise the word in different ways. For example, they can pronounce the word, write the letters on the board, in the air, and in their workbook, imitate running and draw a picture of someone running. Extensive practice will help dyslexic children remember the words and grammar structures better. Multisensory techniques should be used in teaching reading (e.g., read and do) and listening (e.g., listen and draw) too. These techniques are also useful when teaching other subjects.

The following is a list of other things that teachers and parents can do to help those who show the difficulties mentioned above, whether they are identified as dyslexic or not (adapted from DysTEFL project, Kormos & Smith, 2012 and Sparks et al., 1991).

• **Giving more time:** Dyslexic children need more time to complete tasks reading tasks, for example. Alternatively, dyslexic children can be asked to read a section of

the text, not the whole. Giving this type of achievable goal will increase their self-confidence.

• **Alternative response methods:** Usually dyslexic children struggle in writing. If there are tasks in which children have to read and write or listen and write, dyslexic children can be asked to do an alternative, e.g., read/listen and speak or read/listen and do. This can be done in exams too.

Simplifying instructions:

Dyslexic children have a lower working memory capacity. Thus, they struggle if several things are told to them at once. For example, when giving instructions, it is better to make them short and simple. Alternatively, written instructions can be given, so children can revisit them when they forget. Repeating instructions or giving them step-by-step is also useful. For example, if the teacher wants the children to do Task 5 on page 33 in the English Workbook, he or she has to ask them in steps: take the English Workbook; then turn to page 33, etc.

• **Colour coding:** Particularly when teaching new words and grammar, colour coding can be used to provide visual help for learners. For example, when teaching a set of words with similar spelling or pronunciation, such similarities can be highlighted by using a particular colour (e.g., bat, cat, rat, hat – 'at' in all these words can be highlighted in red to show that the spelling and pronunciation of these two letters are the same in all these words).



Highlighting essential information:

If there are many things to read and understand/remember, dyslexic children may struggle. Therefore, it is possible to highlight the essential information. For example, if the children are required to answer only five questions out of ten, such instructions can be given in a different colour or make them boldfaced. Clues can also be used (e.g., * sign) to denote important information.

• **Explicit and direct teaching:** It is helpful if the rule explanations are given to dyslexic learners when teaching grammar and vocabulary. For example, word order rules, spelling rules and pronunciation rules should be clearly explained.

• **Presenting a small amount of work at a time and following a sequence:** It is important to choose what to teach, based

on what the children have already learned. Items should be sequenced from easy to difficult. Only a limited number of items should be taught at a time. For example, it is recommended not to teach more than six new words at a time.

Teaching learning strategies:

Children can be taught strategies such as how to memorise words, how to predict content of a reading text, etc. For example, mnemonic devices can be used to remember words or a series of steps, e.g., NEWS – North, East, West, South. Students can be taught to predict content of a reading text by looking at the illustrations and headings.

• **Extensive practice:** In order to aid memory, dyslexic children need extensive practice of the items they learn. Therefore, many practice activities should be given. Regular revision and revisiting of the previously learned content are very important.

• **Graphic organisers:** Dyslexic learners struggle in organising ideas. Therefore, it is recommended to provide charts and outlines where they can organise notes. Mind maps are particularly helpful.

• **Block out extraneous stimuli:** When there are too many things on a page of a textbook or exam paper, such as pictures, texts in different textboxes, etc., dyslexic children may get distracted. On such occasions, it is possible to ask children to cover the sections that are not relevant using a blank paper. Then they can focus on the activity or text that they are working on.

• **Glossary:** Remembering vocabulary is a difficult task for dyslexic learners. It is helpful for them if a glossary of unfamiliar words is provided, particularly when they have to read long texts.

• **Avoiding taking down notes:** Dyslexic children may find it very difficult to listen and take notes. If a child is struggling to take notes, the teacher can provide a copy or peer sharing should be encouraged. Alternatively, a recording of the lesson can be provided.

• **Non-white backgrounds:** It is difficult for dyslexic learners to look at words in black on a white background. Therefore, a mild background colour can be used (e.g., light blue) on PowerPoint slides. Handouts can be printed on coloured paper (e.g., beige)

The techniques mentioned above are not only relevant to language classes, but also to any class where there are dyslexic or struggling children. While understanding the difficulties that dyslexic children face, it is important to acknowledge that they may not be able to learn a language at the same speed as non-dyslexic children. However, the techniques that we have discussed may assist them in coping with the challenges they face. In addition, most of these techniques are considered as good classroom teaching practices. Hence, they are helpful not only for struggling children, but also for all learners.

More importantly, both parents and teachers need to understand that dyslexic children need more attention from them and should not be forced to achieve targets which are beyond their reach. While assessing these children in routine tests and exams, teachers should be careful not to interpret results based on the performance of non-dyslexic children. Instead, targeted skills can be assessed providing appropriate exam support such as more time and alternative response modes (e.g., instead of writing answers, these children can be allowed to answer orally).

DYSLEXIA
THE MOST COMMON LEARNING DISABILITY

and affects 15-20% of the population

80% of the population believes that dyslexia is associated with low intelligence

THIS IS NOT TRUE.

DYSLEXIA occurs in people of ALL INTELLIGENCE LEVELS

dyslexia RUNS IN FAMILIES

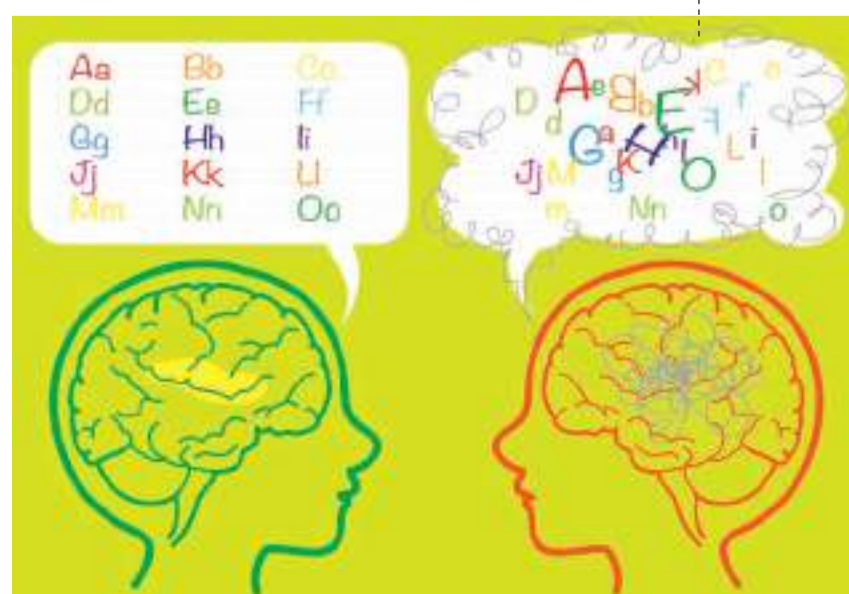
parents with dyslexia ARE MORE LIKELY TO HAVE CHILDREN with dyslexia

KEY FACTS ABOUT DYSLEXIA

research has proven that

CAN LEARN TO READ when instruction is:

Explicit and systematic	Phonics based
Multisensory	Individualized
Consistent and frequent	Emotionally reinforcing



US passes grim milestone of 500,000 COVID deaths

Half a million US lives have been lost to Covid-19. That's more than the number of Americans killed in World War II.

The victims of this silent enemy were young and old, spanning all backgrounds and corners of the country.

President Joe Biden spoke at a candlelighting ceremony to mark the grim milestone.

"As a nation, we can't accept such a cruel fate. We've been fighting this pandemic for so long. We have to resist becoming numb to the sorrow," the President said. "We have to resist viewing each life as a statistic or a blur or on the news. We must do so to honor the dead, but equally important care for the living, those they left behind."

Biden also participated in a moment of silence, standing by 500 lighted candles outside the White House, joined by first lady Jill Biden, Vice President Kamala Harris and second gentleman Doug Emhoff.

A flag atop the White House and flags at the US Capitol were lowered to half-staff Monday afternoon.

The pandemic is far from over as more than 1,200 American deaths were reported Monday.

But Americans can steer

its course -- and help prevent many more families from suffering inconsolable grief.

As numbers of new cases and hospitalizations go down, however, reports of highly contagious variants go up.

"I am worried about this variant -- the B.1.1.7 variant (first found in the UK)," said Dr. Peter Hotez, dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine.

"If that takes over, the numbers are going to start to spiral up again. There's no end to what the death toll will look like unless we can vaccinate ahead of it."

But as the number of vaccinations slowly increase, some Americans say they won't get a Covid-19 vaccine -- hurting the chances of herd immunity and hindering a return to normal life. More than 44.1 million Americans have received at



least one dose of their two-dose vaccines, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

About 19.4 million have been fully vaccinated. That's about 5.9% of the US population -- far less than the estimated 70% to 85% of Americans who

would need to be immune to reach herd immunity.

Some states are still grappling with vaccine delays after severe weather walloped much of the country last week.

But the US will likely be caught up by the middle of this week, said Dr. Anthony

Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

"Obviously it is a setback because you'd like to see the steady flow of vaccine getting out there to get into people's arms, but we can play pretty good catch-up," Fauci told NBC on

Sunday. To speed up vaccinations, some experts have suggested delaying second vaccine doses to get more first doses into people's arms.

Both vaccines on the US market -- developed by Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna -- require two doses, the second of which are intended to be administered 21 days and 28 days after the first, respectively.

Fauci told CNN Sunday the US is currently sticking with the vaccine schedule that is backed up by data from clinical trials.

"The science points directly towards continuing with what we know ... from the clinical trial," he said. Nationwide, the rates of new Covid-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths are declining.

The number of patients hospitalized with Covid-19 has fallen for the 40th day in a row, according to the COVID Tracking Project.

Daily deaths have declined 24% this past week compared to the previous week, according to data from Johns Hopkins University.

Dr. Rochelle Walensky, director of the CDC, earlier Monday touted encouraging numbers in declining new cases, deaths, and hospital admissions, but also offered a note of caution.

The seven-day average of deaths reported each day is at its lowest since the beginning of December, she said.

At a White House coronavirus task force briefing held before the death toll was updated, Walensky noted the falling death rate but said the total number of Covid-19 fatalities is "a truly tragic reminder of the enormity of this pandemic,"

and the loss it has afflicted on our personal lives and our communities. While the pandemic is heading in the right direction there is still much work to do."

About 1,700 cases of coronavirus variants strains first spotted in the UK, South Africa and Brazil have been reported in the US, according to the CDC.

But that figure is probably nowhere near the actual number of variant cases in the US, since the US has lagged behind dozens of other countries in genome sequencing per 1,000 Covid-19 cases.

Walensky has said the US has ramped up sequencing to find variants and will keep doing so.

The vast majority of variant cases so far involve the highly contagious B.1.1.7 variant first detected in the UK.

Experts with the University of Washington's Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) said over the weekend that while the B.1.1.7 strain likely accounts for less than 20% of current infections in the US, that number will likely soar to 80% by late April. (CNN)



United Boeing 777 engine damage probe could take up to one year

The investigation into the engine failure of a Boeing 777 could take more than a year, officials said, but already the picture is becoming clearer about what happened to the United Airlines flight on Saturday. According to investigators, the Pratt & Whitney engine failed minutes into United Airlines flight 328, headed from Colorado to Hawaii, leaving a mile of debris in its wake. After the incident, United grounded all of its Boeing 777s powered by PW4000 series engines.

A preliminary investigation indicates the damage was "consistent with metal fatigue," according to information from the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), which has prompted federal regulators to reexamine engine inspections.

"Pratt & Whitney is actively coordinating with operators and regulators to support the revised inspection interval of the Pratt & Whitney PW4000 engines that power Boeing 777 aircraft," the company said. "Any further investigative updates regarding this event will be at the discretion of the NTSB. Pratt & Whitney will continue to work to

ensure the safe operation of the fleet."

Both the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the NTSB are investigating the incident. Here is what we know so far.

"United 328 Heavy -- Mayday Mayday ... Denver departure. United 328 Heavy Mayday. Aircraft just experienced engine failure -- need to turn immediately," the air traffic audio from the plane rang out on Saturday.

The PW4000 engine has 22 blades, investigators said, one of which was found lodged inside the jet engine's containment ring. Another was found in a soccer field in Broomfield, Colorado.

One of the blades in the plane's right engine broke free at the hub, likely hitting another that was broken mid-span, investigators said Monday. The former shows damage "consistent with metal fatigue," NTSB Chairman Robert Swmalt said.

The flight fuselage also had damage to a non-critical composite piece designed to make the plane more aerodynamic, Swmalt said.

On the plane, passengers saw the engine completely stripped of its



outer casing, according to video from passenger Travis Look.

The mood was tense, Look told CNN, but everyone was "very calm" on board as the pilot came on to say they would be landing in four minutes.

"My daughter was sitting on the window and ... I was just like, 'don't look, like let's let's close it up and let's just pray,'" passenger Brenda Dohn said.

The trail of damage None of the passengers were injured. Nor were residents around Broomfield from the falling debris that stretched a

mile. "We dispatched police officers and within minutes we actually were on scene of some of these homes, and we actually saw some of these large pieces of debris," Broomfield Police spokesperson Rachel Welte told reporters Saturday.

Looking at the debris field and how busy the area was, Welte said, "the fact that we are still not getting reports of any injuries is absolutely shocking at this point."

"This park on a day like today, when it's not as cold as it was last weekend, we could have hundreds of

people here." The cab of Broomfield resident Kirby Klements' truck was a stark reminder that damage was done: an engine cowling landed and caved in the cab, according to CNN affiliate KCNC.

"I'm sitting here looking at this piece of junk sitting in my driveway thinking, 'Oh my God, what the hell am I going to do now?'" Klements said of the vehicle he put so much time and money into.

Kieran Cain was playing basketball with his kids Saturday afternoon at an elementary school in greater Denver when he heard what sounded like a sonic boom and looked up.

"We could see there was a giant black cloud of smoke high up in the sky, immediately followed by, you know what looked like pieces of the aircraft," Cain told CNN. "Basically, a shower of things that were falling out of the sky."

It may be a while before members of the community get a payout from United Airlines, but most standard insurance plans should cover "objects falling from the sky," Carole Walker with the Rocky Mountain Insurance Information Association told KCNC. (CNN)

Good news for AstraZeneca COVID Vaccine

The first studies of Britain's mass inoculation program showed strong evidence on Monday that the Coronavirus vaccines were working as intended, offering among the clearest signs yet that the vaccines slash the rate of Covid-19 hospital admissions and may be reducing transmission of the virus.

A single dose of either the AstraZeneca vaccine or the one made by Pfizer could avert most Coronavirus-related hospitalizations, the British studies found, though researchers said it was too early to give precise estimates of the effect.

The findings on the AstraZeneca shot, the first to emerge outside of clinical trials, represented the strongest signal yet of the effectiveness of a vaccine that much of the world is relying on to end the pandemic.

And separate studies of the Pfizer vaccine offered tantalizing new evidence that a single shot may be reducing the spread of the virus, showing that it prevents not only symptomatic cases of Covid-19 but also asymptomatic infections.

The findings reinforced and went beyond studies out of Israel, which has



also reported that the vaccine developed by Pfizer and BioNTech offered significant protection from the virus in real-world settings, and not only in the clinical trials held last year. No other large nation is inoculating people as quickly as Britain, and it was the first country in the world to authorize and begin using both the Pfizer shot and the one developed by AstraZeneca and the University of Oxford. The studies released on Monday -- two on the Pfizer shot and one on it and the AstraZeneca injection -- showed both vaccines were effective against the more infectious Coronavirus variant that has taken

hold in Britain and spread around the world.

"Both of these are working spectacularly well," said Aziz Sheikh, a professor at the University of Edinburgh who helped run a study of Scottish vaccinations.

Still, the findings contained some cautionary signs. And even as British lawmakers cited the strength of the vaccines in announcing a gradual loosening of lockdown restrictions, government scientists warned that many more people needed to be injected to prevent cases from spreading into vulnerable, vaccinated groups and occasionally causing serious disease and death. (NYT)

Moderna to increase Covid vaccine supply

Moderna said Monday it received "positive feedback" from the Food and Drug Administration on its proposal to increase the number of Covid-19 vaccine doses in each of its vials.

One vial of Moderna's two-shot vaccine contains ten doses, enough to inoculate five people, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. CNBC reported last month that Moderna had asked the FDA for permission to fill its Covid-19 vaccine vials with up to five additional doses to ease a bottleneck in manufacturing.

In prepared testimony submitted ahead of a House hearing on Tuesday, Moderna President Stephen Hoge said the U.S. agency has given the company "positive feedback on our proposal, and we are pursuing a plan that may allow up to 15 doses to be drawn from each vial."

"This will allow us to

produce and deliver more doses more quickly," Hoge told House Energy and Commerce Committee Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations "We will continue to collaborate with our manufacturing partners and the federal government to



increase the efficiency of our production process without compromising quality or safety."

The disclosure comes as President Joe Biden is trying to pick up the pace of vaccinations in the U.S. after a slower-than-expected rollout under former President Donald Trump, and states are complaining they don't have enough doses.

Biden announced Feb. 11 that his administration secured deals with Pfizer

and Moderna for another 200 million doses of Covid-19 vaccine, bringing the U.S. total to 600 million. Because both authorized vaccines require two doses given about three to four weeks apart, the total of 600 million doses would be enough to inoculate 300 million people. The Biden administration expects all of those doses by the end of July.

It's unclear if the increase of doses per vial is why Moderna now expects it can deliver 300 million doses by the end of July.

In December, the FDA said health-care providers could use extra doses from vials of Pfizer's Covid-19 vaccine. Those vials were said to contain five doses, but some providers were able to extract a sixth or even seventh dose. Like with Pfizer, some providers have also been able to draw an extra dose of Moderna's vaccine using special syringes. (CNBC)



Facebook will restore news in Australia

Facebook will restore news pages in Australia after the government agreed changes to a planned media code that the company said would allow it to retain greater control over what appears on its platform.

The announcement caps months of bitter dispute between the American tech firm and Canberra, which had been working on legislation that would force tech platforms to pay publishers for news content.

The initial version of the legislation would have allowed media outlets to bargain either individually or collectively with Facebook and Google (GOOGL) -- and to enter binding arbitration if the parties couldn't reach an agreement.

On Tuesday, the Australian government said it would amend the code to include a provision that "must take into account whether a digital platform has made a significant contribution to the sustainability of the Australian news industry through reaching commercial agreements with news media businesses." Arbitration, meanwhile, will now only be used as a "last resort" following a period of "good faith" mediation.

"The government has clarified we will retain the ability to decide if news appears on Facebook so that we won't automatically be subject to a forced negotiation," Campbell Brown, Facebook's vice president for global news partnerships, said in a statement. (CNN)

Airline industry travel pass ready 'within weeks'

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) says it expects its digital Covid Travel Pass will be ready "within weeks".

The pass is an app that verifies a passenger has had the Covid-19 tests or vaccines required to enter a country.

It also verifies they were administered by an approved authority.

The industry body sees the pass as essential for reopening air travel, as many countries still have strict restrictions or quarantines in place.

"The key issue is one of confidence. Passengers need to be confident that the testing they've taken is accurate and will allow them to enter the country," said Vinoop Goel, IATA's regional director of airports and external relations.

"And then governments need to have the confidence that the tests that the passengers claim to have is one which is accurate and meets their own conditions."

IATA said the Travel Pass is designed in a "modular" way, so that it can work with other digital

solutions that are being trialled around the world.

It will be available on iOS and Android platforms, and is expected to be free to passengers.

Singapore Airlines was the first airline to start trials of the travel pass in December.

Ethihad, Emirates, Qatar Airways, Air New Zealand are

among the other airlines currently conducting trials, and IATA says it is discussing the pass with most airlines throughout the Asia Pacific region.

"We are currently working with a number of airlines

worldwide and learning from these pilots. And the plan is to go live in March," Mr Goel said.

"So basically we expect to have a fully functional working system over the next few weeks."

The closest paper equivalent to the app is the Yellow Card, a World Health Organization document which confirms passengers have been vaccinated.

It is often used to prove that passengers have had yellow fever vaccinations required to enter some countries. (BBC)



My No: RG/NB/11/2/82/2019/Bg/42

NOTICE UNDER THE LAND REGISTERS RECONSTRUCTED FOLIO ORDINANCE (CAP. 120)

- I hereby give notice under Section 04 of the Land Registers Reconstructed Folio Ordinance (Cap. 120) that Land Register Folios, particulars of which appear in Column 1 of the schedule hereto, affecting the land described in Column 2, thereof which have been found to be missing or torn, have been reconstructed in full in provisional folios and relate to the connected deeds, particulars of which are shown in Column 3 of the said schedule.
- The provisional folio will be opened for inspection by any person or persons interested therein at the Office of the Registrar of Lands Delkanda, 05.03.2021 to 19.03.2021 between the hours of 10.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. on all working days.
- Any person desirous of lodging any objection against any entry included in a provisional Folio or against any of the particulars contained in any such entry and any person desiring to make a claim for the insertion of any entry or of any particulars alleged to have been improperly omitted from any entry must do so, by an objection or claim in writing addressed to the undersigned which must be sent under registered cover and must reach the Office of the Registrar General not later than 26.03.2021. The matter in respect of which the objection or claim is made must be clearly and fully set out in the objection or claim, and the objection or claim must be accompanied by all documentary evidence relies upon the support of it.

SCHEDULE

Particulars of Damaged Folios of the Land Registers	Particulars of Land	Particulars of Deeds Registered
Folio No. 114 of Volume 1315 M of Division of the Land Registry Delkanda in Colombo District	All that divided and defined Lot No. '99' in Plan No. 2207, dated 06.01.1981 made by D.J. Nanayakkara Licensed Surveyor of the land called 'Mahayaya' situated at Gorakapitiya and Palaswatta Palle Pattu of Salpiti Korale in the District of Colombo, Western Province bounded on the, North by: Lot 07 East by: Lot 100 South by: The land of Karaneri and Others West by: Lot 98 Extent: A:00 R:00 P:18.05	01. Deed of Transfer No. 2000 written and attested by M.P. Vijeratne, Notary Public on 01.06.1981. 02. Deed of Mortgage No. 113 written and attested by K.P. Wickramasinghe, Notary Public on 08.12.1999.
Folio No. 115 of Volume 1315 M of Division of the Land Registry Delkanda in Colombo District	All that divided and defined Lot No. '100' in Plan No. 2207, dated 06.01.1981 made by D.J. Nanayakkara Licensed Surveyor of the land called 'Mahayaya' situated at Gorakapitiya and Palaswatta Palle Pattu of Salpiti Korale in the District of Colombo, Western Province bounded on the, North by: Lot 07 East by: Lot 101 South by: The land of Karaneri and Others West by: Lot 99 Extent: A:00 R:00 P:18.00	01. Deed of Transfer No. 2000 written and attested by M.P. Vijeratne, Notary Public on 01.06.1981. 02. Deed of Mortgage No. 113 written and attested by K.P. Wickramasinghe, Notary Public on 08.12.1999.

Registrar General's Department,
No. 234/A3, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mw., Battaramulla.

N.C. Vithanage
Registrar General

Revocation of Special Power of Attorney

I, **BEVERLEY MICHELE JAYASINHA nee HENRICUS** (NIC No. 627752962 X) No. 21-1/1, Sunethradevi Road, Kohuwela do hereby give notice to the General Public that the Special Power of Attorney bearing No. 5228 dated 01.12.2013 attested by Amal Abraham Hiranya Wickramasinghe Jayasekara Notary Public Colombo registered under Volume 131 Folio 92 and the day book no. of 7473 dated 04.12.2013 and granted by me to **SAPUGAHAWATTEGE TISSA NANAYAKKARA** (NIC No. 600730380 V) of Seylan Bank Ltd., No.90, Galle Road, Colombo 3 has been revoked and cancelled by me and henceforth with the effect on 22.02.2021 I will not be responsible for any act or deed done by the said SAPUGAHAWATTEGE TISSA NANAYAKKARA in his capacity as my Attorney.

BEVERLEY MICHELE JAYASINHA nee HENRICUS

On this 22nd day of February 2021

REVOCATION OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

Notice is hereby given to the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka that I, Gani Achchige Palitha Chandraratna Perera of No. 140, Pasal Mawatha, Gangodawila, Nugegoda have revoked the Power of Attorney bearing No. 407 dated on 08th November 2018 attested by W. M. Chamill Yapa Wickramasinghe, Notary Public in favour of Cheong Ah Hong, Yeo Ai Choo and Cheong Wee Yong Paul of No. 16/18, Jalan Kilang Varat, off Jalan Bukit Merah, Singapore.

I do hereby declare that I shall not be liable to any act or acts done by the said Cheong Ah Hong, Yeo Ai Choo and Cheong Wee Yong Paul on my behalf from date hereof.

Date:

Gani Achchige Palitha Chandraratna Perera

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N-52

PROCUREMENT NOTICE
DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT PRINTING**PURCHASE OF 01 NO. OF PERFECT BINDING MACHINE WITH THREE KNIFE CUTTER (OFFLINE)**

Bid Reference No.: SI 2021/20

The Chairman, Procurement Committee, Department of Government Printing, invites bids from Foreign Principals/Accredited Agents in Sri Lanka for the Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Staff Training of 01 No. of Perfect Binding Machine with Three Knife Cutter (Offline)

Item No.	Description	Qty
01	Purchase of 01 No. of Perfect Binding Machine with Three Knife Cutter (offline)	01 (one)

Delivery location: Department of Government Printing,
No. 118, Dr. Danister De Silva Mawatha, Colombo 08.

- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from **Assistant Government Printer (Procurement), Department of Government Printing, No. 118, Dr. Danister De Silva Mawatha, Colombo 08** and inspect the bidding documents at the aforesaid address during the working days from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.
- The **pre-bid meeting** will be held on **10.03.2021** at 10.00 a.m. at the conference hall of Department of Government Printing, No. 118, Dr. Danister De Silva Mawatha, Colombo 08.
- Closing of above Bids: 2.00 p.m. on **18.03.2021** and open the Bids immediately after closing the same. The bidders or their duly authorized representatives may be presented at the opening of the bid.
- Bidding documents will be issued on official working days from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. by the Supplies Division, Department of Government Printing, 118, Dr. Danister De Silva Mawatha, Colombo 08 on written application together with a non-refundable fee of **Rs. 15,000/-** on or before 2.00 p.m. day prior to the closing date of Bids given above.

Gangani Liyanage
Chairman, Procurement Committee

Department of Government Printing
118, Dr. Danister de Silva Mawatha
Colombo 08.

Telephone/Fax: 011-2694898
Websites: www.documents.gov.lk
www.npa.gov.lk

22.02.2021



GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA
MINISTRY OF HIGHWAYS
ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

**INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**

- The Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee, Ministry of Highways, on behalf of the Road Development Authority (RDA), invites sealed bids from the eligible and qualified bidders for the project in Western Province which described below. :-

Contract No.	Contract Name	Engineer's Estimate exclu. Contingencies (Rs.Mn)	Bid Security (Rs.Mn)	Duration (Days)
RDA/DC/WP/IR-GOSL/2021/12	Reconstruction of bridge no. 9/2 on Colombo - Horana road - 8084	213	2.6	455

- The work consists of reconstruction of bridge including bored pile foundation, construction of approaches and incidental works.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall be currently registered with the Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA) in **C3 or C2 grades in Bridges speciality**.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from the following offices and refer the bidding document via www.rda.gov.lk from **02.03.2021**.
 - Director (Construction), Road Development Authority, 3rd Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura", Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla.
T.P: 011 - 2864388 and Fax No. : 011 - 2861821
 - Provincial Director (Western Province), Road Development Authority, No. 36, 2nd floor, Udumulla road, Battaramulla
T.P: 011 - 2863916 and Fax no.: 011 -2887623
- The Pre-Bid meeting will be held at **10:00 hrs** on **10.03.2021** at the office of Provincial Director (Western Province), Road Development Authority, No. 36, 2nd floor, Udumulla road, Battaramulla (T.P. : 011 - 2863916 and Fax no. : 011 -2887623) and a site visit will be arranged immediately thereafter if necessary.

- A complete set of Bidding Document in English language shall be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the Director (Construction), RDA, 3rd Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura", Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla from **02.03.2021** until **22.03.2021** during **09:00 hrs to 15:00 hrs**. upon a payment of non - refundable tender fee.

Non-refundable tender fee of **Rs. 37,800.00** (with VAT) can be paid by depositing cash to the following bank account.

- Account Name** : Director General - RDA
- Account Number** : 0000001943
- Bank Name** : Bank of Ceylon - Corporate Branch

Bidder should submit the original/valid cash deposit slip for amount **Rs. 37,800.00** (with VAT) to Director (Construction), RDA, 3rd Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura", Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla in order to purchase the bidding document.

As per the Public Contract Act no. 3 of 1987, the Agent and successful winners of the tender shall be registered in the Department of Registrar of Companies.

- Bid shall be accompanied by a Bid- Security for an amount given in the table. Bid Security shall be valid up to **20.07.2021**.
- Bid shall be valid up to **22.06.2021**.
- Bid shall be delivered in **duplicate** to the Chairman, Ministry Procurement Committee, Ministry of Highways, Procurement Division, 7th Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura", Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha, Battaramulla on or before **14:00 hrs** on **23.03.2021**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after the closing, in the presence of the bidder's representatives who choose to attend.

The Chairman,
Ministry Procurement Committee,
Ministry of Highways,
Procurement Division,
7th Floor, "Maganeguma Mahamedura",
Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha,
Battaramulla

Viyaluwa Multi-purpose Co-operative Society Limited, Kandakatiya**INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**

- The Chairman, Procurement Committee invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the Construction as described in the table below.

Name of Construction	Required CIDA Grade	Contract Period	Required Bid Security		Non-refundable Bid Document Fee
			Security Amount (Rs.)	Validity Period	
Renovation and Improvement of Existing Filling Station at Kandakatiya (BD/KK/2021/W01)	C6 or above Building	6 Months	277,000.00	26th May 2021	3,500/-

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding. However, limited to the bidders who are registered within the administrative boundary of Uva Province.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall have been registered in the field of Building Construction for grade mentioned above with the Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA).
- This bid is administered by the provisions of the "Public Contract Act No. 03 of 1987". Therefore, Bidder shall submit valid certificate of registration issued by Registrar of Public Contract with the bids and failure to comply will result in the bids being rejected.
- Qualification requirements are indicated in the Section 4 of the Bidding documents. Additional details are provided in the Section 5.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from **Chairman, Viyaluwa Multi-purpose Co-operative Society Limited, Kandakatiya (T. No. 055-2245985)** and inspect the bidding documents on working days from 9.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the **Chairman, Viyaluwa Multi-purpose Co-operative Society Limited, Kandakatiya** from **24th February 2021** until **9th March 2021** from **9.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs.** on payment of a non-refundable bid documents fee mentioned in table above. The method of payment will be in cash.
- Bids shall be delivered to **Chairman, Viyaluwa Multi-purpose Co-operative Society Limited, Kandakatiya** on or before **14.00 hrs. on 10th March 2021**. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders representatives who choose to attend.
- Bids shall be valid up to 77 days after the deadline for Bid Submission.
- All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid-Security issued by a commercial bank approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka.

The Chairman, Procurement Committee,
Viyaluwa Multipurpose Co-operative Society Limited,
Kandakatiya
055-2245985

24th February 2021

SPORTS EXTRA



Sudarshana Muthuthanthri making a break for Sri Lanka in an International Sevens match



Sudarshana Muthuthanthri playing for Auckland Blues Team in New Zealand

Rugby star Muthuthanthri has mesmerized many opponents

INDIKA WELAGEDARA

Today we go Off the Field with this highly talented, dedicated and hard working former S.Thomas' College Mount Lavinia rugby player, only Sri Lankan rugby player thus far to represent a New Zealand 'A' Division rugby club (Auckland Sevens team), former Sri Lanka national Sevens and XV a side captain, present CH and FC rugby captain cum champion rugby player Sudarshana Muthuthanthri, who has mesmerized many opponents with his fierce brand of rugby all around the world.

- Full Name - Sudharshana Muthuthanthri
- Hometown - Colombo
- Birthday - August 25th
- Passions - Rugby
- Favourite Colour - Black and white

Q: What made you enter the world of sports?

I like being active and being among friends so that made me get into sports

Q: Who has supported you the most?

Family

Q: What do you do for fun?

Surfing, watch movies, cycling and hanging out with friends.

Q: What are the top priorities in your life?

Faith and family.



Sudarshana Muthuthanthri

Q: What was your most unforgettable memory/incident?

Wearing the Auckland jersey for the first time representing Sri Lanka and leading the national side

Q: Who is your favourite sportsman?

Tom Brady and Stephen Curry

Q: What's your favourite holiday destination?

Down south in Sri Lanka because I like the beach.

Q: What is the greatest accomplishment in your life?

Greatest accomplishment is being true to myself and having the mindset of getting better as a person everyday

Q: Who is your favourite singer?

I don't have a favourite singer I listen to all genres of music

Q: What is your favourite song?

"Spirit lead me" by Michael Ketterer

Q: If you had one day left to live, what would you do?

Spend the day with loved ones

Q: Who do you sometimes compare yourself to?

I think I'm unique, so I don't compare myself to anyone and there's only one "Muthu"

Q: What's the best compliment you have received?

That I'm kind and honest

Q: Are you happy with all your achievements?

Yes, I don't have any regrets, but there's more to do



Sudarshana Muthuthanthri of S.Thomas' being confronted by a Peterite defender

Q: What's your favourite movie?

Blind side

Q: Who's your favourite Actor?

Joaquin Phoenix, Mark Wahlberg, Julia Roberts, Sandra Bullock, Kevin Hart and Dwayne Johnson

Q: Are you doing what you believe in,

or are you settling for what you are doing?

Yes I believe the path set for me is already chosen by God and I'm enjoying the journey, that's what I believe.

Q: How would you describe yourself in two words?

Hard working



Dilshan Madushanka represented Viiking in the LPL



Dilshan Madushanka in action

Has Chaminda Vaas hooked his best catch?

Fisherman's son set to make debut for Sri Lanka in the Caribbean

DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Twenty-year-old left-arm fast bowler Dilshan Madushanka is the youngest player to make it to the Sri Lanka Team for the West Indies Tour. The former schoolboy of Hungama MV in Ambalantota is the latest sensation to steal the limelight following a successful domestic cricket season.

His talent and potential was initially spotted by the District Coach Manjula Karunaratne and he was later introduced to the Sri Lanka Fast Bowling Coach Chaminda Vaas. Madushanka started playing cricket from Under-15 level at school under the guidance of his first coach Illangaratne.

The school did not have a first eleven team but he had the chance to train with the District Team under the guidance of Coach Manjula Karunaratne, which was the turning point in his career.

It was during that time that Madushanka was asked to bowl at the Sri Lanka Under-19 Team players during practices in preparation for the series against the India Under-19 Team in 2019.

"I did not have the proper cricket equipment at that time and I think that was the turning point of my cricket career," revealed Madushanka.

"I bowled very well at the nets and Fast Bowling Coach Chaminda Vaas was really impressed. He took my phone number and one day I got a surprise call from Vaas. He invited me to come for practices in Colombo."

Madushanka experienced many dif-

iculties during his school days. His father was a fisherman and did not like him playing cricket as it would neglect his studies.

"I am happy that now my father is watching a lot of cricket on television and he even comes to the ground to watch me playing," said Madushanka.

"My father never expected that I would get a chance to represent the National side so soon."

"If not for Vaas I wouldn't have been here. He helped me a lot after Manjula Karunaratne, the District Coach who spotted me and gave me a chance."

"I know that I have a long journey to travel and hope to get more experience to build up my cricketing career," said Madushanka.

"I invited him to come for a District Coaching Camp and he got an opportunity to play in the Inter-District Tournament which was his first competi-



Dilshan Madushanka with his coach Manjula Karunaratne

tion," Coach Karunaratne told the Daily News. "He captured eight wickets with one five-wicket haul. This was a very impressive performance to go forward," he added.

Lakala Perera excellent ruggerite and coach

ALTHAF NAWAZ

It is rare to find a rugby player who is capable of playing in several positions unless he is a highly skilled person. Lakala Perera was one of them who handled the rugby ball in various positions, after engaging in several sporting disciplines as a schoolboy and later turned out to be a scintillating rugby player and an excellent coach.

Lakala was born in 1981 and Susil Perera is his father, a musician by profession who hails from a family involved in professional music. Ruby Grace is his mother who is a housewife. He has three siblings with elder brother Isuru another Peterite was a professional football player representing Saunders Sports Club later donned the National jersey. His elder sister is Erandathi who is a housewife while his younger brother is Maduka another Peterite fol-

lowing the footsteps of his father as a musician.

Lakala was admitted to St. Peter's College, Colombo as a primary class student in 1987 and went on to complete his higher studies by 2000. From his younger days he was involved in sports. He then joined the school basketball team followed by the cricket, soccer and rugby teams. He captained the basketball under-17 team in 1998 and dribbled the football to annex the 'Best Player's award at the big match in 1999 against their traditional rivals St. Joseph's College, Colombo. Getting into rugby was encouraged by one of his classmates Warren Peters, who was also a sportsman, who represented college in cricket and rugby.

He started playing in the under-13 team in 1992 coached by B.K. Ramachandran. Continued playing in the under-15

team coached by Kelum Senaratne and Shantha Dharmaratne while the under-17 team was coached by Sunanda Fernando. He established a regular place in the College first XV Rugby team in the 1999 and 2000 seasons. Due to his fine performance he bagged the 'Best players' award in 1999. He further grabbed the College colours for basketball and rugby for his splendid performances. Gavin Ludowyke led the Peterites team in 1999 and lost to Ananda in the semi finals under the coaching of Cicero de Fonseka. The 2000 season was played under the captaincy of Gladwin Georgesz under the coaching of S.W.Chang where they went down to Kingswood in the semi finals of the schools knock-out tournament.

He played a dual role as fly half and at times as a scrum half most of his school career starting from junior rugby. However,

in 2000, in his final year in school, his coach S. W. Chang advised him to swap position in the back line as a wing three quarter, if he intends to continue rugby up to a professional level, after noticing his ball handling skills. This bold move enabled him to represent Sri Lanka Rugby from 2001 to 2008 as a wing three quarter.

He then opted to play for Havelock Sports Club which was also motivated by S.W. Chang. He locked horns for them from 2001 to 2005. With his participation there, he played a pivotal role in winning the under-24 sevens and XV-a-side rugby in 2001 followed by the senior club sevens in 2001/02 seasons, where he was adjudged 'Best Player' of the tournament in 2002. In 2003, the Park Club won the President's Trophy Knockout Tournament under Shafi Hassan's captaincy. Sanjewa Jayas-

inghe was his first captain in 2001 and went on to play under Rajiv Somaratne in 2002, under Miskin Deen in 2004, under Rajiv Ganapathy in 2005 respectively. Subsequently, he

was stricken by an injury to his hand in 2006 which sidelined him the whole season.

Soon after recovery in 2007, he decided to change clubs and scrum down with CH and FC. In 2007, he played under Dilanka Wijesekera, in 2008 under Jayantha Ranaweera, and in 2009 under Achala Perera, in 2010 under Dinesh Sanjewa and finally in 2011, he was entrusted to lead the Gymkhana Club to end his illustrious club rugby career which spanned over a decade. Tony Amit was his coach at CH and FC.

He got the National call to represent the sevens team in 2001 onwards playing in the Singer Sri Lankan Tournament



Lakala Perera

He also took part in Asian Games in 2002 and Commonwealth Games the same year. His XV-a-side representation with the National side was at the Asian Games in Korea in 2002 and the Rugby Asiad held in Sri Lanka in 2007, where he scored four tries in the tournament. He was awarded the National Sporting Honours for Rugby in 2008 by the National Sports Council. He also played in the Mercantile Sevens and later received the award for the Best player in the final in 2002.

His wife is Annaliza Jayasekara who is an architect by profession and the two children are son Javin schooling at St. Peter's and daughter Leah. He has been working for Hattion National Bank since 2002 up to date. He is serving as an assistant coach for Havelock Sports Club from 2018 up to date.

Nadun Chethana - outstanding karateka

DILWIN MENDIS
Moratuwa Sports Special Correspondent

Fourteen year old Karate Black Belt, Kumite and Kata Gold Medalist. Nadun Chethana has brought honour and fame as a Junior Karateka to Dhammissara National School Nattandiya. Nadun was admitted to Catholic Junior School Marawila in 2013 and his first class teacher was Mrs. Shamalie and in the following year he shifted to Dhammissara National School Nattandiya when R. K. W. Gunasekera was at the helm of the school.

He participated in the Inter House Sports Meet from Grade 4 to 8 and his events were Long Jump, 4x100 metres Relay and 4x100 metres Hurdles and in 2019 he participated in the under 13 Inter House Volleyball Tournament. Though he participated in Athletics and Volleyball his forte is Karate



ISKU Karate Academy held their Grading Exam for Brown Belt and those who succeeded posed for a photograph with their coach. Nadun Chethana is in the front row first from left. (Picture by Dilwin Mendis Moratuwa Sports Special Correspondent)

and his parents A. M. Amarasinghe and A. M. Dhammika admitted him to the ISKU Karate Academy in 2014 and Nadun came under Karate Coach Sugath Kumara. His first meet was Gimaha Shotokan RYU Karate Association Meet and he received a certificate for participation. His second meet was in 2016 Shotokan Karate-Do Traditional Sankoshi Oraditionan

Sunakossi and he won a Gold for a Kumite and a Silver for Kata in the under eight age group. In the same year participating in the All Island Karate Kumite Championship under 9 he won a Gold for Kumite and in 2017 he participated in the Sri Lanka Schools Junior Karate Kata Championship. In the under 10 age group at the Open National Championship he



won a Gold for Kumite and at the Livera Karate Foundation Meet he won a Gold for Kumite and a Bronze for Kata.

In 2018 Karate-Do Federation North Western Province Meet he got a Bronze for Kumite and in the Championships Trophy Karate Championship he won a Gold for Kumite and a Bronze for Kata in the Puttalam District Karate-Do Federation Meet he got Bronzes for Kumite and Kata and in the third

Invitation Open Karate Championship he received a certificate for participation. Same year at the Gimhah International Karate Championship he grabbed a Gold.

At the Kencho Karate International Open Karate Development Meet he won a Bronze for Kata and then at the Open Invitation Karate Championship he won Golds for both Kumite and Kata and at the Puttalam District Karate Meet he won Silvers for Kata and Kumite. Same year at the North Western Province Meet he won a Gold for Kumite and finally in 2020 at the Sri Lanka Karate-Do Association Kumite Meet he got a Bronze for Kata and at the ISKU International Online Kata Championship he received a merit certificate for participation. His Karate Coach at school is . Peter and Nadun is well supported by his Principal Anil Pushpakumara .

Sri Lankan Olympic stars of yesteryear

Long distance runner Linus Dias brought fame and glory to Sri Lanka

Linus Dias entered the international athletics arena having participated and displayed his talents at Inter-schools and National level events as a student of Ampitya Vidyalaya, Kandy.

Linus was also the Sri Lankan Team Captain for the Olympic Games in Rome in 1960. As a schoolboy he won the third place in the 1,500m while causing a serious threat to some of the more senior competitors who participated in this event at the National Championships in 1951.

In 1950, he quite easily won the 1-mile race at the Junior Athletics Meet and at the Public Schools Athletic Meet. In 1953, at the National Championships he was placed second in the 1,500m event.

In 1954, he won the 1,500m event at the National Championship finishing the race in 4 minutes and 12.9s and the 5,000m in 20 minutes and 20.6s.

Linus, who was by now serving the Sri Lanka Army gave up the 1,500m event and trained for the 5,000m and the 10,000m events. In 1954 he won the 5,000m event at the

Army Athletics Meet in 16 minutes and 12.4s. In 1959, he took part in an international meet for the first time in Malaysia. He came second in the 3-mile event. Although the 10,000m race was not scheduled for National events during the period from 1952 to 1962, Linus had recorded a time of 34.00 minutes while training.

In 1956, in the 5,000m event, Linus was placed second. In 1958, at the Asian Games in Tokyo, Japan he came second in the 10,000m event. He had finished the course in 34:4.5s and this was also a new Sri Land record.

The same year, Linus won the 6-mile and the 3-mile events at the Sports Festival held in Malaysia.

In the Triangular Athletics Meet involving Madras, Mysore and Sri Lanka, Linus won the marathon. In 1959, Linus won the marathon event at the Championship organised by the Ceylon Track and Field Club.

He improved on his best performance by returning a time of 2 hours 33.43s. At the Athletics Meet held in India between the Ace Athletics Club and the



Linus Dias

Bangalore Sports Club, Linus won both 5,000m and the 10,000m events while establishing Mysore State records in these events.

In 1960 too he won the marathon event held in Madras. Linus was then selected for the Olympic Games in Rome in 1960 on the basis of these victories.

He was the 39th out of 69 competitors finishing the event in 2 hours, 32 minutes and 12s. This performance was an improvement on the Sri Lanka record and the Asian record.

In 1961, he won the 5,000m event at the Nationals with a time of 15:37.2s which was considered a remarkable achievement. (C.D)

Poly Lions team limited over cricket champs

(Text and Pictures by: **I.L.RIZAN,**
Addalaichenai Central Correspondent)

Poly Lions team, Sainthamaruthu beat Maliga United team, Sainthamaruthu by four wickets in the final to emerge champions and bagged the FSK Miandad Premier League -2021 champion trophy in the limited over cricket tournament conducted by Miandad Sports Club, Sainthamaruthu at the Sainthamaruthu Hijra Masjid Square Grounds recently.

This tournament was organized by the Miandad Sports Club President A.Faiz to mark the

completion of thirty year of the club. The FSK Miandad Premier League Tournament President S.M.Ameer presided over the tournament while Maruthoor Warriors, Maliga United, Shantham Challengers and Poly Lions teams from the Sainthamaruthu area participated.

Maliga United team batting first scored 125 runs for the loss of seven wickets in their allocated 10 overs. Poly Lions team in reply scored 128 runs for six wickets

A.L.Fazal who represented the Poly Lions Team was adjudged the player of the match. Player of the tournament award

was secured by M.A.M.Rizni of Maliga United Team and Best batsman award was won by A.H.M.Murshid of Shantham Challengers Team.

M.J.M.Kalith was the chief guest at the award ceremony. My Cola Beverage Pvt Ltd Business Development Manager V.Vasanthakumar, Supervising Officer M.Y.A.Arafath, the Ceylon Media Forum President and Senior Journalist Riyath A. Majeed, Miandad Sports Club President A.Faiz and Miandad Sports Club officials participated as the special guests and awarded the trophy to winning team and players.



Niluka and Dinuka Karunaratne celebrate with the trophy

Niluka and Hasini steal the limelight at Badminton Nationals

DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Niluka Karunaratne and Hasini Ambalangodage won a double crown each at the 68th National Badminton Championships, worked off at the Mercantile Badminton Association Indoor Stadium in Colombo. Karunaratne clinched the Men's Sin-

gles title and also won the Men's Doubles title together with his brother Dinuka Karunaratne.

Meanwhile, Hasini also had the satisfaction of winning two titles at the Nationals as she bagged the Women's Singles and the Women's Doubles title along with partner Kavidhi Sirimannage.



Hasini Ambalangodage and Kavidhi Sirimannage celebrate with the trophy



Hasini Ambalangodage in action



Niluka and Dinuka Karunaratne in action



Niluka Karunaratne in action



Hasini Ambalangodage celebrates with the trophy



Niluka Karunaratne celebrates with the trophy



Dasun Shanaka

Sri Lanka ready for West Indies challenge - Dimuth Karunaratne

DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Sri Lanka Test and One Day International (ODI) Skipper Dimuth Karunaratne said that his players are in a good frame of mind to take on the West Indies when the two teams clash in an all-format series commencing from March 4.

Karunaratne made these observations shortly before the 20-member Sri Lankan white-ball squad took wing to the Caribbean on Monday.

"We are determined to perform well during this tour and we are ready to take up the challenges from the opposition," Karunaratne stressed.

"Actually we will be playing ODI's after a break of one year. The last time also we played ODI's against the West Indies at home. They are very good in these two formats and we would never underesti-



Dimuth Karunaratne shortly before departing from the SLC Headquarters (Pic courtesy SLC)

mate them," said Karunaratne. "We have a very good

plan to counter-attack them and to compete with them in all departments

and our moral is very high," added Karunaratne. "Lahiru Kumara has

tested positive for Covid-19, which rules him out of the tour but we can't do anything for this matter and the tour goes ahead with the other players."

"I think this time we are well prepared for this series and we hope to perform well and most importantly get back into the winning ways once again," he emphasised.

"We couldn't do well during the South Africa and England series and we want to bounce back with an improved performance," he added.

Meanwhile, uncapped players Pathum Nissanka and Ashen Bandara will look to establish their position in the team with a solid performance.

"I was out of the game for nearly six months due to a back injury and finally, I am happy to make a comeback and make it to the National Squad for the first time," said Nissanka.

"I scored heavily during the last domestic season and that has helped me to find a place in the team. This is like a dream come true for me and I am hoping to produce my best effort during this tour," said the former schoolboy of Isipathana College.

Shanaka misses flight to WI over Visa issue

Sri Lanka's Twenty20 Captain Dasun Shanaka was unable to join the touring squad, which left for the West Indies on Monday, due to an issue related to securing his Visa, a media release from Sri Lanka Cricket stated yesterday.

"Shanaka confronted this issue pursuant to the loss of his passport, which had a valid visa for the USA stamped on it," the release stated.

"Sri Lanka Cricket is working closely with the relevant authorities to get the Visa issue of Shanaka sorted, quickly as possible," the release added further.

Shanaka is expected to join the Sri Lanka Team once the issue is resolved.

WORLD OF SPORTS

(February 24) LOCAL EVENTS VOLLEYBALL

(Men's Super League): Army SC vs Police SC
CEB vs Navy SC
Ports Authority SC vs NYSC
Bitulink SC vs Air Force SC
(All matches at Dadella Volleyball House)

TENNIS

SSC Open at SSC Courts, Maitland Place

FOREIGN EVENTS

CRICKET

India vs England (3rd Test) at Ahmedabad (1st day)

(Pakistan Super League):

Karachi Kings vs Islamabad United at Karachi
(Australian Sheffield Shield): New South Wales vs Victoria at Sydney

(Women's T20 Challenge):

Titans vs Warriors
Dolphins vs Highveld Lions
(Both matches at Durban)

TENNIS

ATP Cordoba Open at Cordoba Lawn Tennis Club, Argentina
Open Sud de France at Arena Montpellier, France

FOOTBALL

(Champions League): Atalanta vs Real Madrid
Borussia Monchengladbach vs Manchester City

(Women's International Friendly):

Netherlands vs Germany (Spanish League): Barcelona vs Elche



Tillakaratne Dilshan will lead the Sri Lanka Legends Team

Dilshan to lead Sri Lanka Legends

DHAMMIKA RATNAWEERA

Former Sri Lanka cricketer turned commentator Russell Arnold, former fast bowlers Nuwan Kulasekara and Dhammika Prasad are among several other new faces that will join the Sri Lanka Legends Squad in the 'Road Safety' World Cricket Series, which is scheduled to be held from March 2 to 21 in Raipur, India.

The inaugural session of this tournament was called off after just four games in 2020 due to the pandemic and now the organisers are expected to restart the tournament from March 2.

Meanwhile, legendary Sri Lankan cricketer Sanath Jayasuriya has already confirmed his participation for this event.

Jayasuriya will be joined by the explosive opening partner Tillakaratne Dilshan who will captain the Sri Lanka Legends Team.

This time however, Muttiah Muralitharan, Romesh Kaluwitharana, Chaminda Vaas, Upul Chandana, and Marvan Atapattu have withdrawn from the series.

Namal expresses regret over Chaminda Vaas' resignation

Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa yesterday expressed his regret over the resignation of former Sri Lankan player Chaminda Vaas as a consulting bowling coach claiming it is regretful that the National Team lost such a talented coach.

"Vaas was supposed to be present during an international tour as the coach. When he requested to resign four hours prior to the said tour, it shows the indiscipline of the individual," the Sports Minister told during Parliament.

"His actions affect the young players of the team who are targeting the 2023 World Cup. Whatever issues there might be in the Cricket Board, we



Sports Minister Namal Rajapaksa

should not let them affect the players and the indus-

try." He pointed out the issue was with Chaminda

Vaas requesting a pay hike and submitting his resignation nearly four hours before the team was set to depart for the Caribbean.

"The issue is that Chaminda Vaas announced his decision and demanded a pay hike at 5.00 p.m when the team was set to depart at 11 in the night on the same day."

"If the SLC had at that time agreed to his request, then tomorrow right before entering the pitch in West Indies, another coach or a cricketer could make similar demands and threaten to withdraw."

"How will we face such a situation in the future? Therefore, we have a system in place and that must be followed," he said. (D.R)

Upul Tharanga announces retirement

Former Sri Lanka opener Upul Tharanga yesterday announced his retirement from international cricket, calling it a day on his 15-year-long career.

The swashbuckling opener shared a heartfelt note on social media as he hung up his boots after having played his last international

game for Sri Lanka back in 2019.

The left-handed batsman had also led the Sri Lankan Team several times as a stand-in Captain before being appointed as the permanent captain in 2017. He played in 31 Tests, 235 One Day Internationals and 26 Twenty20 Internationals.

"I believe it is time for me to bid farewell to my International Cricket Career after over 15 years. I leave behind a road travelled with fond memories and great friendships," Tharanga wrote on social media. (D.R)



Sri Lanka poorly placed in Test, One Day and T20 Rankings

INDIKA WELAGEDARA

The Sri Lanka Cricket team which left for the West Indies early morning yesterday is poorly placed in all three formats in the recently released ICC world rankings. They will strive to regain their lost prestige by overcoming the West Indies during the forthcoming series in the Caribbean. The two captains Dimuth Karunaratne (Test and One Days) and Dasun Shanaka (T20) will face an acid test when they face the Windies, who will field a blend of youth and experienced outfit.

Seasoned campaigners like Kieron Pollard, Jason Holder, Darren Bravo, Shai Hope, Kraigg Brathwaite, Roston Chase, Kemar Roach, Shannon Gabriel along with talented youngsters, Kyle Mayers (who scored a double century against Bangladesh at debut), off spinner Rahkeem Cornwall and batsmen Jer-

maine Blackwood, Nkrumah Bonner and Joshua Da Silva will provide the sparkle for the home team.

The experienced Sri Lankan batting trio of skipper Dimuth Karunaratne, ex-skipper Dinesh Chandimal and Angelo Mathews will have

the Chameera and rookie left arm fast bowler Dilshan Madushanka should strive to keep the free scoring Windies batsmen in check along with the spin trio of Lakshan Sadakan, Akila Dhananjaya and Wanindu Hasaranga.

The latest ICC Test, One Day and T20 Rankings:

Test Rankings: 1. New Zealand, 2. India, 3. Australia, 4. England, 5. Pakistan, 6. West Indies, 7. South Africa, 8. Sri Lanka, 9. Bangladesh

One Day Rankings: 1. England, 2. India, 3. New Zealand, 4. Australia, 5. South Africa, 6. Pakistan, 7. Bangladesh, 8. Sri Lanka, 9. West Indies,

T20 Rankings: 1. England, 2. Australia, 3. India, 4. Pakistan, 5. South Africa, 6. New Zealand, 7. Sri Lanka, 8. Bangladesh, 9. Afghanistan, 10. West Indies.



International Cricket Council

SLT-MOBITEL Speedup powers Southern Elyakanda Hill Climb 2021

PRIYAN DE SILVA

SLT-MOBITEL, the ultra-high speed fibre broadband services provider in Sri Lanka has joined hands with the Southern Motor Sports Club (SMSC) to launch 25th edition of the SLT-MOBITEL Speedup Southern Elyakanda Hill Climb. This undertaking of the renowned motor race by SLT-Mobitel will be conducted for the sixth consecutive time.

The upcoming event was announced during a press conference held at the SLT main auditorium recently.

The racing spectacle will comprise 16 motor cycle events and 17 motor car events.

The Bike Race will be held on February 27 and the Car Race will take

place the following day, February 28. The event will be held under strict conditions adhering to all guidelines issued by the health authorities to ensure the safety of all stakeholders. For the first time in its history the event would be worked off sans spectators.

The event, which is being held under the theme 'SLTMOBITEL Speedup' is regarded as yet another initiative through which SLT-MOBITEL aims to support and empower the local sports segment and take it up to the next level.

Deputy Chief Marketing Officer of Sri Lanka Telecom-Mobitel Rohana Ellawala said that being the ultra high speed fiber broadband service pro-



Rohana Ellawala - Deputy Chief Marketing Officer-SLT and Prabhath Dahanayake - Chief Marketing Officer-SLT handing over the main sponsorship to Dr. Sanjaya Sedara Senerath (president- SMSC), Ashhar Hameem, (Immediate past president-SMSC) and Sarindu Isuranga Gamage (Assistant Secretary-SMSC). Picture by Ranjith Asanka

vider, the blue chip company has been associated with most of the speedy sporting events in the Island.

Dilan Seneviratne who holds the course record of 32.422 seconds

for the Elyakanda track said that the 540 metre track was one of the best tracks he had raced on and added that the four corners were a challenge to competitors.

Sangeeth Sooriyage

who established a new course record of 33.752 seconds on debut at the 2020 edition said that he would be looking forward to better his record this year but added that the lack of competition and

possibly even a trial run may be a set back. The SLTMOBITEL Speedup Southern Elyakanda Hill Climb is a national championship event which has been functioning under the approval of the Sri Lanka Automobile Sports (SLAS), the governing body for motor sports in Sri Lanka.

Sharing his thoughts on the upcoming racing event, Prabhath Dahanayake, Chief Marketing Officer of SLT stated, "SLT-MOBITEL is delighted to have the privilege of coming on board once again to support the Southern Elyakanda Hill Climb. As a pioneer in providing high speed broadband services, becoming a part of an initiative of this calibre which resonates with the

speed in the services we offer."

Dr Sanjaya Sedara Senerath, President of SMSC said; "SLTMOBITEL Speedup Southern Elyakanda Hill Climb is one of the most successful and much looked forward to motor sports events in the country. We appreciate and value the support extended to us by SLT-MOBITEL which we are certain will help achieve our goals to uplift motor sports in the country."

Wurth Lanka, Mobile Lubricants and Merchant Bank of Sri Lanka (MBSL) are the co-sponsors for this year's event.

Clarifications about the event could be sought from Sarindu Gamage 0716095549 or Sandharu D e e r a s e k a r a 0710660675.

Daily News Business

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PM Imran Khan's visit to boost trade ties, regional connectivity

Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan's visit to Sri Lanka will open a new chapter in bilateral and economic relations, officials told Arab News on Monday.

Pakistan and Sri Lanka are expected to sign multiple agreements to strengthen economic cooperation and improve connectivity between the two countries during the Pakistani premier's upcoming visit.

Prime Minister Imran Khan will visit Sri Lanka on the invitation of Sri Lankan Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, according to Pakistan Foreign Office statement. This will be the Pakistani premier's first visit

to Sri Lanka after assuming office in 2018.

Sri Lanka PM Mahinda Rajapaksa said in a tweet that he looked forward to welcoming Pakistani PM Imran Khan and his delegation in Sri Lanka next week.

"This visit will further reinforce our bilateral relationship and pave the way for joint ventures that mutually benefit both our nations" he said.

PM Khan will also lead the delegation-level talks, covering all areas of cooperation including trade and investment, health and education, agriculture, science and



technology, defence and security, and culture and tourism.
The Pakistan-Sri Lanka Trade and

Investment Forum, organized by the Ministry of Commerce of Pakistan and its diplomatic mission in Colombo, will be at the Shangri-La Hotel, where Khan is expected to woo the island's business magnates into investing in Pakistan. PM Khan will be accompanied by a high-powered business and investment delegation consisting of business leaders mainly from the sectors of textile, pharmaceuticals, agro-food, sports goods, ICT, gems and jewellery, auto parts, construction material and surgical equipment.

Khan will be accompanied by Foreign Affairs Minister Makhdoom

Shah Mehmood Qureshi, the prime minister's commerce adviser Abdul Razak Dawood, Foreign Affairs Secretary Sohail Mehmood and a delegation of senior officials and business leaders.

Pakistan and Sri Lanka have maintained close and cordial relations since 1948.

The two countries share common views on a wide range of international and regional issues and have worked closely at the international and regional levels, including the United Nations and SAARC, Pakistan foreign office said.

(www.gulfnews.com)



SLT RANKED AMONG '10 MOST ADMIREED...' PAGE 19

'Treasury Reserve Management crashed during previous govt'



State Minister Ajith Nivard Cabraal hands over a certificate of participation. Picture by Dinesh Perera.

DINESH PERERA

State Minister of Capital Markets and State Enterprise Reform Ajith Nivard Cabraal noted that during his tenure as Central Bank Governor the rate of return on Central Bank reserves was as high as 6.3%. He noted that under the previous administration this rate of return had crashed to figures well below 1.5%.

Cabraal noted that the media narrative on reserve management was misleading. Cabraal said as Governor of the Central Bank he broke the record for the highest return on reserves by earning US\$ 430 million on the holdings of the Bank. During that very same year, Cabraal was summoned by the Committee on Public Accounts for the purchase of Greek Bonds that caused a loss of US\$ 12 million. Cabraal called on the media moguls to paint a more holistic picture of the reserve management.

Cabraal speaking on February 22 at the Public Sector Best Annual Reports and Accounts Awards - 2020 held at the BMICH criticised the improper understanding of economics and noted the government was going to honour all its International Sovereign Bond commitments.

Seylan records Rs. 3 bn PAT



Ravi Dias - Chairman
Kapila Ariyaratne - Director CEO

In the backdrop of an extremely challenging environment, Seylan Bank recorded a Profit After Tax (PAT) of Rs 3 billion (bn) for the year ended December 31, 2020.

Interest Income of the Bank stood at Rs 52.3 bn while interest expenses stood at Rs 32.8bn reflecting a Net Interest Income (NII) of Rs 19.5bn with an annual growth of 4.6% in the year under review.

The main contributor for NII was the loans and advances portfolio that generated interest income of R 41.7bn during the year whilst the Treasury operations generated Rs 8.5bn in interest income. Interest expenses on deposits stood at R 27.8bn recording a decline from Rs 30.7bn from the previous year. Deposits that were re-priced during the year helped the Bank to reduce its funding cost.

Net Interest Margin (NIM) of the Bank declined to 3.95% against 4.20% reported in FY2019, as the loan book repriced at a faster rate than the deposits. This also offset the positive impact from the growth in low cost deposits.

Net Fee & Commission Income reduced to Rs 3.7bn from Rs 4.2 bn, recording a YoY contraction of 11.89%. The reduction was mainly due to the lower volume of foreign trade related activities and banking operations by businesses retailers etc.

The Total Operating Income growth of 4.36% predominantly aided by treasury trading activities which improved from a loss of Rs 497 mn in 2019 to a gain of Rs 348 mn in FY 2020. Further, net gains reported from de-recognition of financial assets increased to Rs 782 mn from Rs 320mn from FY2019 sustained the operating income growth and other operating income reduced by Rs 600 mn mainly due to contraction of trade-related activities during the year.

Bank recorded an impairment charge of Rs 6.9bn against Rs 3.9bn reported in 2019 with a growth of 80%. Impairment charges for Stage III advances increased from Rs 3.9bn to Rs 5.7bn during the year due to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on businesses. Further, businesses that were identified as risk elevated industries too contributed to the increase in impairment. **TO PAGE 18**

'Herbal drink exports augur well for local economy'

H.L. SUNI SHANTHA
Kalutara central special corr.

Ma Product Food Manufacturing Factory, Panadura launched the Nelli Cola herbal beverage drink yesterday at their factory to the local market and for export.

Chairman Muditha Samarakkody said that they invested around Rs. 25 million to import machinery and for R&D to launch this product.

Minister of Industries, Wimal Weerawansa said that these kinds of products made out of 100% raw material sourced from Sri Lanka augurs well for the local economy and brings more Sri Lankans to use local products.

The Minister added, in Sri Lanka, many people fall victim to food which are unworthy for consumption, produced and imported from foreign countries which results in the spread of non communicable disease. These products also help to add new items to the Sri Lanka export basket in the future and should be encouraged more.



Minister of Industries, Wimal Weerawansa at the Ma product factory with Ministry and Ma foods officials

NCPI based inflation dips in January 2021

Headline inflation as measured by the year-on year (Y-o-Y) change in the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI, 2013=100) decreased to 3.7 per cent in January 2021 from 4.6 per cent in December 2020.

This was due to the statistical effect of the high base prevailing in January 2020. Meanwhile, Food inflation (Y-o-Y) decreased to 5.9 per cent in January 2021 from 7.5 per cent in December 2020. Further, Non-Food inflation (Yo-Y) decreased to 1.8 per cent in January 2021 from 2.2 per cent in December 2020. The change in the NCPI measured on an annual average basis decreased to 5.8 per cent in January 2021 from 6.2 per cent in December 2020.

Monthly change of NCPI recorded at 0.62 per cent in January 2021 due to price increases observed in items of both Food and Non-food categories. Moreover, prices of items in the Non-Food category recorded an increase during the month mainly due to price increases observed in Health (fees to private medical practices and payments to private hospital room charges) and Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance (wages of servants) sub-categories.

Further, year-on-year core inflation decreased to 4.2 per cent in January 2021 from 4.7 per cent in December 2020, while annual average core inflation increased marginally to 4.2 per cent in January 2021 from 4.1 per cent in December 2020.

Dialog Axiata connects Sri Lanka and Maldives with High Speed Submarine Cable

Dialog Axiata PLC ("Dialog"), Sri Lanka's premier connectivity provider, announced the commissioning of the Maldives Sri Lanka Cable system (MSC), enabling the delivery of high-speed broadband services. Dialog's investment in the new high-speed submarine cable will trigger the single largest infusion of international Bandwidth between Sri Lanka and Maldives to date. The 840km long international submarine fiber optic cable system provides high-speed, low latency connectivity between Hulhumale in the Republic of Maldives and Mount Lavinia in Sri Lanka. The collaborative efforts of Dialog together with its international consortium partners Ooredoo and

Dhiraagu of Maldives together with the supplier HMN were critical in achieving the rapid system design and implementation during this period of challenging logistics and restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

The MSC system is the second investment of its kind by Dialog, which follows its investment in the BBG cable (Bay of Bengal Gateway), offering high speed connectivity along with low latency between the Middle East, the Indian sub-continent and South-East Asia, and was one of the first fiber cable systems to be



lit at 100G, linking Sri Lanka and the region. This project was conducted under the aegis of Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka (TRCSL), Ministry of Defense (MOD), Sri Lanka Navy, Coast Conservation and Coastal Resource Management Department (CC and CRMD), Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Development, Board of Investment of Sri Lanka (BOI), Sri Lanka Customs, Sri Lanka Port Authority (SLPA) and other relevant regulatory authorities.

Commenting on the occasion, Supun Weerasinghe, Group Chief Executive of Dialog Axiata PLC said, "We are pleased to have completed this project with our interna-

tional consortium partners Ooredoo and Dhiraagu together with HMN in record time amidst the challenges of the pandemic. We are honoured and proud to witness the enhanced telecommunication infrastructure of Sri Lanka acting as a regional gateway in international communications. Our gratitude goes to all the regulatory authorities for supporting the successful completion of this project, in our shared vision of establishing Sri Lanka as a trusted regional hub.

We are very pleased with HMN Tech's performance to ensure timely delivery of the project. The MSC system will facilitate the growing demand for internet in the Maldives, while increasing our submarine cable network reliability by providing route diversity. The system also caters for additional capacity required to enhance the digital ecosystem and provide modern digital services," stated . Ismail Rasheed, CEO and Managing Director of Dhiraagu.

"Our close partnership and cooperation between all MSC consortium members and HMN Tech has achieved a timely system completion," said Najib Khan, Managing Director and CEO of Ooredoo Maldives PLC. **TO PAGE 18**

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MARKET

SHARES - COLOMBO STOCK EXCHANGE

Table containing market statistics for 23.02.2021, including columns for Security, Volume, V.W.A. Previous Close, Open, High, Low, V.W.A. Yesterday's Close, and Change (Rs.).

COCONUTS

Table containing coconut products and prices as of 23.02.2021, with columns for Security, Volume, V.W.A. Previous Close, Open, High, Low, V.W.A. Yesterday's Close, and Change (Rs.).

EXCHANGE RATES

Table showing average rates of various currencies including Australian Dollar, Canadian Dollar, Euro, Japanese Yen, Sterling Pound, and US Dollar, along with their selling rates.

Seylan records...

Impairment on Stage I & II also grew from Rs 103mn to Rs 628mn and reversal of Rs 246mn to charge of Rs 359mn respectively. Simultaneously, Impairment on other financial instruments and assets also went up by Rs 290mn, mainly due to downgrading of the credit rating attributed to foreign currency bond holdings. The overall impairment improved the provision cover ratio to 43.68% as of December 31 2020.

Dialog Axiata connects Sri Lanka and...

"The system further enhances our submarine network infrastructure to support the increasing communication needs of customers and power key digital innovations in the 5G era. This benefits all regional enter-

MARKET STATISTICS

Summary table of market statistics including EQUITY DETAILS, GOVT. SECURITIES, CORPORATE DEBT, and EQUITY INDICES with values for TODAY and PRV.DAY.

ADVERTORIAL/NEWS

SLT ranked among '10 Most Admired Companies' hosted by ICCSL

Sri Lanka Telecom PLC (SLT), the National ICT and Telecommunications Services Provider, has been recognized as one of the '10 Most Admired Companies in 2020' in Sri Lanka, for its continuous efforts in empowering Sri Lankans.

The title was presented to SLT at the awards ceremony held recently, for being a role model to other organizations and entrepreneurs through the remarkable financial achievements and the valuable contribution to society.

The Most Admired Company Awards is an annual event hosted by the International Chamber of Commerce Sri Lanka (ICCSL) and the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) Lalith Seneviratne, Group Chief Executive Officer of SLT and Kiththi Perera, Chief Executive Officer of SLT received the award from General Shavendra Silva Chief of Defence Staff and Commander of the Army.



Lalith Seneviratne, Group Chief Executive Officer of SLT and Kiththi Perera, Chief Executive Officer of SLT receive the award from General Shavendra Silva, Chief of Defence Staff and Commander of the Army

HNB partners merchants to support cardholders

HNB PLC has once again partnered with an extensive portfolio of leading retailers islandwide to provide its loyal debit and credit cardholders with exclusive discounts and valuable benefits, while continuing to support the community.

HNB is offering customers discounts up to 50% as well as convenient interest-free instalment plans for up to 24 months.

"Every year we seek to ensure that our cardholders get the best possible deals in the market. Given that the 2020 was an especially challenging time for all of us, we redoubled our efforts to partner with an even wider range of merchants and healthcare providers, so that we could provide as much support to our customers as possible," HNB Head of Cards, Gauthami Niranjan expressed.

A notable inclusion in this year's partnerships are leading hospitals,

which are offering HNB cardholders up to 25% on selected healthcare packages and treatments. Customers can also make use of interest-free instalment payment plans for medical expenses at leading hospitals.

Additionally, customers also have the option of transferring their credit card balance from other banks to HNB for a hassle-free instalment plan with zero documentation requirements, all for a nominal handling fee and bundled with convenient instalment payment options.

Moreover, HNB cardholders will also be entitled to discounts of up to 25% when purchasing daily essentials from leading supermarkets until April 2021.

Additionally, fine dining enthusiasts can avail themselves of discounts of up to 25% from HNB's fine dining partners, which include .

Catering to the growing online



customer base, HNB has partnered with online shopping platforms PickMe Market, Daraz Saturdays, Wasi.lk, Lassana.com, giftbasket.lk, buyabans.com, glomark.lk and Atlas-

Myshop to offer discounts of up to 25% and easy instalment payment options for selected items.

Cardholders can renew and obtain insurance covers at insurme.lk with a 10% discount on basic premiums for life and motor insurance. Parents and students can also settle their fees via myfees.lk, with HNB offering interest-free instalment plans for several leading educational institutes as well.

Photography aficionados can use discounts of up to 15% on HNB credit cards for selected camera accessories at Cameralk.

Meanwhile, HNB's vehicle buffs are offered discounts of up to 50% and selected services from Ideal First Choice, and up to 10% off for lubricant services and original spare parts for repairs (for European vehicles) at the Merc Shop respectively.

Airtel expands customer service touch points

Sri Lanka's most preferred youth telco, Airtel Lanka announced a major expansion to its existing Customer Service footprint across the island. The expansion takes place as part of Airtel's aggressive drive towards customer experience optimization in view of the anticipated launch of Airtel 4G.

With the expansion, Airtel now has 5,000 Service Points and 70 Bell Stores as Service Partner outlets island-wide. Accordingly, customers can walk into any of these places and avail services such as obtaining a new connection, reloads, bill payments, SIM upgrades and many more.

"We have been consistently enhancing our network offering, and pairing these improvements with an unbeatable customer experience. Through this robust approach we want to ensure a smooth transition towards the roll-out of our world class 4G network. We hope that our extended invest-



Airtel Lanka MD/CEO, Ashish Chandra

country to integrate Google's Business Messages.

The new feature enables a message button on Google Maps and Google Search, for anyone looking for support or information on Airtel. Furthermore, Airtel users can also conveniently interact with the telco's dedicated service advisors via all key customer digital entry points; Facebook Messenger, Telegram, Twitter, Viber, WhatsApp and the Airtel website.

Driven by the telco's significantly expanded retail footprint and its robust customer self-service app, My Airtel, users are guaranteed access to all the support they need whether they chose to do it physically, by visiting a store or digitally.

Bharti Airtel Lanka (Airtel Lanka) commenced commercial operations of services in Sri Lanka on January 12, 2009, and was the fastest operator to reach 1 million customers in the country.

The Flemington lays foundation stone for third apartment project

Following the success of The Flemington's first and second condominium development projects at Rajagiriya and 103 Campbell, the property developer recently hosted the ground breaking ceremony and commenced construction of its third condominium complex at 20 Vajira Road, Colombo 4.

The ceremony was headed by Shamitha Ganegoda, Managing Director of EliSh Development (Pvt) Limited and was followed by religious activities to commemorate the milestone.

The piling contract for the project has been awarded to San Piling (Pvt) Limited, a subsidiary of Sri Lanka's premier construction service provider Sancken Construction (Pvt) Limited.

The Flemington 20 Vajira follows in the footsteps of highly successful Flemington projects in Rajagiriya and 103 Campbell, both of which are already sold out. It is scheduled to be completed by the first quarter of 2023. "The Flemington 20 Vajira is a modern condominium influenced by our signature Australian concepts and styling. It features minimal and spacious interiors without compromising on privacy and the convenience of city living" said Mr. Shamitha Ganegoda, Managing Director of EliSh Development. The condominium is situated in a prime location on Vajira Road, Colombo 04 in close proximity to leading schools, making it particularly convenient for parents with young children.

The Flemington 20 Vajira follows EliSh



Development's knack for offering modern living solutions in the heart of Colombo, with emphasis on location and access to conveniences and necessities such as banks, supermarkets, hospitals and parks.

Whilst the location is central, the property is also situated in a residential area and the management has taken care to design the condominium with utmost privacy, comfort and serenity in mind.

The Flemington 20 Vajira offered apartments starting from LKR 27.3 million for two-bedroom apartments and three-bedroom apartments started from LKR 38.4 million. Currently, the condominium has several mid-to-high floor apartments available for sale starting from LKR 31.7 million for two-bedroom apartments while three-bedroom apartments start from LKR 40.8 million upwards.

With 27 two-bedroom and 18 three-bedroom apartments, the condominium offers spacious and airy accommodations for convenient city living.

EGUARDIAN partners with Smokescreen

EGUARDIAN as a leader in cybersecurity solutions and services, exclusively representing the world's cutting-edge IT security technologies.

Given the increased volume and sophistication of today's cyberattacks and with security having become the IT enabler for enterprise customers, the company recently partnered with Smokescreen Technologies, a pioneer in deception-based threat defense technology, to deliver the next-generation of threat detection and response systems to local businesses.

Smokescreen, currently a market leader in deception-based threat defense solutions, has been instrumental in protecting some of the most targeted enterprises globally, including leading financial institutions, energy companies, manufacturing giants and Fortune 500 companies.

"We are thrilled to join hands with Smokescreen whose deception based 'active defense' philosophy has resulted in securing the most targeted organizations globally against advanced threats and has proved its effectiveness time and again



Sahir Hidayatullah

" said CEO of EGUARDIAN, Suresh de Silva.

He added "Information security and risk manage-



Suresh de Silva

ment leaders in Sri Lanka are today looking for innovative high-impact solutions that detect threats early and

contain them swiftly in the ever-changing threat landscape."

Sahir Hidayatullah, CEO at Smokescreen stated "We're excited to be associated with a leading technology enabler like EGUARDIAN and with their stellar record of successfully introducing cutting edge technology solutions in their country, we couldn't have asked for a better partner. We are proud to engage with them to help develop and transform the threat detection and response capabilities of their large customer base in Sri Lanka".

Allianz Lanka donates A/C equipment to District General Hospital Negombo

Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited (Allianz Lanka), one of Sri Lanka's leading insurance providers, extended its support to the District General Hospital Negombo with a donation of air conditioning equipment to the hospital's Blood Bank.

The District General Hospital Negombo is one of the key health care facilities in the Negombo region, serving as the primary healthcare centre for patients in Negombo and the neighbouring suburbs. It also caters to the Bandaranayake International Airport and the Katunayake Free Trade Zone.

The air conditioning units have been installed in the hospi-

tal's Blood Bank which serves over 200 patients and 150 blood donors every week. Air conditioning is essential to helping blood banks maintain the quality of their service. Strengthening the capacity of the Blood Bank, the equipment is set to help the facility deliver greater levels of care and support to its patients and donors.

Gany Subramaniam, Chief Executive Officer, Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited, dedicated the machines to the hospital in the presence of Mangala Bandara, Chief Marketing Officer, Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited; Samantha Gunawardena, Assis-

tant General Manager - Market Management, Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited; and several other representatives from Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited. Dr. Luxshman Edirisinghe, Director, National Blood Transfusion Service; Dr. Nirmala Loganathan, Director, District General Hospital Negombo; Dr. Asha De Alwis, Consultant Transfusion Physician, District General Hospital Negombo; and Dr. Nimesh Pathirane, former Medical Officer In-charge Blood Bank, District General Hospital Negombo were also present on this occasion.

"We would like to thank Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited

for their donation of air conditioning equipment to the Blood Bank at the District General Hospital Negombo. As one of the key government healthcare facilities in the region, the hospital receives a large number of patients on any given day. This donation will give a boost to the Blood Bank's infrastructure and help us offer better care and support to patients and donors," said Dr. Asha De Alwis, Consultant Transfusion Physician, District General Hospital Negombo.

"At Allianz, we are committed to upholding our values of caring, integrity, excellence, and respect, and working closely

with the communities that we operate in. It is our privilege to extend our support to the District General Hospital Negombo, a key local healthcare facility that is also involved in treating COVID-19 patients. We look forward to seeing this equipment deliver greater care, support and comfort to the large number of patients and donors visiting the hospital's blood bank," said Gany Subramaniam, Chief Executive Officer, Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited. "Staying true to our purpose, we will continue to work relentlessly to help secure people's lives and give courage to our customers for what's ahead."



Gany Subramaniam, Chief Executive Officer, Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited, unveils a plaque at the District General Hospital Negombo in the presence of representatives from the hospital and Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited

'Seylan Harasara' revamps, offer range benefits for senior citizens

Seylan Bank, is ready to relaunch 'Seylan Harasara', a financial product that offers a host of exclusive benefits and specialised financial solutions for senior citizens and pensioners.

Understanding the importance of financial freedom and stability for senior citizens and the important role they play in society, Seylan Bank relaunched Harasara with a multitude of value-added benefits and services. Seylan Harasara is more than just a savings account, it's a value proposition designed to offer financial freedom as one enters the age of retirement.

Medical expenses are significantly higher and can be a burden to many senior citizens, through Seylan Harasara senior citizens are eligible to reimburse costs for general surgeries up to Rs. 200,000, reimburse costs incurred for lenses and accessories for cataract operations and receive free



annual medical rewards. Customers who make payments through their Seylan Harasara Debit card will also receive exclusive discounts up to 20% at selected hospitals and laboratories, up to 25% at opticians, up to 15% at book stores and up to 10% at online pharmacies. Harasara account holders are also eligible to receive attractive discounts at selected merchant outlets Island wide.

Apart from the above pensioners can apply for a pensioner loan of up to Rs. 5 million with special interest rates. A grant for utility bill payment reim-

bursements up to Rs. 5,000 will be awarded for customers who assign and remit their pension to Seylan Bank. Harasara account holders will also receive a special reward from Seylan when they celebrate their 60th birthday.

"Seylan Bank as the bank with a heart considers senior citizens a significant part of society, who have played a vital role in moulding future generations. In an attempt to show our gratitude for all their hard work and efforts, team Seylan formed a financial proposition that will enable each senior citizen to enjoy the leisure years of life to the fullest with ease of mind and financial freedom. Seylan Harasara stands out amongst a multitude of senior savings accounts through its offerings and value-added services," said Seylan Bank Head of Liability Product Management Dimuth Sigera, as he shared his thoughts on the product relaunch.

'Samsung Carnival 'Avurudhu Wasi' campaign launched

Samsung, Sri Lanka a consumer electronic brand has announced their annual Samsung Carnival Avurudhu Wasi Campaign, where customers can ring in the Avurudhu season with amazing discounts and payment schemes on a variety of Samsung products.

This year, customers can get up to 30% cash discounts and warranty offers from February 7 April 15. Customers can also visit the One Galle Face Atrium Samsung Carnival Stall between March 1 and April 15, to avail these offers and participate in digitalised Avurudhu Games.

Managing Director of Samsung Sri Lanka, Kevin Sung Su You shared a few



words about the demand for Samsung TVs and Refrigerators. "This season, due to the prevailing pandemic, consumers are looking to create experiences right at the comfort of their homes."

"They want to buy bigger TVs that offer better cinematic viewing experiences. It is also evident that consumers have reduced the frequency of shopping to practice social distancing. Therefore they

are keen on purchasing Refrigerators with larger storage spaces to store more food and to maintain their freshness for the whole family to enjoy. The 'Samsung Carnival- Avurudhu Wasi' promotion is aimed at creating that much needed experience by these consumer offerings as we enter the New Year".

During this period, customers can avail cash back offers, discounts when pur-

chasing Samsung global No.1 TV's and other products.

The QLED TV range consists of game changing Ultra-Premium Entertainment Systems that are packed with features like Infinity Screens, Adaptive Picture, Active Voice Amplifier, Q-Symphony, Object Tracking Sound and more.

The Samsung Crystal 4K UHD TV offers unique features that are distinctive through integration, consumption and interaction. They are driven by crystal technology and are designed to provide superior colours and sharpness. They come with a host of features including, Multi View, Adaptive Sound, Tap View, Screen Mirroring and more.



Daily News

TWC

To re-ignite the passions of town & country folk

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TOWN & COUNTRY TOWN & COUNTRY TOWN & COUNTRY

MADAPATHA CHINTAKA

I think John Keats's great achievement, as a poet, is his intensely poignant vision of the world. That vision was never marred by political rhetoric. There's no doubt that what comes out in his two poems on Leigh Hunt, for instance, is anger against his jailers. But look closer: far from using Hunt's imprisonment to vent out frustration against the political order, what Keats achieves is something else: Minion of grandeur! think you he did wait?

Think you he nought but prison walls did see,

Till, so unwilling, thou unturn'dst the key?

Ah, no! far happier, nobler was his fate!
Keats's idealisation of Hunt here seems to me to undermine the reality of his imprisonment. A critic can argue this was in line with Hunt's strength of will even while being punished — Jeremy Bentham found him playing battledore when visiting him in prison — but for me at least, it is not congruent with Keats's elevation of that punishment as a sign of his maturity as a critic ("In Spenser's hall he strayed, and bowsers fair"). I may be wrong, but that is how I view his Leigh Hunt poems.

Notwithstanding that, however, Keats was without a doubt a nonconformist. He had a fairly liberal education: Nicholas Roe, in "Everyman's" anthology of his poetry, has written that Enfield School, which the young Keats attended, was important for "transmitting to Keats the dynamic intellectual life of English dissent." Roe does his best to overturn the popular view of him as an enigmatic romantic, a poet more concerned with beauty than with reality, and to his credit he does make a point when highlighting the allegory in "Hyperion: A Fragment."

But what is it in "Hyperion" that merits such a point or comparison? To find out for myself I read it, and I came across these lines:

"Shut up your senses, stifle up your ears,
My voice is not a bellows unto ire.

"Yet listen, ye who will, whilst I bring proof

"How ye, perforce, must be content to stoop:

"And in the proof much comfort will I give,

"If ye will take that comfort in its truth.

"We fall by course of Nature's law, not force

"Of thunder, or of Jove.

The speaker of these lines is Oceanus, the God of the Sea. "Hyperion" (which Keats never completed) is about the overthrow of one order by another. The Titans are soothing their sorrow in the aftermath of their fall to the Olympians. Some of the Titans want to rebel, but Oceanus is the voice of reason here: not only must the old order pass to the new, but they must accept it as an eventuality. Roe must have seen in this an affirmation of revolution, especially at a time when portraying dethroned monarchs was "regarded in Britain as potentially an incitement to revolution."

But I read these lines differently. "Nature's law" presupposes a preconceived (and divinely ordained) history, a passage from the old to the new which maintains the same structure that sustained the old. Call it "parliamentary democracy", call it a "coup", to me the overthrow of the Titans was nothing more or less than a violent overthrow of one set of gods by another.

I am of course not suggesting that for

THE POETRY OF JOHN KEATS

The bicentenary of John Keats fell yesterday, February 23

Keats the most valid "overthrow of tyranny" was one which sustained the same political base (which by the way is what pretty much goes for democracy today!), but I do believe that Keats's conception of history as an organic process of change followed by order is not in line with Roe's reading of the poem. This is what imputes fresh nuances of meaning to Keats, and marks him out as probably the most idiosyncratic, atypical poet among the Romantics.

Not that he was an outsider to them. In his work we see that same Romantic idealisation of beauty and nature, because of which his poetry is often classed as "escapist." That classification is crass, though. To consider Keats's high regard for beauty (back when the chief quality of the Romantics was, yes, their high regard for beauty!) as "escapist" is to read his work wrongly. His masterpieces — which for me were his odes and tributes to such abstractions as Indolence, Beauty, Melancholy, Art — are marked out well by the intermingling of substantive reality and aesthetic delight. It is here that his real genius is to be found, and not (as is claimed by critics who clamour to read the political in his poetry) in "Hyperion."

Consider, for instance, these lines from "Ode to a Nightingale"

Fade far away, dissolve, and quite forget
What thou among the leaves hast never known,

The weariness, the fever, and the fret
Here, where men sit and hear each other groan;

Where palsy shakes a few, sad, last gray hairs,
Where youth grows pale, and spectre-thin, and dies;

Where but to think is to be full of sorrow
And leaden-eyed despairs,
Where Beauty cannot keep her lustrous eyes,

Or new Love pine at them beyond to-morrow.

Here's the motif that defines the intensity of his poetry: his constant yearning for tranquillity and solace in the face of tragedy (his brother died of tuberculosis, and he himself would succumb to it at the age of 25). This is what critics class as "escapist" in terms of imagery — the juxtaposition of the "weariness" and "fever" of mortal man with the immortal song of the nightingale, as well as the mortality of Beauty in the face of human suffering — but I prefer to class them as the anguish of a heart beset with tragedy, a microcosm of the tragedy of the world.

But to consider this as his strength is to consider Keats's defining marks — his use of pastoral imagery, metaphor, and personi-

fication — as leading to a never-ending search for tranquillity. Wordsworth never faced this problem, because in his later years he could (thanks to his reactionary politics) afford to offer an easy way out: a contemplation of the mystical (which Regi Siriwardena called "inertia"). That is what I'd consider as "escapist", and not Keats's sustained quest for solace.

He weakened a little, in my opinion, when he deviated from his meditations on pain and pleasure. To be specific, when the experience he brought out was inadequate when compared with the form. I can think of one poem here specifically, the first of his I ever learnt: "La Belle Dame Sans Merci." What we relate to in that poem is the knight and his harrowing ordeal. But the quickness of that ordeal — which critics read as contributing to its shocking appeal — leads to disappointment. We know the woman isn't who she is when we hear these lines:

And there she lulled me asleep,
And there I dream'd — Ah! woe betide!
The latest dream I ever dream'd
On the cold hill's side.
I saw pale kings and princes too,
Pale warriors, death-pale were they all;
They cried — "La Belle Dame sans Merci
Hath thee in thrall!"

We're made to believe that it is this sudden experience that frightens and turns him to despair, when in the next verse we are told that

I saw their starved lips in the gloam,
With horrid warning gaped wide,
And I awoke and found me here,
On the cold hill's side.

But the suddenness of that experience ("And I awoke and found me here") and the economy with which Keats relates it to the reader deprive the poem of any subtlety. Call me a cynic, but when I read these lines now, I can't understand why the knight should be disappointed, whether at the woman's transformation or at the fact that his love for her wasn't returned. Keats's use of imagery is sparse, almost austere, and that deprives it of vitality. I rate it personally among his weaker work.

I must confess that at the time I first read Keats I was an incurable romantic, and that is what endeared his poetry to me. 10 years later, I find that position unchanged: regardless of whatever beliefs he may have held on to, Keats is the poet we look to when beset with personal tragedy, not because contemplation affords escapism, but because in it we realise that suffering and mortality are eternal, and that the quest for eternal(ised) abstractions like beauty may never end.

The writer can be reached at udakdev1@gmail.com



My dear Sir
Hampstead Sunday Evening
I regret not being at home when
you called the other day - the more because
I should set out tomorrow morning for
the north. I was very much gratified in
hearing from Haydon that you so great
a lover of Wordsworth should be pleased with
any part of my Poem. I'm hoping of seeing
you soon after my return and speaking
of my wish to by day. I remain
Yours very truly
John Keats

UNBIASED LOOK AT SL HISTORY

“The fourth category of sources is the Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions, which were contemporaneous with the Prakrit inscriptions. These inscriptions, which were recently identified, are concentrated for the most part in the northern and eastern parts of the island. They are also found in the Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, Kurunegala, Hambantota and Puttalam districts. As sources of historical information, they are of the utmost importance.”

In light of the recently unearthed evidence, Lankan history has to be rewritten. Particularly the early period needs to be understood by non-partisan historians and rabid politicians. This I say after reading a book in Tamil on the History of Lankan Tamils by the eminent historian Prof S Pathmanathan. The Tamil title of the book is *Ilaikath Tamilar Varalaaru*. This massive 550-page hardcover book is published by the Hindu Cultural Affairs Department under the Ministry of Cultural Affairs and is priced at Rs 2500/- The book covers the period 250 BC-300 AD when the Tamils and Nagas lived in East Sri Lanka.

In his preface to the book

written in English he clearly delineates four main sources of the early history of the country.

1. The Dipavamsa, Mahavamsa and other Pali Chronicles,
2. The monuments and other remains of the Early Iron Age Culture,
3. The Brahmi inscriptions written in hybrid Prakrit
4. The Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions that have remained unidentified until the dawn of the 21st century

The documentary evidence is in three languages: Pali, Prakrit and Tamil.

He rightly says: “The



study of the Proto-History and Early History of the island is heavily dependent on archaeological sources.”

Prof S Pathmanathan adds: “The fourth category of sources is the Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions, which were contemporaneous with the Prakrit inscriptions. These inscriptions, which were recently identified, are concentrated for the most part in the northern and eastern parts of the island. They are also found in the Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, Kurunegala, Hambantota and Puttalam districts. As sources of historical information, they are of the utmost importance.”

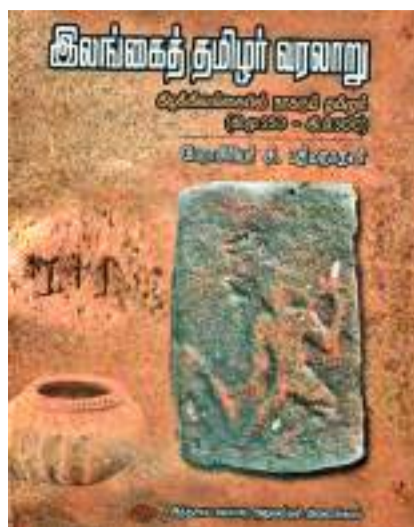
“A large proportion of the Nagas had become Buddhists. It is noteworthy that the Nagas were responsible for the links between the culture of the Early Iron Age and that which is discerned from the Brahmi inscriptions.”

The main revelation of the respected scholar who relies on fieldwork rather than mere theorising is: “The fourth category of source materials for the study of the history and culture of this period consists of a vast number of Tamil Brahmi inscriptions that have been identified in recent years. Although words and expressions inscribed char-

acters on stone pillars, images and other such items. This is rather surprising because Tamil Brahmi inscriptions in considerable numbers are found at museums in Jaffna, Vavuniya and Colombo. They are found on some of the items exhibited there.”

I will stop here. Lankan ancient history must be reviewed impartially taking into account all evidence that is being unearthed to bring about the real understanding of us Lankan, irrespective of ethnicities and move towards reconciliation.

Reviewed by KS Sivakumaran



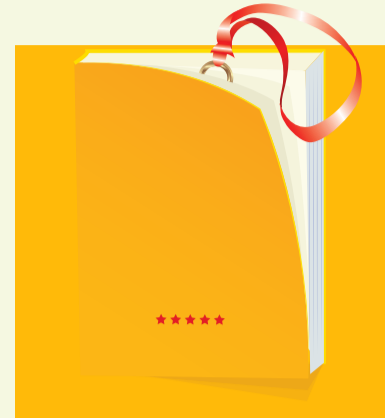
Spell, ritual and spiritual

Professor SUNANDA MAHENDRA

The reader of the Sinhala novel titled *Degodavarama* written by Gamini Kandepola (published by Suriya Publishers 2020) revolves around three characters. They include two male friends Sasanka or Sasa, Sagan or Gaga and a young female, Bhashini or Bashi. Sasa, the dispenser is the boyfriend of Bhashi, the young doctor. Gagan is shown as a close friend who is also a painter.

They are so close to the point that they go on discussing some of the problems related to human life, perhaps debatable and at times controversial. The two male friends enjoy life in a leisurely manner as drinking pals, while Bhashini, working in a hospital clinic, is more associated with psycho-therapeutic areas hidden in the accepted canons of medical sciences.

As such, she delves into an area of darkness unthought of by others. The main interest via scientific research that she carries on from the outset becomes a talking point among the patient as well as his two close friends. But she is being encouraged by her superior but too is a learned medical personality.



BOOKMARK



Psychosomatic sickness

But this superior too has no proper clue as to the outcome and/or the central objectives of Bashi's research. As events ensue, the young doctor comes to clarify the concept of her research. It is being reckoned as a psychosomatic sickness prevalent in the rural sector in the minds of females. As a result of a certain spell or a mesmerising fetter caused by a person known as Kalukumara or in the literal sense, a dark prince, who has the power to enchant young girl in order to make them look feeble.

The question or the query that springs up in the mind of Bhashini who finds or investigates as an in-depth study the reasons and factors that go into the malady. She comes across a young man named Kumara. But he is known as Kalukumara. As a result of being instrumental in creating this sickness. He, the Kumara, is known by Kalukumara as a result of his behaviour towards females.

The young doctor tries to obtain facts from the young man, as she feels that she had got the right person as needed for the study. But the young doctor becomes dumbfounded as at times mismanaged by the strange behaviour of Kumara. But she is more delved in her study to the extent that she sees the constant visits of Kumara, as a need rather than repulsion. She feels that she is in need of getting to know several case studies as the resultant folk cure for the same.

Research findings

At this juncture, the reader feels the working of several minds as portrayed by the creative spark

The central and vital turning point in the narrative is visualised as the disagreement of Sasa and Bashi over matters pertaining to the research of the latter. But Gaga, the friend of both agree with Bashi to see a tovil or an all-night devil dancing ritual in a village residence. Bashi comes to know more about the spell of the black prince or Kalukumara distiya. She too comes to know the dual nature of the young females who so suffer from the spell.

in the skills of Kandepola, the creative writer. Bashi is depicted as an indefatigable doctor cum researcher. As such, she comes to grips with two main characters involved in the Kalukumara folk cult. She too comes to know of a person named Karunapala, who is also a devil dancer, who tries to help her, not knowing the real sense of the research. The other is the person named Kumara alias Kalukumara, who causes several insane agonies of damsels in the village.

The central and vital turning point in the narrative is visualised as the disagreement of Sasa and Bashi over matters pertaining to the research of the latter. But Gaga, the friend of both agree with Bashi to see a tovil or an all-night devil dancing ritual in a village residence. Bashi comes to know more about the spell of the black prince or Kalukumara distiya. She too comes to know the dual nature of the young females who so suffer from the spell.

At this juncture, she too gets to know about the real state of mind of Kumara. She gets the chance to visit her home and finds that his mother is dumb and cannot explain the state of mind of her son.

Conventional patterns

As a reader, I found that Kandepola the creative writer utilises too many aspects of the indigenous folklore. They are the ritual and the spiritual. As such, an evil spell may cause in the body and the mind of an individual as a result of certain spiteful aberrations. This includes the look or the Distiya of this Kalukumara. Kandepola tries to feel the pulse of the curing an all-night tovilaya as arranged by Karunapala in a village house visited by Bhashini.

She visualises some of the evil effects caused by the mal-adjusted minds that bring about severe mental worries. This is compared with the conflicting seasonal agrarian climates denoted by the villagers as Degodavarama or the dualistic aberration that bring a conflict in the conscience and unconscious states. This nature has not been seriously delved into any creative narrative other than the work.

The characters in the work as created by the writer Kandepola undergo this dualistic nature in the minds. They as intellectuals of a certain calibre find themselves an outlet, but the poor deprived class of villages became victims of the circumstances paving the way for suffering culminating in death.

From a broad perspective, the creative work of Gamini Kandepola excels both in the content and in the structure of the narrative. The conventional pattern of descriptive and interpretative layers is pared down to the bottom giving vent to more sensitive dialogues and thought streams. All in all a resourceful creative attempt for the Sinhala reader.

VEENA

the sacred divine Hindu instrument

Dr SUBASHINI PATHMANATHAN

Veena, an ancient historical instrument, is traced back to 1500 BC. Initially, the total number of strings range from one string to one hundred strings. There is some evidence about Altharvama Veda.

Before the existence of Veena, another string instrument named Yash was in use. Yash was replaced by Veena with the passage of time. One of the oldest treatises on Indian music named Sangeeta Ratnahara clearly indicates another Veena called Eakantri Veena and its construction.

Earlier Veena was played in a vertical position. Veena with vertical positions is still depicted in ancient temple decorative sculptures. According to ancient history, the great Carnatic maestro Muthuswamy Dikshitar was the first one who played the Veena in the horizontal position.

Royal instrument

Veena was considered as one of the more sophisticated instrument to display the different nuances of different Ragas. The present-day Saraswathi

Veena instrument was brought into use during the regime of King Ragnatha Nayaka. In his royal courts, it is said that his prime minister named Govinda Dikshakar was the first one who constructed the Veena. Initially, the Veena had twenty frets. But Govinda Dikshakar constructed the present-day Veena with twenty-four metallic frets.

Numerous varieties of Veenas are mentioned in numerous ancient texts. Among them, Saraswathi Veena is considered one of the most divine instrument. Goddess Saraswathi is always depicted with a Veena in hand.

This variety of Veena is quite popular in the present day Carnatic music world. It is a South Indian musical instrument. Chitra Veena, Vichitra Veena, and Rudra Veenas are some of the Veena varieties that are also much more popular in the music world. Saraswathi Veena and Chitra Veena

are now in use for Carnatic music.

The total number of strings for Saraswathi Veena are seven in number. Four strings are the main strings. These four main strings are especially attached to the peg of the neck. For the rhythmic purpose, three strings are allocated. These three strings are served for drone and rhythmic purposes. Meanwhile, the supportive strings are very much needed for the instrument which is seen over the body part of the string instrument.

Modification and construction

According to the great Indian musicologist Prof Sambamoorthy, Saraswathi Veena was developed out of one earlier form of Veena known as

Kinnari Veena. Saraswathi Veena is also referred to as Ragnatha Veena. Because this particular variety of Veena was developed and introduced during the Nayaka ear of Tanjore.

The Veena was first modified and constructed during the Nayaka regime of King Raghunath Nayak. That's why this Saraswathi Veena is often called Raghunath Veena or Tanjore Veena. Goddess Saraswathi is often depicted with this string instrument, that's why this string instrument is called Saraswathi Veena. One of the very important concepts in Carnatic music is Tanam.

It is a technique of using a Raga, in three different tempos. These tempos are in slow, medium and fast tempos. Playing tempo through Veena is a unique style. During his regime, his Prime Minister Govinda Dikshitar constructed the Veena with twenty-four frets. Earlier total number of frets used in Veena was twenty.

Today Saraswathi Veena has twenty-four metallic frets. It was stated that this was the main cause for the development of seventy-two Melakaratas in the Carnatic music system. It is stated that the style of presentations in the Carnatic music system has more or less developed out of the Veena technique. All the great Carnatic music maestros of yesteryears were the outstanding Veena players.

Rumbling thunder of AI, gene-editing

LISA ALLARDICE

For the Ishiguro household, 5 October 2017 was a big day. After weeks of discussion, the author's wife, Lorna, had finally decided to change her hair colour. She was sitting in a Hampstead salon, not far from Golders Green in London, where they have lived for many years, all gowned up, and glanced at her phone. There was a news flash. "I'm sorry, I'm going to have to stop this," she said to the waiting hairdresser. "My husband has just won the Nobel prize for literature. I might have to help him out."

Back home, Kazuo Ishiguro was having a late breakfast when his agent called. "It's the opposite to the Booker prize, where there's a longlist and then a shortlist. You hear the rumbling thunder coming towards you, often not striking. With the Nobel it is freak lightning out of the blue - wham!" Within half an hour there was a queue of journalists outside the front door. He called his mother, Shizuko. "I said: 'I've won the Nobel, Shon.' Oddly, she didn't seem very surprised," he recalls. "She said: 'I thought you'd win it sooner or later.'" She died, aged 92, two years ago. His latest novel *Klara and the Sun*, in part about maternal devotion and his first since winning the Nobel, is dedicated to her. "My mother had a huge amount to do with my becoming a writer," he says now.

Writing slope

We are talking on Zoom; he is holed up in the spare bedroom, his daughter Naomi's undergraduate books on the shelves. His own study is tiny, he says, just big enough for two desks: one for his computer, the other with a writing slope - no one goes in there. Encouragingly, he compares the interview process to interrogation, borrowing from a scene in John le Carré's *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy* that explains how agents are trained to



withstand torture by having layers of plausible backstories, "until they are just a shrieking head". Yet he submits to questioning with good humour; in fact talking for several hours with the exacting thoughtfulness you'd expect from his fiction.

In Nobel terms, at 62 Ishiguro was a relative whippersnapper. Precocity is part of the Ishiguro myth: at 27 he was the youngest on Granta's inaugural best of young British novelists list in 1983 (with Martin Amis, Ian McEwan, Julian Barnes et al), appearing again the following decade. In between he won the Booker prize for *The Remains of the Day*, which was given the full Merchant Ivory treatment in 1993. Indeed, his claim that most great novels were produced by writers in their 20s and 30s has become part of literary legend. "It is Martin Amis who goes round repeating this, not me," Ishiguro says, laughing.

"He became obsessed with the idea." But he still maintains that your 30s are the crucial years for novel writing: "You do need some of that cerebral power." (Which is lucky for Naomi, who at 28 also has her first novel, *Common Ground*, out this month, much to her father's delight.) Whenever anybody brought up the question of the Nobel, his standard line used to be: "Writers won their Nobel prizes in their 60s for work they did in their 30s. Now perhaps it applies to me personally," the 66-year-old notes drily.

Lockdown attention

He remains the supreme creator of self-enclosed worlds (the country house; the boarding school), his characters often under some form of lockdown; his fastidious attention to everyday details and almost ostentatiously flat style offsetting fantastical plot lines and pent-up emotional intensity. And *Klara and the Sun* is no exception.

Set in an unspecified America, in an unspecified future, it is - ostensibly at least - about the relationship between an artificial "friend", Klara, and her teenage owner/charge, Josie. Robots (AFs) have become as commonplace as vacuum cleaners, gene-editing is the norm and biotechnological advances are close to recreating unique human beings.

"This isn't some kind of weird fantasy," he says. "We just haven't woken up to what is already possible today." "Amazon recommends" is just the beginning. "In the era of big data, we might start to be able to rebuild somebody's character so that after they've died they can still carry on, figuring out what they'd order next online, which concert they'd like to go to and what they would have said at the breakfast table if you had read them the latest headlines," he continues.

- The Guardian

HAIL THE NATIONAL BROADCASTER!

The strong case of Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation

SACHITRA MAHENDRA

For 95 years, Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation has served the country as the national radio channel. Ninety-five is no minor matter in human life. Plus, it is a giant step in the digital history of Sri Lanka. A book was released recently to celebrate this occasion.

Titled *The National Broadcaster*, the book curates that longstanding historical tale of the SLBC. The Corporation produced quite a lot of legends, most of whom are not only dead and gone, but also forgotten to today's audience. Only a handful may be alive to tell the tale of that long history.

Of sound, visual, print, the sound is the oldest medium. It remains without and beyond compare. To claim that Sri Lanka's national broadcaster that goes by the name of Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation recently completed 95 years is big talk. It is a long period and quite noteworthy on several grounds.

INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE

With an incredible amplification of digitalisation, radio remains stable. It proves that the listener never vanishes into thin air. To commemorate the 95 years, The book is

No present or future cannot survive without the proper knowledge of history. Likewise, for any media student interested in the history of the sound medium, Kuruwitabandara's anthology-like book offers a vast corpus of information and knowledge

edited by Tilakaratte Kuruwitabandara, who is a veteran author and poet. He currently serves as the consultant to the Corporation.

No present or future cannot survive without the proper knowledge of history. Likewise, for any media student interested in the history of the sound medium, Kuruwitabandara's anthology-like book offers quite a vast corpus of information and knowledge. The magazine could be more aptly termed a comprehensive manual on the genesis of Sri Lanka's oldest radio channel. Studying the genesis of this channel is important not only because it belongs to Sri Lanka. But it placed Sri Lanka in the South Asian region map as the country that commenced broadcasting for the first time when it was Ceylon.

UNIQUE BROADCASTER

The Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation remains unrivalled



in its effort to sustain the country's spiritual ethics and culture. Among the features it protected are the language, literature, music, drama, spiritual cultivation, health, agriculture, national development, national reconciliation by conducting programmes in Sinhala, Tamil and English. Although many radio channels have sprung up, the national service is still the favourite channel of many regardless of whether they are youngsters or not. This is simply because the channel caters sensitively to all the ethnic groups of the country. As its chief editor, Kuruwitabandara, points out, the channel considered the ethnic groups as the petals of one flower. This is a beautiful metaphor.

The mushrooming radio channels probably want their oldest rival gone, or maybe not. But one thing is clear. The national broadcaster stands tall.

Beautifully penned chronicle

Book Review

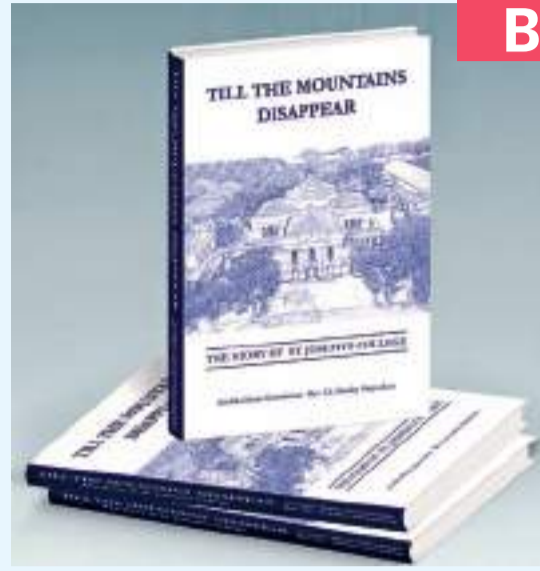
The History of St. Joseph's College Colombo is a subject which many of us Josephians can hardly be said to be burdened with. Although many boast of our sports and academic achievements only a handful of people are knowledgeable about the college's rich history.

Established by Oblates with the support of the Christian community of Ceylon, it was their immense effort and dedication that transformed this great establishment to be the best Catholic Boys school on the island. St. Joseph's boasts a great number of notable alumni. Known as the school of Bishops, it was the school of the first Cardinal of Ceylon, Thomas Benjamin Cooray. It is also known to house some of the most beautiful buildings in the country and is one of the greenest schools in Colombo.

Growing up, the history and the architecture of the school always fascinated me. The beautiful neoclassical mouldings, the intricately carved wooden lattices, the vintage English cement pressed tiles in the clock tower building, the pictures that hung in the corridors, the graceful paintings of past rectors and the Italian marble altars in the chapel always made me inquisitive to know more and more of this wonderful proudesty.

The events of the college history have been recorded in the Blue and White Magazines since its initial publication in 1905. Although several attempts have been made to write the history of this great institution no one has succeeded to pen it in a comprehensive and detailed fashion till now.

"Till the Mountains Disappear" is a comprehensive



chronology which will give the reader an extensive history of St. Joseph's College from its early history on how the school started, its journeys through two world wars & civil war, academic and sports achievements of Josephians, to its present-day tales of triumph. It features the era of each and every rector and gives a descriptive narration of incidents that took place in each period, academic & sports achievements and especially personnel that contributed immensely to the upliftment of the college. An insightful forward of the book is written by the Archbishop Emeritus Most Rev. Dr Oswald Gomis. The book contains some rare photographs sourced from family collections, history books, newspapers and other archived sources, some of which will be seen for the very first time by many. It also has a collection of interesting sketches done by Kevin Caspersz who has been able to capture the essence of events in an extraordinary way, which no doubt will

give the reader a feeling of nostalgia by taking them back to the past.

Initiated by the late Rev. Fr. Stanley Abeysekera, the tenth rector of the College during the latter part of his life, the project was later taken over by the then young assistant Head prefect Avishka Senewiratne, upon his personal request. Writing and researching history is an arduous task, which needs days and months to find & assemble accurate and actual facts in order to perfect what is written. Avishka, in my view, has successfully achieved this. It can also be observed that the book has no inclination nor hold a partial perspective of events and individuals, which is what a proper book of history should be. It has portrayed events as they actually transpired in the period of thirteen rector-ships. His work has proven to be at the standard of a real historian rather than an amateur which is self-evident.

In an era where History is considered to be "Not in trend" epically among the

younger generations, a young person like Avishka has taken much interest and dedication to contribute a valuable gift to the hands and minds of every Josephian. No greater service could be done to the school. His talent to find out facts is exceptional and his effort and perseverance in finding and extracting information through old books, newspapers and reports of the National archives & libraries, hours of research and interviews have now resulted in this manuscript of invaluable history.

One might wonder why someone so young should take on the burden of writing a book of this magnitude. But an interesting fact is that the first rector of St. Joseph's; Fr. Collin allowed a group of sixth form students who were around the age of 17 to edit the first Blue and White.

Abraham Lincoln once said, "The written word may be man's greatest invention. It allows us to converse with the dead the absent and the unborn". With St. Joseph's College celebrating its 125th anniversary in March 2021, this book will be one such unquestionable and valuable part of our history. As a fourth-generation Josephian, I'm honoured to witness the writing of the history of St. Joseph's College and also to be a part of it.

"Till the Mountains Disappear" is a must-have in the hands of every Josephian, young and old. As our motto reads, "In Scientia et Virtute", Knowledge and Virtue will always be at the core of every Josephian of the past present and future.

Reviewed by Nilantha Perera Palihawadana

Book launch

Thilak Senasinghe's latest novel *Jyeshta Puravesiyekuge Prema Kathawa* themed on the challenge of entering a traditional old age in a society where Eroticism is ideal, will be released at Dr N.M. Perera Centre on February 25 at 4 pm.

Dr Praneeth Abhayasundara will

deliver a short speech on old age, love and morality. Professor Namal Wijayas-inghe will deliver a short speech on whether love is inappropriate for the elderly. The program is conducted by Dr Ajith Amarasinghe, a history researcher attached to the Sri Lanka Rationalist Association.



The Bridge

For Grandpa
"....Between my finger and my thumb
The squat pen rests.
I'll dig with it."
Seamus Heaney-Digging

1
I remember the first half of palapea,
my mom offered me one afternoon.
I was squatting opposite her
on the newly daubed floor
of the old kitchen
chatting with her about some matter at school
while she was readying the dinner.
With the crispy skin, ridged,
and yellowish like butter on the head,
with a crown of brownish fibrils,
and snow-white on the bottom,
with soft cottony flesh,
it tasted great!

2
My grandfather used to bring us many of them,
strung like white bulbs on a raw ekle,
when he returned from Siriwardena mudalali's,
where he removed husks from coconut,
my father would say, for chickenfeed,
until a rash on his legs,
forced him to quit his job.

3
Once Jusiappuhami, the cart-man, sold palapea,
by the road-side,
at the northern boundary fence,
of our school.
In an open box made of rough wood,
he kept his merchandise.
His charges for them were proportionate:
the biggest ones would fetch five rupees each,
and the price fell
in direct proportion to the size.
But, the cheaper smaller ones, we found out soon,
tasted much better.
We would constantly pester our moms,
for money to buy them,
during the interval,
over the barbed fence,
by the big old Jak tree
until our principal,
for reasons that we never knew,
forbade him to ply his trade,
at the fence by the jak tree.
After some time, I heard,
Jusiappuhami was confined to the bed:
he'd been attacked by his own big black bull
that dragged his cart,
and a little later on
I learned from my father
he'd died.

Pangs on Ageing

When I am lounging in my arm chair, Sitting
quiet with my mind faraway, I see you look at
me with a squint in the eye, Pray, do not think
I am infirm but only tired. When I am not up on
time sleeping a little late, You think I am sick;
my bones are a little stiff. When I am not listening
to your blatant chatter
You think I am inaudible,
It's cos' your speech is a bore,
Which disturbs my peace of mind.
When I wobble and take my steps with care
I see you look at me with pity,
Look, I do not seek your sympathy,
I could walk without your help.
I know my beauty is fading and
My hair slightly grey; do not sum up and say,
Oh! she's getting old,
I am still fit as a fiddle.

Yasmin Jaldin

4
One August nearly three decades ago
I persuaded my next-door friend,
to go to Siriwardena mudalali's,
where with dagger-like knives,
we coerced palapeas out of the coconuts,
split with a machete,
by a scruffy, stony-faced woman,
who seemed to us to be a shrew,
and put them into the old grocery bags,
we'd taken with us stuffed in our pockets.
Once I'd been cloyed with my spoils,
I offered them,
with uncharacteristic generosity
to my mother and my brother.

5
Now my grandfather and his employer
are both no more here, either
and my friend is a coconut vendor himself,
and I, a rustic poet with an unshakeable past
try to link the two worlds together
with the bridge of language.
Let me be the bridge.
Let me fill the gap.

Jayashantha Jayawardhana

MOTHER SRI LANKA'S agonising thoughts

Year Twenty Twenty One dawned amid uncertainty,
Everyone with glimmers of hopes face changing destiny.
An unseen virus created lock down, curfew, travel restricted,
Renewed hopes under pandemic's shadow doubtfully predicted.
The deadliest of enemies Corona Virus crisis nationwide,
Wishing warm wishes unable to perform in usual pride.
Everywhere second wave of Covid-19 battering nation,
Neck deep in debt island facing hard times in frustration.
Twenty Twenty One triumphant, adhered restrictions imposed,
Yearning to rise magnificently to challenges, let's be composed.
Typical, possible, best gift anti-covid-19 vaccine for New Year,
Well-being of mankind, only challenge ending pandemic this year.
Every new year heralds new hopes, this year tinged with sadness,
New strain Corona Virus Spreading faster soaking all in restlessness.
To strengthen Democracy lessons learnt from Covid-19 benefit country,
Year 2021 absolutely, positively'll shower on humanity prosperity.
Oneness, Togetherness, Selflessness, given pride of place,
Novel beginnings, pledge to end fuelling revenge, nation awake.
Each person be an instrument of UNITY make all amaze.

Kumari Kumarasinghe Tennakoon

The Tale of Titanic

Waving hands with a novel wish
Titanic makes her maiden march.
Along with the luxurious touch.
She sets the sail with all hails.
Banquets ready with the musical hush
Maxis, Hats, Ribbons and Ties
Speaks a lot to the attire in rush
Jack and Rose too amidst the breeze.
Total crew in a gala time
In cheerful smiles bringing cheers.
Titanic in her own styles
Adding colour to the marine world
Gently bends to see whether
Everything works in a handy dandy manner.
Ice-burg in a brutal manner
Makes the move in a splendid manner
Creating a wreck in a fatal manner
Gives the crews an alarming utter
Hussle Buzzle with deep cries
Awakening the whole mass
Alarming voices steady in fuss
Tremendous efforts to save the ship
In avoiding sinking-with the rush
With a few hours struggles
Horrifying the lives melancholy tones
Begins a story of a tragic tale
Jack and Rose in tremendous efforts
Trying to save each other's lives
Still with the music bands
Talks of an unread tale.

K Shanthi Silva

Tryst

Endlessly
I met her
Passionately
Had I chat with her
At many a place
Not at heart.
Immensely
Had I joys and merry
Nor could we meet
Yet at heart
Though we'd met
Under the sun
Before bidding adieu.

Naleen de Alwis



TITLE: Roots
AUTHOR: Vintage Haley



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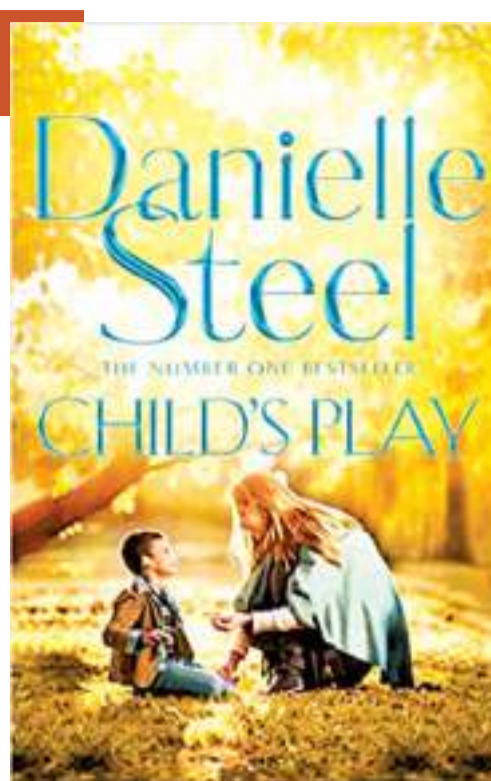
When he was a boy in Henning, Tennessee, Alex Haley's grandmother used to tell him stories about their family—stories that went back to her grandparents, and their grandparents, down through the generations all the way to a man she called "the African." She said he had lived across

the ocean near what he called the "Kamby Bolongo" and had been out in the forest one day chopping wood to make a drum when he was set upon by four men, beaten, chained and dragged aboard a slave ship bound for Colonial America.



NEW ON THE SHELF

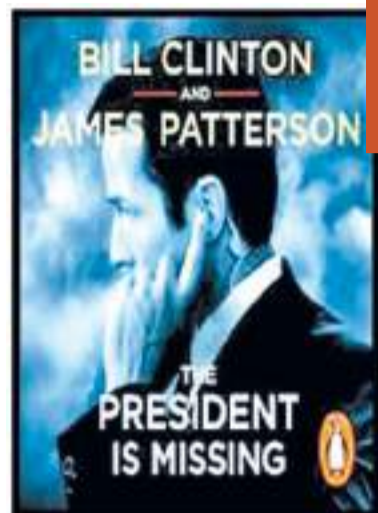
TITLE: Childs Play
AUTHOR: Danielle Steel



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You think you know what's best for your grown-up children. But you'll find they have lessons they can now teach you. Kate Morgan is an esteemed Manhattan lawyer. After losing her beloved husband in a tragic accident, she's successfully raised their three children single-handedly. Now in their twenties, she slightly smugly feels that they are well set up to travel the path she planned. Except why is her eldest daughter, Tamara, a high-flying marketing executive, so secretive and why won't she commit to a relationship? Then there's Anthony, Kate's middle child, who is engaged to a wealthy New York socialite – it will be the wedding of the year, so why doesn't he seem happy?

TITLE: The President Is Missing
AUTHOR: Bill Clinton and James Patterson



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As the novel opens, a threat looms. Enemies are planning an attack of unprecedented scale on America. Uncertainty and fear grip Washington. There are whispers of cybererror and espionage and a traitor in the cabinet. The President himself becomes a suspect, and then goes missing...

TITLE: The Witcher
AUTHOR: Andrzej Sapkowski



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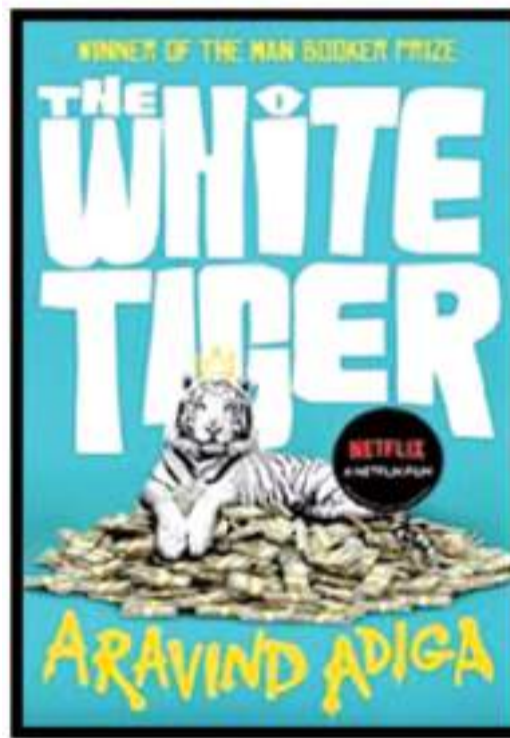
Sapkowski studied economics at the University of Łódź, and before turning to writing, he had worked as a senior sales representative for a foreign trade company. He started his literary career as a translator, in particular, of science fiction. He says he wrote his first short story, "The Witcher" ("Wiedzmin", also translated "The Hexer" or "Spellmaker") on a whim, in order to enter a contest by Polish science fiction and fantasy magazine Fantastyka. In an interview, he said that being a businessman at the time and thus familiar with marketing, he knew how to sell, and indeed, he won the 3rd prize.

TITLE: Bridgerton: The Duke and
AUTHOR: Julia Quinn



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The first novel in Julia Quinn's worldwide best-selling Bridgerton novels, now a series created by Shonda Rhimes for Netflix. This is the story of Daphne Bridgerton and the Duke: welcome to the ballrooms of Regency London. Can there be any greater challenge to London's Ambitious Mamas than an unmarried duke? Lady Whistledown's Society Papers, April 1813. By all accounts, Simon Basset is on the verge of proposing to his best friend's sister, the lovely - and almost-on-the-shelf - Daphne Bridgerton. But the two of them know the truth - it's all an elaborate plan to keep Simon free from marriage-minded society mothers.



TITLE: The White Tiger
AUTHOR: Aravind Adiga

Introducing a major literary talent, The White Tiger offers a story of coruscating wit, blistering suspense, and questionable morality, told by the most volatile, captivating, and utterly inimitable narrator that this millennium has yet seen.

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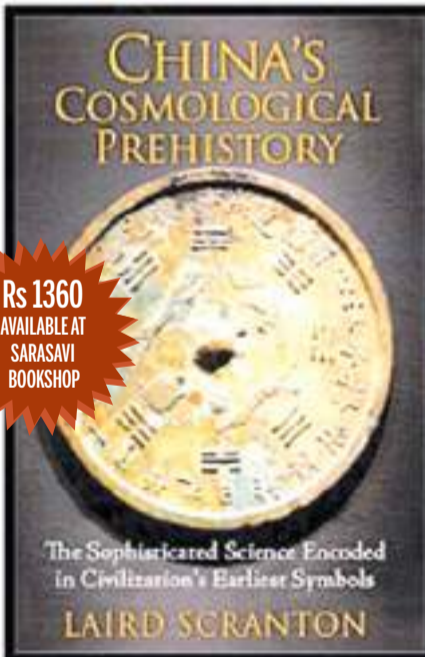
TITLE: A Field Guide to the Birds of Malaysia & Singapore
AUTHOR: Lim Kim Seng, Yong Ding Li and Lim Chuah



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A fully comprehensive field guide to the 815 bird species of Malaysia and Singapore. The species are clearly illustrated in over 150 plates, with many variants. The main identifying features of each species are described and key facts cover size, voice, range and status, habitat, specific country and breeding. Distribution maps provide an at-a-glance view of where the birds can be found. Field Guide to the Birds of Malaysia & Singapore also includes information on taxonomy and nomenclature, observing birds, climate, habitats, the breeding cycle, migration, conservation and key birdwatching sites.

TITLE: China's Cosmological Prehistory
AUTHOR: Laird Scranton



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Building on his extensive research into the sacred symbols and creation myths of the Dogon of Africa and those of ancient Egypt, India, and Tibet, Laird Scranton investigates the myths, symbols, and traditions of prehistoric China, providing further evidence that the cosmology of all ancient cultures arose from a single now-lost source.

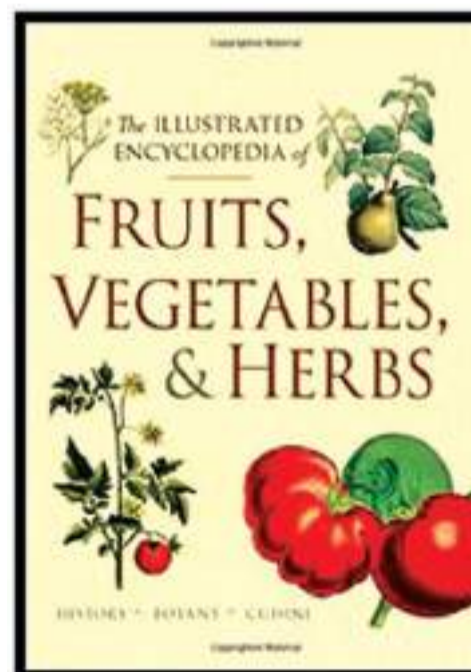
TITLE: Hand is the mirror of life
AUTHOR: Kanchana Kohombange



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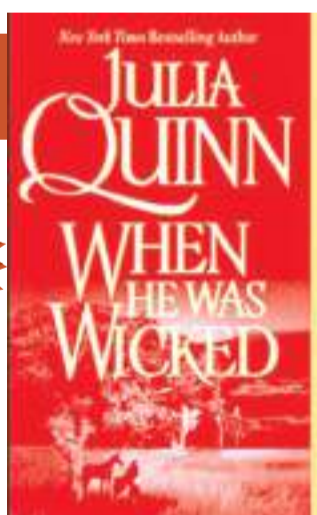
The palm contains potential answers to those questions that arise as we grow and mature. These facts contribute to the development of any person or a country. Palmistry is neither an art nor a science, but it is the blend of both. No one can explain why the palm imprints differ from person to person and a deep analysis shows in retrospect shows the accuracy of readings. How accurate are her readings? Recently an international agency in the west after hearing of her abilities sent her 10 palm imprints and asked whether any had criminal tendencies. She replied that seven of them had that. The Agency replied that it is correct and in fact those seven are in jail at present.

TITLE: The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Fruits And Vegetables & Herbs



From roots and shoots to almonds and zucchini, The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Fruits, Vegetables, and Herbs delectable guide which reveals the intriguing stories of the world's favorite food plants. Go on a gorgeously illustrated tour through the gardens of the world and discover why this is the explorative home cook's best friend.

TITLE: When He Was Wicked
AUTHOR: Julia Quinn



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In every life there is a turning point. A moment so tremendous, so sharp and breathtaking, that one knows one's life will never be the same. For Michael Stirling, London's most infamous rake, that moment came the first time he laid eyes on Francesca Bridgerton.

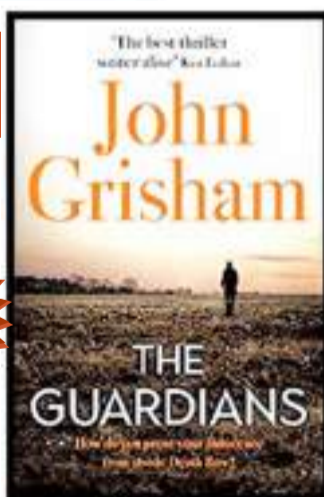
TITLE: England Under The Tudors
AUTHOR: GR Elton



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First published in 1955 and never out of print, this wonderfully written text by one of the great historians of the twentieth century has guided generations of students through the turbulent history of Tudor England.

TITLE: The Guardians
AUTHOR: John Grisham



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In the small north Florida town of Seabrook, a young lawyer named Keith Russo was shot dead at his desk as he worked late one night. The killer left no clues behind. There were no witnesses, no real suspects, no one with a motive. The police soon settled on Quincy Miller, a young black man who was once a client of Russo's.

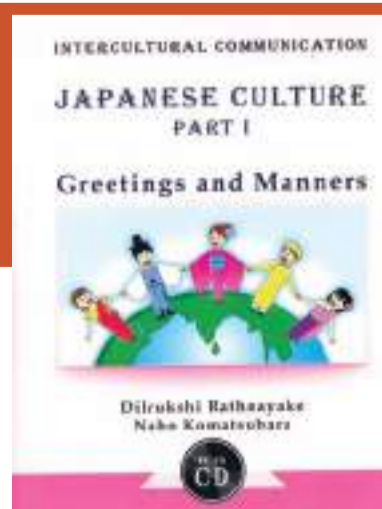
TITLE: Science of Yoga : Understand the Anatomy and Physiology to Perfect your Practice
AUTHOR: Ann Swanson



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Explore the biomechanics of 30 key yoga poses, in-depth and from every angle, and master each asana with confidence and control. Take your knowledge of yoga to the next level with this ground-breaking 360 degree visual resource - made for serious practitioners and teachers. Recent scientific research now backs up what were once anecdotal claims about the benefits of yoga to every system in the body. Science of Yoga reveals the facts, with annotated artworks that show the mechanics, the angles, how blood flow and respiration are affected, the key muscle and joint actions working below the surface of each pose, safe alignment and much more.

TITLE: Intercultural Communication Japanese Culture With CD
AUTHOR: Dr. Dilrukshi Rathnayake and Naho Komatsubara



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There are many ways of doing things in the world. The way you do things may not be the way others do it. Accept the cultural diversity! Respect the cultural diversity! Then you will be able to be successful in intercultural communication. This is the message of Dilrukshi Rathnayake, Senior lecturer at the University of Kelaniya and Naho Komatsubara of the Japan Foundation Tokyo who have written this book specially for Sri Lankans. It includes a free CD.



Daily News

Advertisers' Supplement Wednesday, February 24, 2021

LONG LIVE PAKISTAN - SRI LANKA FRIENDSHIP!

WELCOME

H.E. Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan to Sri Lanka!





LONG LIVE PAKISTAN - SRI LANKA FRIENDSHIP!



Welcome H.E. Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan to Sri Lanka!

Connections between the people of Pakistan and Sri Lanka are rooted deep in history. Buddhism had flourished in areas that became Pakistan and the Muslims traders, in the early years of Islam, had been familiar with Serendib from where they took Spices and Gems to the Middle East and Europe.

This tradition of goodwill continued in the years after the two countries gained independence, when Sri Lanka also became the port of call on the 3,000-mile of ocean route between the two wings of Pakistan. On 4 February 1948, in a message on Sri Lanka's independence, Quid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah aptly described the nature of Pakistan - Sri Lankan relations.

He said "Pakistan has the warmest goodwill towards Ceylon, and I am sanguine that the good feeling which exist between our two people will be further strengthened as the years roll by

An Overview Pakistan-Sri Lanka Relations and visit of PM Khan to the Island Nation



A JF-17 Thunder aircraft

and out common interests, and mutual and reciprocal handling of them, will bring us into still closer friendship".

When the liberation war broke out in East Pakistan in 1971, and India had banned over-flights by Pakistani aircraft, the then SLFP government in Sri Lanka led by Sirimavo Bandaranaike allowed Pakistani aircraft to refuel in Colombo 174 times.

delivered within a month. During a state visit by President Asif Ali Zardari to Sri Lanka in Nov 2010, Sri Lanka evinced interest in purchase of Pakistani al-Khalid Main Battle Tanks, light weapons and ammunition, and the Sino-Pak joint venture product JF-17 Thunder aircraft.

Prime Minister Imran Khan also congratulated Gotabaya Rajapaksa -

million in 2004 to US\$ 105 million in 2018, almost double over the same period. However, the two way trade is only US\$ 460 million when the potential is more than US\$ 2 billion.

Since both President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Imran Khan pledged to promote FDI, various areas of investment will be discussed. Due to a lack of awareness, exporters do not make full use of the market potential and benefits under the free trade agreement. Additionally, Sri Lankan businessmen tend to stick to the existing markets. Both countries need to diversify their products through research, innovation, and value addition, adjusting according to the demands of each other's market.

High Commissioner Khattak has also highlighted in his recent interview that Pakistani companies have invested in agriculture, Information Technology, textiles and construction /real estate development in Sri Lanka. The Sri Lankan Construction and Real Estate industry is rapidly growing and the country has an import requirement of 600 million USD worth of cement annually from various countries. Pakistan already exports cement to Sri Lanka and has the capacity to increase its exports due to competitive pricing and good quality. This sector has a larger potential due to increased consumer spending on construction and real estate. Similar case is with the sugar as Sri Lanka imports more than 90% of its annual sugar requirement. Sugar is one of the potential sectors where Pakistani investors can focus on in 2021. Because of strained relations between India and Pakistan betel leaves from India do not come to Pakistan. That place has been taken by Sri Lankan betel leaves.

Prime Minister Imran Khan will be the first Head of Government to visit Sri Lanka after President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa assumed office last year. Imran Khan's proposed visit is significant in the context of India making vigorous efforts to strengthen their ties with Sri Lanka, which has assumed strategic importance in the Indian Ocean region.

Pakistan-Sri Lanka military ties became a critical factor in the prolonged war against the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). In 2000, when a LTTE offensive code-named "Operation Ceaseless Waves" overran Sri Lankan military positions in the north, entered Jaffna and trapped government troops, Sri Lanka had sought Multi-Barrel Rocket Launchers and Pakistan airlifted them. In 2006, the LTTE tried to assassinate the Pakistan High Commissioner, Bashir Wali Mohammad.

In April 2009, Sri Lanka requested \$25 million worth of 81 mm, 120 mm and 130 mm mortar ammunition to be

the newly-elected President of Sri Lanka for winning elections and extended a cordial invitation to visit Pakistan at his earliest convenience, which the latter duly accepted.

Under United National Party (UNP) governments as well as under the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) regimes, Sri Lanka has had friendly ties with Pakistan.

Pakistan now trains Sri Lankan armed forces personnel and invariably supports Sri Lanka in international forums on the ethnic question but Pak-Lanka relations have failed to acquire an economic content. Sri Lanka was the first country to sign a Free Trade Agreement with Pakistan, which became operational from June 12, 2005.

Pakistan's exports to Sri Lanka grew from US\$ 97 million in 2004 to US\$ 355 million in 2018 while, Sri Lanka's exports to Pakistan grew from USD 47



ALI MUFTI AND IMRAN ALI

The Pakistan - Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement (PSFTA) was signed in August 2002 between the two governments and it came into effect in July 2005. Sri Lanka was given immediate duty-free market access to 206 products whereas Pakistan received duty-free access to 102 products. The terms of the PSFTA granted 100 percent immediate concession to Pakistan and Sri Lanka on major exports items. Pakistan's exports to Sri Lanka grew from

US\$ 97 million in 2004 to US\$ 355 million in 2018, almost 3.6 times higher over the period of 14 years ostensibly due to the positive impact of PSFTA on trade. Similarly, Sri Lanka's exports to Pakistan grew from USD 47 million in 2004 to US\$ 105 million in 2018, almost double over the same period.

The study, examining the trade between Pakistan and Sri Lanka under their Free Trade Agreement (FTA), finds that the PSFTA has provided significant market share to both Sri Lanka and Pakistan. The Study reveals that emerging Pakistan - Sri Lanka trade relations possess numerous opportunities and potential to increase the current bilateral trade to over US\$ 2.7 billion. Currently, the trade volumes stand at just US\$ 460 Million.

The second part of the study covers the terms

Realizing the Full Potential of Pakistan - Sri Lanka FTA

of Pakistan - Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement structure and briefly discusses the mutual prospects and benefits under the PSFTA. The third part of the study covers a detailed comparative analysis of the benefits of PSFTA and compares it with the trade under bilateral agreements. The study uses the Trade Complementarity Index Tool in order to see whether Sri Lankan exports meet the import demand of Pakistan and establish an extent to sectoral match or mismatch between Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

Furthermore, the study examines that a trade expansion has occurred significantly for both

countries, but Sri Lanka trade deficits remained high with Pakistan. Under the PSFTA, tariff restrictions and non-tariff barriers have overshadowed the impacts of tariff rationalization and thereby this situation has been the major impediment to export performance for both countries.

The study highlights the potential goods that can meet their market demand. Due to the lack of awareness, exporters of both countries do not make full use of the market potential and benefits under the free trade agreement. The study also draws attention of entrepreneurs and exporters of the two countries to explore new markets and avenues in their economies.

In order to increase the current bilateral trade, the study suggests that both countries need to diversify their products through research, innovation, and value addition adjusting according to the demands of each other's market. Since the opportunities have been documented, a channel for the exchange of ideas and proposals must be developed to translate the available opportunities into a real trade volume. Therefore, the study recommends that trade bodies in both countries should facilitate trade delegations, unrestricted communication between the business communities of the two countries to increase and strengthen the bilateral trade and trade relationships between Pakistan and Sri Lanka.





LONG LIVE PAKISTAN - SRI LANKA FRIENDSHIP!

**We warmly welcome The Prime Minister of
Pakistan H.E. Imran Khan to Sri Lanka**



His Excellency President of Sri Lanka
Gotabaya Rajapaksa



His Excellency Prime Minister of Pakistan
Imran Khan



Hon. Prime Minister of Sri Lanka
Mahinda Rajapaksa

On this occasion of PM H.E. Imran Khan's visit, we wish that the peace and prosperity will prevail between Pakistan and Sri Lanka. This great nation is a true friend of Sri Lanka and the bonds between our two nations will be further strengthened by his visit.

We greatly admire the economic prosperity and values that PM H.E. Imran Khan is instilling during his tenure. The new policies introduced are consistently bringing great results in terms of exports of textiles, garments, agriculture, and other products from Pakistan. We hope that PM H.E. Imran Khan's visit will open up business opportunities in the textile and apparel, tourism, gems, jewellery, steel and cement industries. Pakistan's promising economic potential, international connectivity and capability with its geographical location, will continue to open up opportunities in terms of trade and commerce. The emerging Pakistan - Sri Lanka trade relations possess great potential to increase the current bilateral trade through improved communication, joint ventures, value addition, by identifying and utilizing the strengths of each other's markets. In these trying times, it is fundamentally important that the bilateral trade relationships between Pakistan and Sri Lanka are reinforced.

We also welcome Pakistan's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Trade & Commerce and their delegation with the hope for a successful visit.



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LONG LIVE PAKISTAN - SRI LANKA FRIENDSHIP!



Welcome H.E. Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan to Sri Lanka!

Imran Khan had an illustrious career in international cricket spanning two decades from the 1970s. He developed a good reputation all over the world through his charismatic personality and charitable work. The charismatic captain led Pakistan to its World Cup victory in 1992. Khan struggled for years to turn popular support into electoral gains. He launched his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) in 1996. His party won the General Election 2018 and he became Prime Minister of Pakistan after a political struggle of 22 years.

Imran Khan A successful cricketer turned into Politician and Statesman

Imran Khan's economic vision for Pakistan is alluring. Khan is working hard to improve the lives of the poor. He promised a "new Pakistan" in the 2018 General Election. Imran made pledges with the nation for a uniform education system, launching of a health card scheme, elimination of corruption, improving the tax culture, self-sustainability of Pakistan, generating employment opportunities, strengthening of the federation, bringing reforms in police, boosting investment and tourism, strengthening agriculture sector by imposing an agriculture emergency, and protecting women population. He is on right track to fulfill his promises with the nation.

United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) 75th session, highlighted global issues including climate change, money laundering, pandemic, Islamophobia and human rights violations. He called upon the UN to play its role to combat racism and ensure implementation of its own resolution for global peace and stability.

as UNICEF's Special Representative for Sports and promoted health and immunization programmes in Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Thailand. While in London, he also works with the Lord's Taverners, a cricket charity. After retirement from cricket and before joining politics Khan focused his efforts solely on social work. By early nineties, he had founded the Shaukat Khanum Memorial Trust, a charity organisation bearing the name of his mother, Mrs. Shaukat Khanum. As the Trust's maiden endeavour, Khan established Pakistan's first and only

Imran Khan is a philanthropist. He is gifted with natural leadership and the capacity to accumulate great wealth. He has great talent for management in all walks of life, especially in business and financial matters, where he contributes the greater vision, purpose, and long-range goals. He understands the material world, and intuitively knows what makes virtually any enterprise work. Business, finance, real estate, law, science, publishing, and the management of large institutions are among the vocational fields that suit Imran best. He is naturally attracted to positions of influence and leadership, politics, social work, and teaching are among the many other areas where his abilities are shining.

The Government of Prime Minister Imran Khan has handled the economic impact of pandemic with effective strategies and emerged successful during tough times. Year 2020 has known to be a tale of challenges globally, but for Pakistan, under the leadership of PM Imran Khan, it has proved as a "story of success and development" even during the coronavirus pandemic.

PM Imran Khan's political struggle of twenty two years can be compared with a thrilling test cricket match, full of twists and turns. After a long struggle, he succeeded in the 2018 General Election. PM Imran Khan's Government has managed to perform well in the foreign affairs arena as well. Critical in this regard has been Khan's personal charisma on the international stage and close coordination with the country's all institutions.

Year 2020 narrates a journey of stable economy, numerous development and welfare projects, and remarkable achievements at foreign policy front. Khan's government has significant achieved major milestones during 2020 along with a set of the Prime Minister's New Year resolutions for year 2021.

Khan is not only achieving at domestic front but also fighting for the betterment of globe. Prime Minister Imran Khan, in his address to the



Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan addressing the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) 75th session

cancer hospital, constructed using donations and funds exceeding \$25 million, raised by Khan from all over the world. Khan also established a technical college in the Mianwali District during April 2018 called Namal College. It was built by the Mianwali Development Trust (MDT), and is an associate college of the University of Bradford. Imran Khan Foundation is another welfare work, which aims to assist needy people all over Pakistan. It has provided help to flood victims in Pakistan.

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa is familiar with Pakistan where he attended number of military courses in Pakistan military training institutions. While Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa has a deep association with Pakistan. Imran Khan has visited Sri Lanka on a number of occasions and has a great fan following in the Island Country. The visit of Prime Minister Khan will be a great opportunity for leaders of both countries to make bilateral relations meaningful and beneficial for people of Sri Lanka and Pakistan which would further strengthen the relations between the two friendly nations.



Namal College, Mianwali, Pakistan

LONG LIVE PAKISTAN - SRI LANKA FRIENDSHIP!

Welcome H.E. Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan to Sri Lanka!



His Excellency President of Sri Lanka Gotabaya Rajapaksa



His Excellency Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan



Hon. Prime Minister of Sri Lanka Mahinda Rajapaksa

H.E. Prime Minister Imran Khan is the 22nd and current Prime Minister of Pakistan and graduated from Keble College, Oxford in 1975. Before entering politics, Khan was an international cricketer and captain of the Pakistan national cricket team, which he led to victory in the 1992 Cricket World Cup.



The relationship between Pakistan and Sri Lanka is based on well-recognized principles of international diplomacy. Both countries value this broad-based relationship due to its mutual benefit and hopefully, it will continue to strengthen in the coming years. Both countries are located in South Asia region. The earliest proper diplomatic and trade ties between Pakistan and Sri Lanka date back as early as 1948. In the past, Pakistan assisted the Government of Sri Lanka in supplying High-Tech military equipment to the Sri Lankan army in the civil war against the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam. The relationship also fosters

on strong mutual Sino-Pakistan and Sino-Sri Lankan relationship. Both Pakistan and Sri Lanka are also members of SAARC. Relations which were generally warm have become into stronger recently. The relations between Pakistan and Sri Lanka date back to the formative years of the two countries. The two countries laid the foundation of their friendship in 1948 when Hon. Prime Minister of Sri Lanka D.S. Senanayake visited Pakistan.

Recently, Virtual business forum in collaboration with Sri Lanka Export Development Board (SLEDB) took place to enhance awareness regarding trade and investment opportunities between the two

friendly countries on 18th September, 2020. Pakistan deeply values its first Free Trade Agreement (FTA), which was signed with Sri Lanka in 2005. He expressed the High Commission's complete support and facilitation in developing deeper economic cooperation with Sri Lanka through optimal utilization of the Pakistan - Sri Lanka FTA, which is the major tool for trade promotion between the two countries. Pakistan has improved its ranking from 136th to 108th place on the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business index 2020, thereby being ranked as the 6th biggest reformer in the world, to improve the business environment.



Pakistan and Sri Lanka enjoy very cordial and friendly relations. Despite Sri Lanka's geographical position, Sri Lanka has had good bilateral cooperation with Pakistan.

Pakistani military has assisted Sri Lankan government during the Sri Lankan civil war, after that, Pakistan's military assistance and cooperation has always increased and is still increasing.

There are also good economic and trade relations. Both countries have a free trade agreement. Pakistan is the second-largest

trading partner of Sri Lanka in South Asia. Sri Lanka was the first country to sign a Free Trade Agreement with Pakistan, which became operational from June 12, 2005. 4,000 items can be imported to Pakistan from Sri Lanka.

Cricket is also one of the factors that brings the two countries closer. Both countries have played many important and memorable games with each other, and the sport is popular in both countries. Many Pakistanis know about Sri Lanka as a country just through cricket!





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Pakistan a global leader in SPORT INDUSTRY

The history of Pakistan in sport industry dates back to 1883. Since then Pakistan has proved its metal and image as a successful manufacturing hub across the globe. In 1918, Syed Sahib Muslim craftsman caught international attention when he reverse engineered a football brought to him for re-stitching. This won him the confidence for making sport accessories for the British forces. Resultantly in 1922 Syed Sahib was awarded the first export award from the British Empire in recognition of his craftsmanship and skill while supplying

footballs to British troops stationed in Singapore. Since that time, there was no looking back in this industry and the sector grew in leaps and bounds till today by establishing a strong football at the global market.

Pakistan is a manufacturer of world-class sports items that have been used in international matches and tournaments. "Tango ball" from Sialkot was used in 1982 FIFA World Cup and this opportunity opened doors for the international sports industry in Pakistan. The country earned the prestigious award for being the official soccer ball supplier to FIFA World Cup since 1994 and recent being in 2014 and in 2018. In 2018, "New Tester" was a state-of-the-art football with near field

communication chip (NFC). Currently Sialkot provides 70% of the global demand of footballs and producing for all the major international sports brands names such as Adidas, Nike, Puma, Selcet Lotto, Umbro Wilsons etc., which speaks volumes of the craftsmanship and skills of Pakistani manufacturers. Beside football, Pakistan also manufactures volleyballs rugby balls beach balls exercise balls hockey balls baseballs tennis balls shuttlecocks nets gloves hockey sticks cricket bats baseball bags protective guards sportswear and water sports and camping equipment. The use of high quality raw material, innovate design in skilled labour force using modern technology has helped achieved the global recognition as well as foreign exchange beside Pakistan in also making world class cricket bats for global brands like CA, MB, IHSAN Slazenger, Gun and more etc. The industry has evolved itself to cater the needs of global as well as local suppliers as per their demand and specifications.

The sport industry pivotal for Pakistan's economic development and is causing a name and recognition globally. Skilled workforce using higher and material and application of modern techniques is what makes this possible. The government policies and the inclusion of entrepreneurs in this sector are contributing greatly towards



its growth. The outbreak of COVID-19 has affected the sector but it will come back to its full potential surely.

Sri Lanka has a great potential for sports with the active young population enthusiastic about sports. Football, cricket, hockey etc are some of the active sports that are a very good way for the two countries to explore a mutual place for further people to people interaction and for the future generations to come further closer.



The Sri Lanka - Pakistan Business Council of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce



The Sri Lanka - Pakistan Business Council was inaugurated in August, 1991 under the aegis of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce with a view to promote Trade, Investment, Tourism and Services between Sri Lanka and Pakistan. The Council enjoys a close working relationship with the High Commission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in Sri Lanka High Commission in Pakistan.

The Sri Lanka - Pakistan Business Council through its objectives, promote trade and tourism between Sri Lanka and Pakistan and encourage establishment of joint ventures in Sri Lanka. In addition, the Council exchange of information on trade and investment with the respective institutions and conduct joint meetings in Sri Lanka and Pakistan. The also act as the ink to improve and strengthen bilateral relationships and continues to develop new initiatives to co-operate and exchange of trade missions between business communities of the two countries.

The Sri Lanka - Pakistan Business Council of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce serves as the recognized representative of business sector interests in Sri Lanka to promote bilateral trade.

The present Office Bearers/Committee comprise the President, Azmy Mohideen, Chief Operating Officer, Lanka Commodity Holdings (Pvt) Ltd, Vice Presidents S. Deivanayagam, Managing Director, Eswaran Brothers Exports (Pvt) Ltd. and Vice President Ehab Razak, Director, M A Razak & Company Ltd. Immediate Past President Rohitha Thilakarathne Managing Director, Merchant Lanka (Pvt) Ltd. and Segga Nagendra as the Hon. Member of the Council. Committee comprises Akbar Brothers (Pvt) Ltd., Ceylon Jewellery Manufacturers, DMW Ventures (Pvt) Ltd., Hatton National Bank PLC, Kalhari Enterprises and Spillburg Holdings (Pvt) Ltd.

Membership is open to companies already doing business with Pakistan and interested in venturing into Pakistan. To join the membership of the Council, contact the Secretariat at the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce by E-mail info@chamber.lk



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The Central Province Muslim League and The Kandy Muslim Traders Association warmly welcome to our motherland



ESTD. 11th JULY 1993



We take this opportunity to offer our sincere gratitude to the Govt and the people of Pakistan for the gift of the Jinnah Memorial Cultural Hall in Kandy, which facility, while providing much assistance stands as an icon in the area continuing to foster the warm and friendly relationship between our 2 nations.



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From

Afzal Marikar

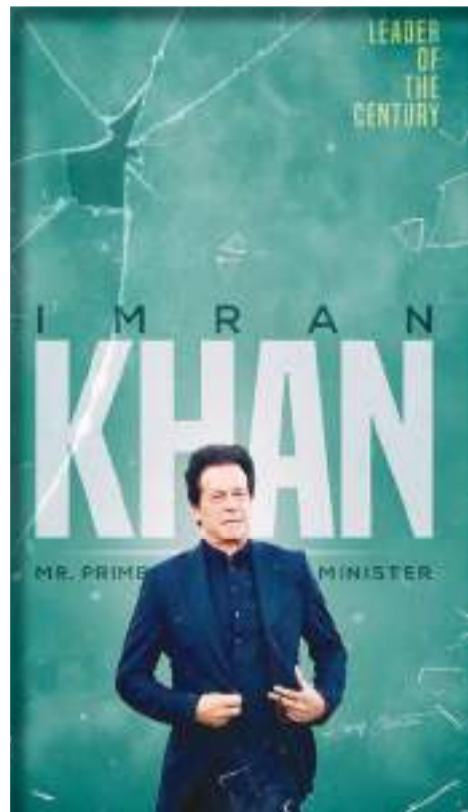
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SAARC COVID Control: Pakistan to share best practices

Pakistan for the second time attended a virtual meeting organized by India under the umbrella of SAARC, which included all member states as well as Mauritius and Seychelles. Pakistan said it would be happy to inter alia share its best practices with the regional countries at the said workshop.



Pakistani FM Shah Mahmood Qureshi

Khan to visit Sri Lanka, which was accepted by the later. The visit is likely to take place later this month", said the spokesman.

Meanwhile Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi addressed a virtual Special Meeting of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on "Reimagining Equality: Eliminating Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination for all in the Decade of Action for SDGs".

The special meeting was convened under Pakistan's Presidency of ECOSOC, and was aimed at addressing the linkage between structural racism, discrimination, inequalities and the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals - with a special focus on building those inter-linkages that help in a better response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts.

With reference to Pakistan's neighbourhood, the foreign minister highlighted that the hateful political rhetoric and incitement to violence against vulnerable ethnic and religious groups had resulted in discriminatory citizenship laws, attacks on places of worship and repeated state-sponsored pogroms against minorities, in addition to the brutal occupation and suppression of peoples struggling for their right to self-determination.

He called upon the international community to recommit to upholding the fundamental principles of human rights and guaranteeing substantive equality for all.

He also proposed, inter alia, the forging of a global alliance against the rise and spread of Islamophobic as well as other violent nationalist and racist groups.

Noting that the COVID-19 pandemic had disproportionately impacted minorities, making them more vulnerable to extreme poverty and unemployment, as well as higher rates of infection and mortality, the foreign minister urged the international community to address the structural drivers of discrimination, including those rooted in the history and legacy of colonialism.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi Thursday concluded his three-day official visit to Egypt.

During the visit, Qureshi called on President of Egypt Abdel Fattah Al Sisi and held delegation level talks with his Egyptian counterpart Sameh Shoukry, besides holding a meeting with Ahmed Aboul Gheit, Secretary General of the League of Arab States.

Both the foreign ministers echoed each other's desire and commitment to take the bilateral relationship to new heights which has been restored after 10 years.

On Thursday Special Assistant to Prime Minister (SAPM) on Health Faisal Sultan participated in the virtual workshop, "Exchange of Good Practices in tackling COVID Pandemic and the Way Forward".

Indian Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan presided over the workshop which was also addressed by Prime Minister Modi.

Indian media sources said all states including Pakistan accepted proposals spelt out by Modi, which included creation of special visa regime for doctors, nurses for future health crisis and creation of a regional air ambulance pact for health contingency.

However, apart from confirming participation of Pakistan in the conference, there was no formal response from the Foreign Office on the proposals floated by Modi.

Earlier, during the weekly media press conference, the spokesman commenting on the workshop said in line with its policy of enhanced regional and international cooperation in dealing with the pandemic, Pakistan was also participating in the said workshop and sharing its good practices with the regional countries.

"It may be recalled that Pakistan had also hosted a conference of SAARC Health Ministers to enhance regional cooperation against COVID-19", he said.

He pointed out that it was due to effective policies and timely interventions by the government, Pakistan did well, particularly during the first wave of the pandemic.

"Our handling of COVID-19 based on the "whole of government approach", "smart-lockdowns" and the "maintenance of balance between lives and livelihoods" earned Pakistan global recognition", he added.

Responding to several queries, the spokesman gave a rather mild response saying Pakistan believed India should also facilitate Sikh Yatris for visiting their religious sites in Pakistan. On Wednesday, India had withdrawn permission to the Yatris to visit Pakistan citing security reasons as well as the high level of pandemic in the country where health services were lacking.

In fact, the spokesman responded that Pakistan provides maximum facilitation to the Sikh Yatris from all over the world, including India, for visiting their religious sites in Pakistan.

"In its historic Kartarpur Corridor initiative, Pakistan had opened the largest and the holiest Sikh shrine in Kartarpur Sahib to facilitate Sikh Yatris, and the Sikh as well as the international community, including the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, who while visiting Kartarpur described it as "Corridor of Hope", have immensely appreciated this landmark initiative of Pakistan", he added.

The Sikh community, he pointed out, remains particularly appreciative of the efforts made by Pakistan to complete the Kartarpur Sahib Corridor Project in record time and for the excellent arrangements made to facilitate the pilgrims.

Prime Minister Imran Khan will be the first head of government to visit Sri Lanka after President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa assumed office last year, which is reflective of the importance both countries attach to this important relationship.

"The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Mahinda Rajapaksa had extended an invitation to Prime Minister Imran



Congratulations and Warm Wishes

to
Hon. Imran Khan,
Prime Minister of Pakistan

on
The occasion of the State Visit to Sri Lanka on 24th February, 2021

- Akbar Brothers (Pvt) Ltd.
- Ceylon Jewelry Manufacturers (Pvt) Ltd
- DMW Ventures (Pvt) Ltd.
- E-Futures Pvt Ltd.
- Eswaran Brothers Exports (Pvt) Ltd.
- Hatton National Bank PLC.
- Kalhari Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.
- Lanka Commodity Holdings (Pvt) Ltd.
- M. A. Razak & Company Ltd.
- Merchant Lanka (Pvt) Ltd.
- Spillburg Holdings (Private) Limited.

Secretariat
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of
The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce

50 Nawam Mawatha, Colombo 2, Sri Lanka.
Tel. : +9411-5588818 / +9411-5588800 Fax. +9411-2449352 Email: info@chamber.lk

LONG LIVE PAKISTAN - SRI LANKA FRIENDSHIP!

Extending a warm welcome to Mr. Imran Khan, H.E Prime Minister of Pakistan on his visit to Sri Lanka.



His Excellency President of Sri Lanka Gotabaya Rajapaksa



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Representing the Sri Lanka Navy, the Sri Lanka Naval Ship (SLNS) Gajabahu took part in the 7th edition of AMAN series hosted by Pakistan this year, Sri Lanka Navy said.

The multi-national maritime exercise AMAN-2021 hosted by Pakistan Navy under the theme 'Together for Peace' formally commenced at the Pakistan Navy Dockyard in Karachi, Pakistan on 12th February 2021.

Having seen the customary farewell at the home port on 05th February 2021, SLNS Gajabahu left Colombo for Karachi in Pakistan, to attend AMAN-2021.

AMAN-2021 was held from 12th to 16th February 2021, with the participation of as many as 45 countries from across the world.

The harbour phase of AMAN-2021 was held from 12th to 14th February 2021 at the port of Karachi where SLNS Gajabahu was reviewed by Admiral M Amjad Khan Niazi, Chief of the Naval Staff of Pakistan Navy.

Meanwhile, the sea phase of the exercise was held on 15th and 16th February 2021 in the North Arabian Sea with emphasis on maritime security operations, counter terrorism operations and humanitarian assistance operation.

Based on this, the exercise sought to develop and practice Response, Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (RTTP) for maritime infrastructure, assets and forces against traditional and non-traditional threats.

On the sidelines of the exercise the International Maritime Conference was held from 13th to 15th February 2021 under the auspices of Pakistan Navy

Lankan Navy takes part in AMAN-2021 Exercise



on the theme of "Development of Blue Economy under a Secure and Sustainable Environment: A Shared Future for Western Indian Ocean Region".

Representing Sri Lanka Navy, Flag Officer Commanding Naval Fleet – Rear Admiral Bandara Jayathilake attended the conference.

As curtains officially brought down on the multi-

national maritime exercise AMAN-2021 on 16th February, a two-day bilateral maritime exercise commenced on 17th February, between Sri Lanka Navy and Pakistan Navy; SLNS Gajabahu is taking part in the exercise.

This maritime exercise enabled participating countries to further develop mutual

understanding with their counterparts and also helped maintain maritime security in the region, Sri Lanka Navy noted.

The exercises were held adhering to strict health and safety guidelines amidst the global pandemic.



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Pakistan and Sri Lanka enjoy very cordial and friendly relations. Despite Sri Lanka's geographical position, Sri Lanka has had good bilateral cooperation with Pakistan. Pakistani military has assisted Sri Lankan government during the Sri Lankan civil war, after that, Pakistan's military assistance and cooperation has always increased and is still increasing. There are also good economic and trade relations. Both countries have a free trade agreement. Pakistan is the second-largest trading partner of Sri Lanka in South Asia. Sri Lanka was the first country to sign a Free Trade Agreement with Pakistan, which became operational from June 12, 2005. 4,000 items can be imported to Pakistan from Sri Lanka. Cricket is also one of the factors that brings the two countries closer. Both countries have played many important and memorable games with each other, and the sport is popular in both countries. Many Pakistanis know about Sri Lanka as a country just through cricket!



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MINISTRY OF WATER SUPPLY NATIONAL WATER SUPPLY & DRAINAGE BOARD

BID NOTICE

The Chairman, Procurement Committee on behalf of the National Water Supply & Drainage Board now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the Works / Supplies as described below.

No.	Name of Contract & Contract No.	Non Refundable Fee (Rs)	Bid Security Requirements	Eligibility Requirements	Estimated Cost (Rs.) Excluding VAT	Place of Issuing of Documents & Contact Person	Closing Date and Time
CIVIL TENDERS							
01	Construction of Erukkalampiddy Water Treatment Plant (Improvement) at Erukkalampiddy Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC/N/T&C/GOSL/TP/ERUKKALAM/2020/067	35,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 1,500,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C4 or C3 and Registration of the contract as per the Act No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	143.56 million	Tenders & Contracts Section, NWS&DB, Galle Road, Ratmalana. Tele: 011-2605328 Fax: 011-2635885	17/03/2021 10.00 hours
02	Renovation of Regional Stores at Baddegama Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC(S)/P&C/C/RENOVATION/B'GAMA/RH/2020/49	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 180,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Building Construction Grade C5 to C9 and Registration of the contract as per the Act No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	10.90 million	RSC(Southern), 395, Kumaratunga Mawatha, Pamburana, Matara, Tele:041-2229792 Fax 041-2224769	10/03/2021 14.00 hours
03	Laying of uPVC Pipes for Manager (Gampaha) Region Stage II Contract No: RSC(W/N)/LAYING/GAM(RH)/2020/63	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 343,800/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C5 to C9 and Registration of the contract as per the Act No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	22.92 million	Regional Support Center (W/N) Office, No.433/4A, Ganemulla Road, Kadawatha Tele:0112922129 Fax:0112922146	10/03/2021 10.00 hours
04	House Connection transferring of Pujapitiya Division for Advance Pipe Laying Road under Kandy North Pathadumbara Integrated Water Supply Project Contract No:KNPIWSP/WORK/PC-2/2020-88	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 58,500/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C5 to C9 and Registration of the contract as per the Act No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	5.85 million	Kandy North Pathadumbara Water Supply Project, NWSDB, PahalaKondadeniya, Katugastota Tele: 081-2492287 Fax:081-2492286	10/03/2021 14.00 hours
05	Rehabilitation of workshop at Monaragala Contract No: RSC(UVA)/DGM(UVA)/REH/MONARAGALA/2021/14	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 68,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Building Construction Grade C5 to C9	4.5 million	Tender Section, NWSDB, Mediriya Road, Badulla Tele: 0552230934 Fax: 0552230974	10/03/2021 14.00 hours
06	Provision of New Service Connections at Udathenna Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC-C/CN/CIVIL/NC/UDATHENNA/2021/002	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 160,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C5 to C9 and Registration of the contract as per the Act No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	15.33 million	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027	10/03/2021 14.00 hours
07	Provision of New Services Connections at Ambangaga Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC-C/CN/AMBANGAGA/2021/005	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 250,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C5 to C9 and Registration of the contract as per the Act No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	24.99 million	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027	10/03/2021 14.00 hours
08	Laying of PE/DI Pipes for Raw Water Transmission Main from Intake to Hanthana Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC-C/CS/CIVIL/PL/KNPIWSP/HANTHANA/2020/295	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 198,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C5 to C9 and Registration of the contract as per the Act No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	19.7 million	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027	10/03/2021 14.00 hours
09	Provision of New Services connection at Naula Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC/CN/CIVIL/NC/NAULA/2021/001	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 200,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C5 to C9 and Registration of the contract as per the Act No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	19.93 million	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027	10/03/2021 14.00 hours
10	Augmentation at Mullephilla Intake Premises Contract No: RSC-C/CE(O&M)/KNPIWSP/CIVIL/AMPITIYA/2021/12	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 40,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage Grade C5 or C9	2.82 million	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027	10/03/2021 14.00 hours
11	Construction of Roughing Filter for Surface Water Treatment at Mullephilla Intake Ampitiya WSS Contract No: RSC-C/CE(O&M)/CIVIL/KNPIWSP/AMPITIYA/2021/11	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 50,000/-	Registration with CIDA in the field of Building Construction Grade C5 or C9	3.5 million	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027	10/03/2021 14.00 hours
Reference to the advertisement dated 2021.02.17, Construction of Proposed Generator Room & Fuel Tank in Yatiwawala Pump House, Contract No: KNPIWSP/WORK/PC-1/2020-89 Please note that the Eligibility Requirement of this tender has been corrected as "Registration with CIDA in the field of Water Supply and Sewerage OR Building Construction Grade C5 to C9 "							
M&E TENDERS							
12	Supply, Delivery & Installation of Sludge Feeding Pumps for Biyagama Water Treatment Plant. Contract No : RPC/WP/W/BII/M&E/RH/2020/25R	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 42,000/-	Manufacturers or their local accredited agents	RSC (Western-Production), NWSDB, Udumulla Road, Mulleriyawa, New Town, Tele:0112418532 Fax:0112549199	17/03/2021 14.00 hours	
13	Annual Maintenance & Support Services Agreement For EMC VNX 5200 Storage Unit and its Accessories Installed at RSC(W-S)Office of NWSDB Contract No : W-S/P&C/AGREE (IT)/DGM/O&M/2020/88R-01	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 41,500/-	Bidders who are authorized partners for EMC products in Sri Lanka & should have at least 05 years experiences with similar works.	RSC (WS), NWSDB, No.07, Angulana Station Road, Angulana, Moratuwa Tele/Fax: 0112730341, 0112224888	11/03/2021 10.00 hours	
14	Supply and Installation of Pumping Sets, Air Blowers , Chemical Dosing System, Chlorination System and Accessories for Upper Hanthana Package Treatment Plant at Peradeniya University Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC-C/M&E/S&I/PUMPS/RECH(UOP)/UPPERHANTHANA/2021/07	12,500/- + VAT **	Rs. 200,000/-	Manufacturers or their local accredited agents and Registration of the contract as per the Act No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027 Prebid meeting on 08/03/2021 @09.00 hrs @Chief Engineer (M&E) Office	17/03/2021 14.00 hours	
15	Supply and Installation of 01 No.60 kVA Prime Sound Proof Generator set and Accessories for Daulagala Booster Pumping Station in UduYatinuwara Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC-C/M&E/GEN/REH/UDU/YATINUWARA/2021/29	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 45,000/-	Manufacturers or their local accredited agents	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027 Prebid meeting on 08/03/2021 @10.00 hrs @Chief Engineer (M&E) Office	17/03/2021 14.00 hours	
16	Design, Supply and Installation of Sludge Scraper System for Peradeniya University Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC-C/M&E/S&I/SCRAPER/RECH(UOP)/UNIVERSITY/2021/16	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 94,200/-	Manufacturer or their local accredited agent and Registration of the contract as per the Act No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027 Prebid meeting on 09/03/2021 @10.00 hrs @Chief Engineer (M&E) Office	17/03/2021 14.00 hours	
SUPPLY TENDERS							
17	Supply & Delivery of Filter Sand for New Water Treatment Plant, Ambatale Contract No : RPC/WP/G/AMB/CIVIL/O&M/2021/04	2,000/- + VAT	Rs. 20,000/-	Firms having experience in similar contracts	RSC (Western-Production), NWSDB, Udumulla Road, Mulleriyawa, New Town Tele:0112418532 Fax:0112549199	17/03/2021 14.00 hours	
18	Supply and Delivery of 3,000 tonne of Aluminium Sulphate Contract No : SUP&MM/CHEM/ALUM-03/2020/25	35,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 1,700,000/-	Manufacturers or their local accredited agents and Registration of the contract as per the Act No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	Tenders & Contracts Section, NWS&DB, Galle Road, Ratmalana. Tele: 011-2605328 Fax: 011-2635885	17/03/2021 10.00 hours	
19	Supply and Delivery of Stainless Steel Repair Clamps for Manager (Colombo South) Region - Annual Requirements -2021 Contract No : WC/SS/M(C-S)/R.CLAMP/2020/201-O&M	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 64,000/-	Manufacturers or their local accredited agents	RSC (W-C), No. 175A, Kaluthota Building, Nawala Road, Nugegoda, Tele:/Fax: 011- 2856420-3	10/03/2021 10.00 hours	
Reference to the advertisement dated 2021.02.17, Supply & Delivery of Multi-Angle Workshop Hydraulic Heat Fusion HDPE Pipe Tube Elbow Tee Cross- Tee Fittings Fabricating Butt Welding Machine, Contract No: NWSDB/M&E/HDPE MULTI ANGLE BWM/EUQIPM/01 Please note that the Non refundable fee of this tender has been corrected as "Rs.12,500/-"							
HIRING OF MACHINE							
20	Hiring of a JCB Machine for Polonnaruwa Region Contract No: O&M/NC/DGM/HV-JCB/POL-REGION/2021/041	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 85,500/-	JCB Service Providers and Registration of the contract as per the Act No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	RSC (NC), Godage Mawatha, Anuradhapura Tele : 025-2235993 Fax: 025-2225609	17/03/2021 14.00 hours	
SERVICE TENDERS							
21	Providing Cleaning & Maintenance Services for Kandana Water Treatment Plant & Ellakanda Reservoir Premises Contract No : RPC/WP/S/KAN/CIVIL/O&M/2021/07	6,000/- + VAT **	Rs. 89,750/-	Firms having experience in similar contracts and Registration of the contract as per the Act No.3 of 1987 with the registrar of public contract	RSC (Western-Production), NWSDB, Udumulla Road, Mulleriyawa, New Town, Tele:0112418532 Fax:0112549199 Pre Bid Meeting on 10/03/2021 at 10.00 a.m. at Kandana WTP, Horana.	17/03/2021 14.00 hours	
22	Services Contract for Cleaning & Maintenance of Ragala Water Supply Scheme Contract No: RSC-C/CE/SER/O&M/RAGALA/2020/48	4,000/- + VAT	Rs. 46,000/-	As per the Document	RSC (Central), Gatambe, Peradeniya Tele : 081-2386068 Fax: 081-2388027 Prebid meeting on 08/03/2021 @10.00 hrs at District Engineer (N'Elia) Office	10/03/2021 14.00 hours	

Please register on line www.drc.gov.lk of Registrar of Companies to get PCA 3 form (only for tenders marked as "****"). Further please use gmail for registration.

Bidding documents will be issued on production of a letter of request on a business letterhead together with the payment receipt of non-refundable tender fee during 09.00 hours to 15.00 hours on normal working days up to day before the closing date.

Bidding documents may be inspected free of charge at the place of issuing documents during normal working hours.

Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' authorized representatives who choose to attend. Late bids will be returned unopened.

Chairman,
National Water Supply and Drainage Board

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received in response to advertisements published under Lake House box numbers

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MANAGER FRONT OFFICE

Hotline: 1949





**State Ministry of Rural Housing and Construction & Building
Materials Industries Promotion**



STATE ENGINEERING CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA

INVITATION FOR BIDS

1. The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee (DPC) on behalf of the State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka now invites **two separate sealed bids** from the bidders for the works as described below.

No.	Name & Identification No. of Bid	Construction Period	Location	Non-refundable Bid Fee (Rs.)	Bid Security Amount (Rs.)	Experience
I.	Bid for Supply & Installation of Stainless Steel Sinks for Kitchen, Labs & Wards for Construction of Millennium Wards, PCU & Paramedical Services Building (Balance work) at Colombo South Teaching Hospital - Kalubowila. (C&P/P/2292/2021/025)	30 Days	Colombo South Teaching Hospital, Kalubowila	2,000.00	52,000.00	• Similar contract within last 05 years
II.	Bid for Supply, Fabrication & Installation of Lead Lined Timber Doors for Construction of Millennium Wards, PCU & Paramedical Services Building (Balance Work) at Colombo South Teaching Hospital - Kalubowila (C&P/P/2292/2021/027)	30 Days	Colombo South Teaching Hospital, Kalubowila	3,000.00	125,000.00	• Similar contract within last 05 years

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure & interested bidders may quote any or both bids separately.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall be a reputed local company having experience in above works separately as above.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from **Chief Engineer (Contracts & Planning), Contracts & Planning Division, 5th Floor, State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka, 130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha, Colombo 02** and inspect the bidding documents at the same address on any working day from **0900 hrs to 1500 hrs** and contact numbers are **011-2451151, 011-2430061-5**.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka, 130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha, Colombo 02 from **24.02.2021** until **10.03.2021** on any working day from **0900 hrs to 1500 hrs** upon payment of a tender fee (non-refundable) given as above to the **Cashier, Accounts Division at 7th Floor, State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka, 130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha, Colombo 02**.
- Bids will be delivered to the address below at **Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka, Ground Floor, Head Office Building, 130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha, Colombo 02** at or before **1400 hrs on 10.03.2021**. Contract name should be marked at the top left-hand corner of the cover. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives who wish to attend.
- Both bids shall be accompanied by a separate Bid Security for the amount given above. Bid Security shall be in any form as per the bid document and should be valid up to **24.06.2021**.

Chairman,
Department Procurement Committee,
State Engineering Corporation of Sri Lanka,
130, W.A.D. Ramanayake Mawatha,
Colombo 02.
24.02.2021

**QUOTATIONS FOR
SUPPLY OF COMPRESSIBLE
NO PAK BLANKETS**

IMP/ADV/2021/04

Sealed quotations are hereby invited from foreign principals and local suppliers for the supply of **"Compressible NO PAK Blankets"** as specified below.

Quantity	Description
30 Nos/	Compressible NO PAK Blankets with Alu Bars in Both Sides 914mm (AC) x 1195 mm (AR) Thickness 1.95 mm

Foreign Offers

Bidders should quote both **FOB and CIF Colombo prices** (on at sight as well as 90 days usance). **CIF offers should clearly detail Cost, Freight & Insurance charges** separately. **ANCL reserves the right to place the order on FOB or on CIF terms.**

Offers should be submitted in a sealed envelope marked as **"Quotations for Compressible NO PAK Blankets"** on the top left hand corner.

Local Offers

Ex-stock price indicating transport charges, VAT and other levies separately with specifications should be submitted in a separate cover in the same manner.

Offers should be sent to the **Head of Procurement to reach on or before 08th March 2021 at 2.30 p.m.** which will be opened immediately. No separate documents will be issued. Suppliers may use their own formalities.

Probable date of delivery, validity of price, terms of payment etc should be clearly indicated on the offers. Acceptance of new sources / product will be subjected to a quality test.

The successful bidder should provide a Performance Bond to the value of 05% with a validity period of 90 days.

However, The Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Ltd., reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers without assigning any reason whatsoever.



**Head of Procurement
The Associated Newspapers
of Ceylon Limited
No.35, Lake House,
D.R. Wijewardene Mawatha,
Colombo 10.**

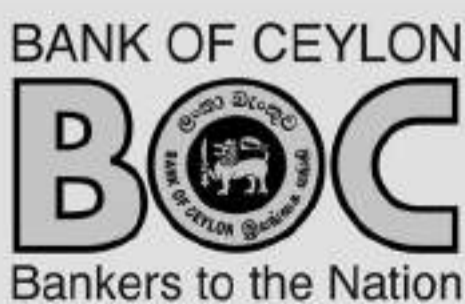
For details: 2429422, 2429451

**BANK OF CEYLON
INVITATION FOR BIDS**

Sealed Bids are hereby invited from reputed Manufactures / Suppliers or their Accredited Local Agents for Supply of the following Gift items - 100,000 nos Branded Pens, as given below.

Bid No.	P/PROC/2021/52
Description of the Procurement	Purchase of 100,000 nos Branded Pens for Bank of Ceylon
Applicable non-refundable bidding Documents Fee	Rs.1,080 /- (Rs. 1,000/- + Rs.80/- VAT)
Last date & time of issuing bidding Documents	09.03.2021 at 1500 hrs
Date & time of closing bid	10.03.2021 at 1000 hrs

- Bid Documents could be obtained from Properties & Procurement Department, 14th Floor, Bank of Ceylon Head Office, "BOC Square", No. 01, Bank of Ceylon Mawatha, Colombo 01, submitting a written request and paying non refundable fee of Rs.1,080/- including VAT. (Rs.1,000/- + Rs.80/- VAT) between 0900 hrs and 1500hrs on working days of the Bank.
- Perfected bid documents should be accompanied by a Bank Guarantee / Bid Bond for the value relevant to the bid as indicated above issued by a commercial bank (other than Bank of Ceylon) acceptable to the Bank of Ceylon and valid upto 07.07.2021. Cash deposits / Bank Pay Orders / Bank Drafts (not personal cheques) are also acceptable in lieu of Bid Bonds.
- Bids will be opened immediately after closing at 1000 hrs on the due date and the bids received later than 1000 hrs will be rejected and returned unopened.
- The Bank of Ceylon reserves the right of rejecting any or all bids and the right of accepting any portion of a bid without adducing any reasons.
- Further details could be obtained from the Chief Manager, Properties & Procurement Dept.



Chief Manager
Properties & Procurement Department,
14th Floor, Bank of Ceylon,
"BOC Square",
No. 01, Bank of Ceylon Mawatha,
Colombo 01.
Telephone : 2204265, 2544310

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Procurement Notice

**Provincial Department of Education
North Central Province
General Education Modernization Project
Invitation for Bids**

Purchase of Mathematical Instruments

01. Sealed bids are invited by the Chairman, Departmental Procurement Committee, on behalf of the Provincial Department of Education of the North Central Province from qualified and eligible bidders for the purchase of the following Mathematical Instruments.

Item No.	Contract No.	Item Name	Quantity	Value of the Bid Security (SL Rs.)	Non Refundable Fee (SL Rs.)
01	NCP/EDAC/PC/2021/15	Primary Mathematical Instrument Sets	27	58,500.00	Rs. 3,500.00
		Secondary Mathematical Instrument Sets	27		

- Bids will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding Procedure.
- To be eligible for award of contract, the successful bidder should have not have been blacklisted and should possess a valid Registration Certificate relevant to the field issued by the legal authority.
- Interested qualified bidders may obtain required further details from the Chief Accountant, Provincial Department of Education, North Central Province (Tel. No. 025-2222432) and the bid documents may be inspected up to 15.03.2021 during office hours (between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m.) at the same address.
- Qualification requirements are mentioned in the bid documents.
- A complete set of bid documents prepared in English language may be purchased by interested bidders up to 3.00 p.m. on 15.03.2021 on submission of a written application to the Chief Accountant of the Provincial Department of Education, North Central Province, Anuradhapura upon payment of the non refundable fee. Payments should be made in cash.
- Bids should be accompanied by a bid security to the value mentioned in the table above and it should be unconditional bank guarantee issued by a commercial bank approved by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. Or else that may be paid in cash. Relevant bank guarantee should be valid until, the date mentioned in the bid documents and should be cashable within the country.
- Bids perfected should be in duplicate as "Original" and "Duplicate" and should be inserted in separate sealed covers and both covers should be reinserted in a sealed single cover mentioning **"Purchase of Mathematical Instruments"** and the Contract Number on the left hand top corner and submitted.
- Perfected bids should either be deposited in the Tender Box kept at this office or sent by registered post addressed to **"Chairman, Procurement Committee, Provincial Department of Education, 12 Shops, North Central Province, Anuradhapura"** to receive before 1.00 p.m. on 16.03.2021. Late bids will be rejected. Bids received will be opened immediately after closing of bids in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives who wish to be present at the time of opening of bids.
- Departmental Procurement Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids received at any time before the award of contract without any liability to the bidder / bidders and is not bound to show cause for the decision.

**Chairman
Departmental Procurement Committee
Provincial Department of Education
North Central Province
Anuradhapura**

24.02.2021

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**LANKA LIONS FOUNDATION
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019/2020**

Notice is hereby given that the AGM 2019/2020 will be held on **Tuesday 9th March at 7.30p.m.** at the **Lions Activity Centre, Vidya Mawatha, Colombo 07.**

Please confirm your participation by 7th March 2021.

Please note however that according to the latest Regulations only 50 people are permitted to participate at any gathering and participation will be on 'first come first served' basis.

Honorary Secretary
M: 0777 698 338
Email: nell21936@gmail.com

REVOCAION OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

I, **MALLAWARACHCHIGE DONA INDRANI KAMAL AMARASINGHE** (Holder of Sri Lanka Passport bearing No. N-6713024) of No. 439/17, Nadunawatte, Ganemulla, do hereby inform the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the General Public that I have revoked, annulled and cancelled Power of Attorney granted by me to **HETTIARACHCHIGE GAYAN MADUSANKA** (Holder of National Identity Card bearing No. 851903054V) of No. 204/2, Ambaraluwa North, Weliveriya by Power of Attorney dated 13th September 2019 attested by Saman Perera - Third Secretary for Ambassador Embassy of Sri Lanka Rome with effect from 5th February 2021 and that I shall not be held myself responsible for any transaction entered into by the said **HETTIARACHCHIGE GAYAN MADUSANKA** on my behalf thereafter.

5th February 2021
MALLAWARACHCHIGE DONA INDRANI KAMAL AMARASINGHE
No. 439/17, Nadunawatte, Ganemulla.

STATE MINISTRY OF BATIK, HANDLOOM TEXTILES & LOCAL APPAREL PRODUCTION

**NATIONAL DESIGN CENTRE
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**

DESIGN, SUPPLY, CONSTRUCTION, COMMISSIONING, OPERATION & MAINTENANCE OF WWTP OF 3000 L/DAY CAPACITY AT NATIONAL DESIGN CENTRE PROJECT OFFICE, KALAPURA, NATTARAMPOTHA, KANDY

1. The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, on behalf of the Department Procurement Committee, now invited sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Design, Supply, Construction, Commissioning, Operation & Maintenance of WWTP as described below.

The work consists of Design, Supply, Construction, Commissioning, Testing & Certification of WWTP of 3000 l/day capacity comp lete in all respects including all contingent Civil, Electrical, Mechanical, piping & instrumentation works including operation & maintenance of 5 years with first year free of charge for labor & consumables.

Location of the Project: **National Design Centre, Project Office, Kalapura, Nattarampotha, Kandy**

The construction period is **60 days**.

2. Bidding will be conducted through Limited National Competitive Bidding procedure.

3. In order to be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall meet the following requirements:

- The bidder shall have registered under the category of consultant for wastewater treatment and related service in Central Environmental Authority and having CIDA registration for grade C8 mandatory
- The institution should be registered as a company in Sri Lanka in the relevant service and provided service for at least 15 years.
- The local company or product manufacturer should have at least 15 years' experience in the relevant area.

4. Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include;

- Average annual value of design, supply, construction, commissioning, operation & maintenance of WWTP in the last five years shall be at least **Rs. 10 million**.
- The minimum amount of Liquid Assets or credit facilities required is **Rs. 1 million**.

5. Bids shall be valid up to **91 days** from the date of closing the bid

6. All bids shall be accompanied by a **Bid security of Rs. 20,000.00** which shall be valid for a period of **119 days** from the date of closing of bids.

7. The office for collection of bid forms is Assistant Director (Chemical), National Design Centre, No. 10, De Mel Road, Katubedda, Moratuwa for non-refundable fee of 500 Rupees (with Taxes) between **09:00 hrs and 15:00 hrs from 24th February 2021 until 16th March 2021**.

8. Bids shall be addressed to **Chairman, National Design Centre, No. 10, De Mel Road, Katubedda, Moratuwa** and deposited in the Tender Box provided for at the above address on or before 14.00 hrs. on 17th March 2021. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing time, in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend.

9. For further details, please contact Assistant Director (Chemical), National Design Centre on Tel: 011 2607814, Ext 116.

**Chairman,
Department Procurement Committee,
National Design Centre, Moratuwa.**



Tender Notice



Jaykay Marketing Services (Pvt) Limited which operates the Keells chain of supermarkets, in collaboration with Smallholder Agribusiness Partnership Program (SAPP), under the Ministry of Agriculture are embarking on a project to support farmers improve productivity through adoption of technology in the districts of Jaffna, Anuradhapura, Kurunegala, Matale, Nuwara Eliya, Badulla, Monaragala and Hambanhottha.

1. On behalf of the project procurement committee, Jaykay Marketing Services (Pvt) Limited now invites bids for selection of qualified manufacturers and suppliers to procure the following items: following items:

Line No	Product Description	No of Unit	valu of the bid security
1.	Drip irrigation system for 0.25ac land plot	400	700,000.00
2.	Intercultivator with required attachments	60	100,000.00

2. A complete set of bidding documents in English language may be obtained by interested bidders in by writing an email to procurement.jms@keells.com, starting 24th February 2021, 8.00 am and further inquiries can be made via telephone on 0771987711

3. Bids must be delivered to the address of **Jaykay Marketing Services (Pvt) Limited, No 148, Vauxhall Street, Colombo 02** on or before **4th March 2021 10.00 am**. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will not be accepted.

4. Completed bids should be forwarded in two copies as the "Original" and "Duplicate". The original and the duplicate documents should be enclosed separately and marked as "Original" and "Duplicate" respectively in sealed envelopes. Both envelopes should be enclosed in a sealed single envelope and marked "Supply, delivery, installation and commissioning of SAPP project – PDFN-SAPP-FRESH-TN01" on top left-hand corner of the envelope.

5. Bids will be opened in the presence of bidder's representatives who choose to be attend in person at the address of **Jaykay Marketing Services Private Limited, No. 148, Vauxhall Street, Colombo 02.** on 4th March 2021, at 10.00 am.

On behalf of the project procurement committee
Jaykay Marketing Services (Pvt) Limited
148 Vauxhall St, Colombo 02. Tel: 0771 987 711
Email: procurement.jms@keells.com



NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK

INVITATION FOR BIDS (NCB)

TENDER No. NSB/PT/ITE/2021/02

SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, COMMISSIONING & MAINTENANCE OF WEB APPLICATION FIREWALL FOR NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the reputed Principal Manufacturers/ Suppliers or their Accredited Local Agents in Sri Lanka for the supply of **Web Application Firewall** with replication & High Availability Clusters.

Description of the Procurement	Web Application Firewall
Method of Procurement	National Competitive Bidding (NCB)
Applicable Non-refundable Tender Fee	Rs. 8,000/=
Value of the Bid Bond to be submitted	Rs. 300,000/=
Last date & time of issuing Bid Documents	16.03.2021 at 2.30 p.m.
Date & time of closing Tender	17.03.2021 at 10.00 a.m.
Pre-Bid Meeting	08.03.2021 at 10.00 a.m.

1. It is mandatory for any person who acts as an agent or sub agent, representative or nominee for or on behalf of any tenderer to register himself before applying for tender, and the contract after the tender is awarded.

2. Bid Documents could be obtained from the Supplies Manager, Supplies Division, National Savings Bank, No. 255, Galle Road, Colombo 03. Tender forms will be issued from 24.02.2021 between 8.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. on working days till 16.03.2021 on submission of a written request.

3. Perfected Bidding Documents should be accompanied by a Bank Guarantee/ Bid Bond acceptable to the National Savings Bank, for the value relevant to the tender as indicated above and issued by a commercial bank and valid for a minimum period of 120 calendar days from the date of opening of the Tender.

4. Bids will be opened immediately after closing at 10.00 a.m. on the due date and the bids received after 10.00 a.m. will be rejected and returned unopened.

5. National Savings Bank reserves the right of rejecting any or all bids and the right of accepting any portion of a bid without adducing any reasons.

Further details could be obtained from the Snr. Manager - Supplies.

**Chairman-Corporate Procurement Committee - Major
National Savings Bank,
No. 255, Galle Road,
Colombo 03.**

VEHICLE SALE

Three Wheeler	YARD
AAC-5903 BAJAJ 2012	NUWARAELIYA
YW-5158 BAJAJ 2012	KANDY
QA-0320 BAJAJ 2005	RAGAMA
JW-8844 BAJAJ 2004	NUWARAELIYA
MOTOR CAR	YARD
KM-0202 TOYOTA 2007	RAGAMA

The above vehicles can be inspected at the yards and that will be on Auction basis

RAGAMA 0113-288 893	NUWARAELIYA 0114-346 723	KANDY 0812-051 010
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Invitation to submit Expression of Interest (EOI) to Design, Supply, Install, Commission and Maintain Rooftop Solar PV Systems

1. Noritake Lanka Porcelain (Pvt) Ltd (NLPL) is seeking the services of a rooftop solar PV supplier to provide the following services at its Factory at Matale.

- Design, supply, install and commission **three (3) rooftop solar PV systems** with an aggregated capacity of **0.8 MW (AC)** under Net Plus tariff scheme at the NLPL factory in Matale.
- Provide maintenance services for the rooftop solar PV systems for 02 years from the commercial operation date.

2. Expression of Interest (EOI) to provide the above services to NLPL are hereby invited from companies which have fulfilled the following eligibility criteria.

- The company must be registered at Sri Lanka Sustainable Energy Authority as a Rooftop Solar PV Service Provider.
- The company has been in business under the present business registration number for at least five (5) years.
- Within the last five (5) years, the company must have installed at least three (3) rooftop solar PV systems with a capacity of 500 kWp or larger.

3. The EOI shall be prepared following the given format, and format can be collected by sending by email to sankha@noritake.lk or can download to visiting to <http://www.noritake.lk/solar.php> website link.

4. The EOI shall be submitted via E-mail (sankha@noritake.lk) before **6th of March 2021 Saturday, 3.00 p.m.** Late or incomplete applications may be rejected.

**Assistant General Manager,
(HRD, Administration & Compliance)
Noritake Lanka Porcelain (Pvt) Ltd.,
PO Box 30,
Matale.**

NATIONAL HOSPITAL OF SRI LANKA - COLOMBO 10

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Sealed bids are invited from Contractors registered at ICTAD for performing the work mentioned below at the National Hospital of Sri Lanka. Bid documents could be collected from the Chief Accountant's Office after paying a non-refundable bid form fee of Rs. 2,500.00 to the Shroff's Division of National Hospital of Sri Lanka from 9.00 a.m. on 24.02.2021 up to 3.00 p.m. on 10.03.2021.

Duly completed bids should be enclosed in envelopes and sealed and marked with the name of the work on the left-side of the envelope and sent by registered post to the address mentioned below to be received before 10.00 a.m. on 12.03.2021 or may be inserted in the Tender box kept at the Chief Accountant's Office. Bids will be opened immediately after closing of acceptance of bids and the contractors their authorized representatives could be present on this occasion.

Work	Estimated Cost Rs. Cts.	Grade	Refundable Bid Security Rs. Cts.	Non-refundable Tender form fee Rs. Cts.	Remarks
Renovation of roof, ceiling and electrical system at Ward 32 (AC-1/88/2020)	9,237,819.00	Specialty - Building Construction - C7 or above AND Electrical & Mechanical Services - EM O4 or above	150,000.00	2,500.00	A certificate from Registrar of Public Contracts should be submitted where the estimated bid exceeds Rs. 5,000,000/- when collecting the bid documents.

**Dr. W.K. Wickramasinghe,
Chairman, Procurement Committee,
National Hospital of Sri Lanka,
Colombo 10.**

TENDER NOTICE



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இலங்கை மத்திய வங்கி
CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

CONSULTANCY SERVICES TO AMEND THE PAYMENT AND SETTLEMENT SYSTEMS ACT

Tender Number	LK-CBSL-217246-CS-CQS
Tender Description	Consultancy Services to amend the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, No 28 of 2005 for the Central Bank of Sri Lanka
Bid closing and opening	Date : 22 March 2021 Time : 1500 Hrs. Location : Head Office Building, Central Bank of Sri Lanka, No 30, Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo-01, Sri Lanka

For further information please refer
<https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/en/tenders>
 or contact: +94 11 2477337 or +94 11 2398754

Project Team, Financial Sector Modernization Project
Central Bank of Sri Lanka.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA
MINISTRY OF WATER SUPPLY
NATIONAL WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD
 CONTRACT No.: RMWWDP/Ph2-St1/SN/AFD/2020/01
Phase 2 - Stage 1 of Ratmalana/Moratuwa Wastewater Disposal Project

Bid for Expansion of Sewer Collection Network for Ratmalana/Moratuwa area

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Date : 24th February 2021 (Date of issuance of IFB)
 Project Name : Phase 2 - Stage 1 of Ratmalana/Moratuwa Wastewater Disposal Project
 IFB No :

- The Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka has received funds from Agence Française de Développement ("AFD") towards the cost of Phase 2 - Stage 1 of Ratmalana/Moratuwa Wastewater Disposal Project. It is intended that part of the proceeds of these funds will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for Expansion of Sewer Collection Network for Ratmalana/Moratuwa area.
- The Chairman, Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee (CAPC), on behalf of the National Water Supply & Drainage Board (NWSDB) as the Executing Agency now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the construction and completion of Expansion of Sewer Collection Network for Ratmalana/Moratuwa Area. ("the Works").
 Bidding will be through International Competitive Bidding (ICB) procedure using Single Stage One Envelope. Bidding is open to bidders from eligible source countries of the Agence Française de Développement ("AFD").
- Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the Bidding Documents at the office of The Project Director, Phase 2 - Stage 1 of Ratmalana/Moratuwa Wastewater Disposal Project, National Water Supply and Drainage Board, 213A, Templers Road, Mount Lavinia, Sri Lanka.
 Telephone No. +94 11 2737660 Fax No. +94 11 2715373
 Electronic mail address : rmwwdp@gmail.com
- A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased between 9.30 and 15.30 hrs (local time) on working days, up to 23rd February 2021 by interested Bidders on submission of a written application on the applicant's letterhead to
 Assistant General Manager (Tenders & Contracts)
 Tenders and Contracts Branch,
 National Water Supply and Drainage Board,
 Galle Road, Ratmalana,
 SRI LANKA.
 Telephone / Facsimile No. : +94-(0)-11-2635885
 Electronic mail address: nwsdbtc@sltnet.lk / agmtenders@waterboard.lk

and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of US\$ 300.00 or Equivalent amount in LKR plus the applicable Value Added Tax (VAT) in the form of cash in Sri Lankan Rupees or Demand Draft in favour of the National Water Supply and Drainage Board or by Banker's certified cheque, countersigned by a bank operating in Sri Lanka.

Those firms requesting the Bid Documents to be sent by courier service shall make pre-paid arrangements with a reputed courier service to collect and dispatch the documents to them. In such a case, the firm requesting the Bid documents shall provide its courier service with a letter authorizing to collect the Bid Documents. Under no circumstance will NWSDB be held responsible for late delivery or loss of the documents so sent to the applicant.

There will be no pre-qualification of bidders and instead a post-qualification will be carried out. Post qualification criteria is given under Section III of the bid document which can be examined free of charge at the address given in paragraph 3 above.

Prior to the purchase of documents, interested bidders are advised to study the eligibility criteria given under the Instructions to Bidders and Section IV & V of Bidding Document available at the address given under paragraph 3 above.

- The provisions in the Instructions to Bidders and in the General Conditions of Contract are the provisions of AFD's Standard Bidding Documents: Procurement of Works.
- Bids must be delivered to the Chairman, Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee, Procurement Division, "Lakdiya Medura", Ministry of Water Supply, No. 35, New Parliament Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka on or before 05th May 2021 (local time) at 10.00 am and must be accompanied by Bid security of EURO 600,000.00 (Euro Six Hundred Thousand) in the form specified in the Bid Document.
- Bids will be opened immediately after closing the Bids in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the office of Director (Procurement), "Lakdiya Medura", Ministry of Water Supply, No. 35, New Parliament Road, Pelawatta, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.
- Qualification criteria are as follows:
 - Bidders who are Individual Firm or Joint venture should have completed at least 02 (two) Contracts with a contract value of not less than US\$ 30 million each during last 10 years, out of which 1 (one) should have been a sewerage contract. One of above 02 (two) contracts should have been undertaken outside the home country, in case of foreign bidders. Acceptable Certificate of Completion from the client is required for all 02 (two) Contracts.
 Percentage of work done is taken based on the percentage of work mentioned in the Joint Venture agreements.
 - The scope of work undertaken by the bidder should have included, supplying and laying of at least 50 km of gravity sewers - diameters vary from 160 mm up to 600 mm in not more than 02 (two) Contracts within the time period stipulated in above (i). One Contract out of two should have been carried out in a similar environment.
 - Minimum average annual turnover of US\$ 30 million for the last 05 years.
 - Other than the above, the eligibility and qualification criteria laid down in the document shall apply.

**The Chairman,
National Water Supply and Drainage Board**


NOTICE

It is hereby notified that any Blenders and accessories that have been given for repairs to the Williams Institution at Dehiwala should be obtained back before 15th March, 2021 on proving your identity. No liability will be entertained on such items after the said 15th March, 2021.


Manager
No.125, Stanley Thillekeratne Mawatha,
Nugegoda.

CORRECTION NOTICE

TENDER NOTICE



DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST
REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA



MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIES

KAHATAGAHA GRAPHITE LANKA LIMITED

SALE OF KAHATAGAHA GRAPHITE

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

TENDER REFERENCE NO. KGLL/MKT/ TDR/2021/01

With reference to the newspaper advertisement that was published in Sunday Observer of 21st February 2021 on Page 65, in the table in column 2 under Products item Nos. 3 and 4 should be corrected as follows.

Item 3 - 90-92C% Graphite Powder (HS 25041090)
Item 4 - 90-92% Graphite Chip (HS 25041090)

All other details in the Advertisement remain same.

Ministry Tender Committee (Sales)
Ministry of Industries, PO Box 570, No. 73/1, Galle Road, Colombo 03, Sri Lanka.



STATE MINISTRY OF PRODUCTION,
SUPPLY AND REGULATION OF PHARMACEUTICALS

**STATE PHARMACEUTICALS
MANUFACTURING
CORPORATION OF SRI LANKA**



SPMC

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING - (ICB)

BID REF. : SPMC/01/2021 CLOSING ON 06th April 2021

PROCUREMENT OF PHARMACEUTICAL RAW MATERIALS

- Sealed bids for the supply of Pharmaceutical Raw Materials will be received by the Chairman, Procurement Committee, State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation, (SPMC) No. 11, Sir John Kotelawala Mawatha, Kandawala Estate, Ratmalana, Sri Lanka up to 10.00 a.m. on 06th April 2021.

ITEM	Qty. (KG)	Non refundable Tender fee (SL Rs.)
1 Ascorbic Acid BP	12,000	4,000.00
2 Carbamazepine BP	3,000	7,500.00
3 Cetirizine Dihydrochloride BP	200	500.00
4 Clopidogrel Bisulphate USP	8,000	15,000.00
5 Diethyl Carbamazine Citrate	300	500.00
6 Dried Aluminium Hydroxide Gel	1,000	500.00
7 Diltiazem Hydrochloride USP	500	2,500.00
8 Flucloxacillin Sodium BP	9,000	14,000.00
9 Folic Acid BP	125	2,500.00
10 Frusemide BP	1,000	3,000.00
11 Gliclazide BP	7,500	30,000.00
12 Losartan Potassium BP	5,000	12,000.00
13 Prednisolone BP	500	8,000.00
14 Propranolol Hydrochloride BP	600	1,000.00
15 Pyridoxine Hydrochloride BP	50	500.00
16 Riboflavin BP	100	1,000.00
17 Salbutamol Sulphate BP	150	1,000.00
18 Spironolactone USP	150	2,000.00
19 Thiamine Hydrochloride BP	100	500.00
20 Tolbutamide BP	3,000	3,000.00
21 Verapamil Hydrochloride BP	200	1,000.00
22 Crospovidone BP	1,000	500.00
23 Hydroxypropyl Cellulose - LJP	500	2,000.00
24 Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose - Pthalate	1,000	2,000.00
25 Lactose Monohydrate BP/USP (200 Mesh)	20,000	2,000.00
26 Maize Starch BP / USNF	27,000	1,000.00
27 Microcrystalline Cellulose USNF/BP	5,000	500.00
28 Povidone K-30 (Polyvinyl Pyrrolidone K-30) USP / BP	500	500.00
29 Pre-gelatinized Maize Starch	4,000	500.00
30 Sodium Starch Glycolate BP/USNF	2,500	1,000.00
31 Stearic Acid (D-grade) BP	300	500.00
32 Tartaric Acid BP / USNF	150	500.00

- Sealed bids should be made on a complete set of bidding documents in duplicate and original separately and sent by registered post addressed to the Chairman, Procurement Committee, State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation, No. 11, Sir John Kotelawala Mawatha, Kandawala Estate, Ratmalana, Sri Lanka or deposited in the tender box kept at the ground floor at the State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation, No 11, Sir John Kotelawala Mawatha, Kandawala Estate, Ratmalana, Sri Lanka.
- Bid document could be obtained from the above address from 22nd February 2021 to 05th April 2021 between 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. during working days on submission of the followings.
 - A written application to the Deputy General Manager - Planning and Procurement, State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation, No 11, Sir John Kotelawala Mawatha, Kandawala Estate, Ratmalana, Sri Lanka.
 - Upon payment of the non-refundable Bid document fee stated above in cash to the Accounts Department of SPMC.
- Bids are administered by the provisions of the "Public Contract Act No. 3 of 1987" and therefore, in the event bidder is to retain an Agent, Sub-Agent, Representative, Nominee for and on behalf of bidder shall register himself any such Public Contract in accordance with the section 10 of the Public Contract Act and produce such valid certificate of registration in the course of any transaction relating to the bid or Act any stage in the duration of the bidding.
- Bids will be opened immediately after the closing of bids at SPMC - Ratmalana, bidder or their authorized agents are permitted to present when bids are opened.
- Bid Documents may be inspected free of charge at the SPMC.
- Further information could be obtained from Deputy General Manager - Planning & Procurement, SPMC. (Tel. 2623298)

Details of the Bid can be viewed from our Website. (www.spmclanka.lk)

Foreign principals can download the Bid Document from our Website (Those who are not represented by local agents, such offers should be accompanied by a bank draft for similar value/s in US\$ as payment fee for the bid document mentioned above)

**Chairman,
Procurement Committee
State Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing Corporation
No. 11, Sir John Kotelawala Mawatha, Kandawala Estate,
Ratmalana, Sri Lanka.**

TEL. : (00) 94-11-2635353/ (00) 94-11-2637574 / (00) 94-11-2623298
 E-MAIL : spmclanka@sltnet.lk
 Website : www.spmclanka.lk
 Fax : (00) 94-11-2634771, 2626621

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

Ref. No. Wa/La/02/Acq/769
Wa/La/2/2796


The land described in the schedule below has been Acquired by the state for a public purpose. For further particulars please see part III of Government Gazette No. 2213/27 dated 03rd February 2021 of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

SCHEDULE

Province	: Western
District	: Kalutara
Divisional Secretary's Division	: Walallawita
Grama Niladhari Division	: No. 850D, Pelawatta West North
Village	: Pelawatta
Plan No.	: F.V.P. 112 / Supplement No. 120
Lot No.	: 2746 (01 Lot)
Total Extent	: 0.0065 Hectare

**Divisional Secretary
Divisional Secretariat,
Walallawita.**

**Divisional Secretary at
Walallawita
19.02.2021**



GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA
MINISTRY OF WATER SUPPLY
WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
 Credit No.: Cr. 5685-lk

BID NOTICE

- The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka has received a credit from the International Development Agency of World Bank towards the cost of Water Supply and Sanitation Improvement Project and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this credit to payments under the contracts given below.
- The Chairman, Procurement Committee now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for projects described below.

Project Procurement Committee (Major)	
SUPPLY TENDERS	
Reference to the advertisement dated 27 th January 2021 - Please note that the closing date of following bid has been extended as follows;	
Supply and Delivery of Generators for National Water Supply & Drainage Board - Sabaragamuwa. Contract No: MWS/WaSSIP/PMU/NCB/Generator -NWSDB/ 2020/19	Bid Closing - 24 th March 2021, 14.00 hours (Bid Securities should be valid up to 17 th August 2021 and Bid Validity shall be up to 20 th July 2021)

- Bidding documents will be issued on submission of a written application on the applicant's letterhead to the office of Project Director.
- Bidding documents can be collected between 09.30 hours to 15.30 hours on normal working days up to the closing date.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from Water Supply & Sanitation Improvement Project and inspect the bidding documents free of charge at the place of issuing documents during normal working hours.
- Bids shall be either hand delivered or dispatched by registered post or courier to the address given above.
- All Bids will be opened at the same address soon after closing in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend. Late bids will be returned unopened.

**Project Director,
Water Supply & Sanitation Improvement Project**

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Municipal Council - Kurunegala

Procurement Notice

Applications are invited for the lease shops in the Central Market and Maligapitiya Auditorium which are being constructed by the Kurunegala Municipal Council to the first applicant.

01. Time and venue where applications are issued - From 24th February 2021, 8.30 a.m. to 17th March 2021, 3.00 p.m.
02. (i) Application Fee - Rs. 2,000.00 + VAT
(ii) Refundable Deposit- Rs. 10,000.00
03. Date of Receiving Application - 18th March 2021 from 8.30 a.m to 3.00 p.m.
04. Method of Submitting Application - By Hand
05. Date and Time of Opening Applications - 22nd March 2021, 10.00 a.m.
06. Conditions related to the provision of shops, initial payment and details related to the shops will be issued along with the application form.
07. Contact 037-4941869 for more information.

Municipal Commissioner
Municipal Council
Kurunegala



N-56

PROCUREMENT NOTICE DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT PRINTING

The Chairman, Procurement Committee, Department of Government Printing, invites Bids from Suppliers in Sri Lanka for the **Supply of following item.**

- Item 01 - Cotton Rags - 15000 Kg.**
Closing Date of Bid : 17.03.2021 - 2.00 p.m.
Bid Reference No : SCP02/NCB07/CR/2021-8

Bidding Documents relevant to this notice will be issued on official working days from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. by the Supplies Division, Department of Government Printing, 118, Dr Danister de Silva Mawatha, Colombo 08 on written application along with a non-refundable fee of Rs. 1,500/= per each Bid. Bidding documents will be issued by the Supplies Division itself before 2 p.m. on or before the day prior to the closing date given above.

Further particulars could be obtained from my office during working days from 8.30 a.m. to 4.15 p.m.

Gangani Liyanage
Chairman, Procurement Committee

Department of Government Printing
118, Dr. Danister de Silva Mawatha, Colombo 08.
Telephone : 011-2694898
Website : www.documents.gov.lk
24.02.2021



GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA
MINISTRY OF HIGHWAYS

ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Badulla Chenkaladi Road Improvement Project

QUOTATIONS FOR SUPPLY OF ABC MATERIAL FOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION AT BIBILE

Sealed quotations are invited from Suppliers & Contractors who have previous experience of supply material to RDA Projects, to supply and pile ABC material.

- Quantity of ABC Material - 4,500 meter cubes.
- Place to supply, transport & pile - Executive Engineer's Office at Bibile
- Time period - Within one month from receiving the notice to supply

The quotation for supply of 4,500 meter cubes should be submitted by registered post or by hand before 15.03.2021 to the following address :

Project Director
Badulla Chenkaladi Road Improvement Project
Road Development Authority
05th Floor, Wing A, Stage I, "Sethsiripaya",
Battaramulla.

Project Director
Badulla Chenkaladi Road Improvement Project
Road Development Authority
Ministry of Highways

**VALUABLE RESTAURANT SPACE FOR RENT IN
PARK ROAD, COLOMBO 5 WITH BEAUTIFUL VIEW**

Prime commercial Property is available for an upmarket Restaurant/Pub/Café at the newly constructed cricket pavilion of the **Colombo Colts Cricket Club** with a panoramic view of the ground from the roof top with basic amenities including dedicated parking slots for rent.

A total floor area of approximately 3150 sq.ft., including kitchen, storage, staff resting area and bar with full air conditioning will be ready for occupation by July 2021.

For further details and to submit proposals please contact,
Raneesha - 0772276622 or Office - 0112581633

Colombo Colts Cricket Club
No.17, Park Road, Colombo 05
E mail: colombocoltsc@yahoo.com

NLDB

NATIONAL LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT BOARD

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

BID FOR THE SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, COMMISSIONING & HANDING OVER OF 03 NOS. OF GRASS CHOPPER MACHINES

Sealed bids will be invited by the Chairman, National Livestock Development Board from registered suppliers and organizations for the Supply, Installation, Commissioning Handing over of 03 Nos. of Grass Chopper Machines for the Upcountry farms of NLDB.

Bid documents containing the required specifications & bid conditions can be obtained from the Supplies Division of the National Livestock Development Board at the below mentioned address, during the working days by producing a request letter of the respective supplier. A non-refundable fee of Rs. 1,000/- per each bid document has to be paid to the Accountant of NLDB.

Bid documents will be issued up to 3.30 p.m. on 15th March 2021 and acceptance of bids will be closed at 2.30 p.m. on 16th March 2021. Bids will be opened immediately thereafter at the National Livestock Development Board, at No. 40, Nawala Road, Narahenpita. Colombo 05,

Chairman
National Livestock Development Board
No. 40, Nawala Road.
Narahenpita,
Colombo 05.
011-2501701/2 ,011-5746308

AMALGAMATION OF ASIAN TYRES (PRIVATE) LIMITED WITH CEAT KELANI RADIALS (PRIVATE) LIMITED

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice in terms of sub section (3) (b) of Section 242 of the Companies Act No. 07 of 2007 (Act) of a proposed amalgamation of Asian Tyres (Private) Limited (Company Registration No. PV 89355) with Ceat Kelani Radials (Private) Limited (Company Registration No. PV 784) in terms of Section 242 (2) of the Act.

On 26th March 2021, the Board of Directors of Asian Tyres (Private) Limited which is a fully owned subsidiary of Ceat Kelani Radials (Private) Limited and the Board of Directors of Ceat Kelani Radials (Private) Limited will resolve to amalgamate Asian Tyres (Private) Limited with Ceat Kelani Radials (Private) Limited in terms of Section 242 (2) of the Act whereby Ceat Kelani Radials (Private) Limited shall remain and Asian Tyres (Private) Limited will cease to exist.

On a day not less than 20 days hence from the date of this Notice, upon the Registrar General of Companies issuing the Certificate of Amalgamation in terms of Section 242 (2) of the Act pursuant to Asian Tyres (Private) Limited and Ceat Kelani Radials (Private) Limited filing with the Registrar General of Companies for registration the amalgamation proposal together with the documents set out in Section 243 of the said Act, the amalgamation shall take effect.

Copies of the amalgamation proposal which shall in terms of Section 242 (4) of the Act be deemed to constitute the resolutions approving the amalgamation by the Board of Directors of Asian Tyres (Private) Limited (Company) and Ceat Kelani Radials (Private) Limited are available for inspection for any shareholder or creditor of the company or any person to whom the company is under an obligation, at the office of the Secretaries to the company, P.R. Corporate Services (Private) Limited at No. 59, Gregory's Road, Colombo 07 during the normal business hours.

A shareholder or creditor of the company or any person to whom the company is under an obligation is entitled to be supplied free of charge with a copy of the amalgamation proposal upon request made to the company.

By order of Directors of Asian Tyres (Private) Limited and Ceat Kelani Radials (Private) Limited
P.R. Corporate Services (Private) Limited
Secretaries

On this 24th day of February 2021

MINISTRY OF WATER SUPPLY

NATIONAL WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD

EXTENSION OF THE BIDS

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF VOLUMETRIC DISPLACEMENT TYPE 15 MM (1/2") DOMESTIC WATER METERS FOR WESTERN REGION, NORTHERN/CENTRAL, MAIN STORES AND SOUTHERN/EASTERN REGION

CONTRACT NOS:
DGM/M&E/WM/15/2020/08 (W)
DGM/M&E/WM/15/2020/10 (NC)
DGM/M&E/WM/15/2020/11 (S)
DGM/M&E/WM/15/2020/09 (SE)

Reference to the advertisement dated 16th December 2020
Please note that the closing date of the following tenders have been extended as follows:

No.	Description	Extended Date
01	Supply and Delivery of 22,500 Nos. Volumetric Displacement Type 15 Mm (1/2") Domestic Water Meters for Western Region CONTRACT NO.: DGM/M&E/WM/15/2020/08 (W)	01 st March 2021 at 10.00 am
02	Supply and Delivery of 22,500 Nos. Volumetric Displacement Type 15 Mm (1/2") Domestic Water Meters for Northern/Central Region CONTRACT NO.: DGM/M&E/WM/15/2020/10 (NC)	01 st March 2021 at 10.00 am
03	Supply and Delivery of 22,500 Nos. Volumetric Displacement Type 15 Mm (1/2") Domestic Water Meters for Main Stores CONTRACT NO.: DGM/M&E/WM/15/2020/11 (S)	01 st March 2021 at 10.00 am
04	Supply and Delivery of 22,500 Nos. Volumetric Displacement Type 15 Mm (1/2") Domestic Water Meters for Southern/Eastern Region CONTRACT NO.: DGM/M&E/WM/15/2020/09 (SE)	01 st March 2021 at 10.00 am

Chairman,
NATIONAL WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR BIDS

INDEPENDENT TELEVISION NETWORK LTD.

Procurement of Broadcast IT Local Area Network Equipment/Switches
Tender No.: ITN/Q/42/2020

1. The Chairman, Procurement Committee, Independent Television Network Ltd. (ITN) invites sealed bids from manufacturers or their accredited agents or authorized distributors for the procurement of Broadcast IT Local Area Network Equipment/Switches for Independent Television Network Ltd., Sri Lanka.
2. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding.
3. Bidders shall comply with following eligibility criteria to qualify for consideration.
 - i). A valid Business Registration
 - ii). At least 3 years experience in supplying, installing and commissioning of similar type of Broadcast IT Local Area Network Equipment/Switches in Sri Lanka.
 - iii). Suitable arrangements for after sale services locally and internationally.
4. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be inspected free of charge and purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the Manager (Procurement), Independent Television Network Ltd., Wickramasinghepura, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 12,500.00 (inclusive of VAT) in cash to the Chairman, Independent Television Network Ltd. during office days (Monday to Friday, except Mercantile Holidays) from 9.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. till 16th March 2021.
5. Interested bidders may obtain further information from the Deputy General Manager (Engineering) of Independent Television Network Ltd. Tel: 94112774592 / Email: engineering@itn.lk.
6. Sealed bids shall be delivered in duplicate to the address below either by Registered Post or deposited in the "Tender Box" kept at the Front Security Office of ITN, Wickramasinghepura, Battaramulla before the closing time of 2.00 p.m. on 17th March 2021.
7. The caption "Procurement of Broadcast It Local Area Network Equipment / Switches - Ref No. ITN/Q/42/2020" should be mentioned on the top left hand corner envelope containing the bid.
8. Bids will be opened at 2.30 p.m. on 17th March 2021 at the office of the Engineering Division of ITN, Wickramasinghepura, Battaramulla in the presence of the bidder's representatives who choose to attend. Late bids will be rejected.
9. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security as specified in the bidding documents.
10. A Pre-bid meeting will be held on 09th March 2021 at 10.30 a.m. at the ITN Head Office, Wickramasinghepura, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.

Chairman,
Procurement Committee,
Independent Television Network Ltd.,
Wickramasinghepura,
Battaramulla.

Daily News

Classifieds

Automotive

109

Mitsubishi Cars
For sale
300-7971 Mitsubishi, 1990, car for highest offer. Vallibel Finance PLC. No. 310, Galle Road, Colombo-03. Tel: 0714-542958. 014285

Positions Vacant
Hotel & Bakery

Urgent requirement for the following personnel for 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. 011863

Buses & Lorries
For sale
PQ-6982 Mahindra Maximo lorry. Central Finance Company PLC. 254, Katugastota Road, Kandy. 081-2234234. 014271

M/Cycles & T/Wheelers
For sale
SP BGK-6683 Yamaha Ray, 2018, motor cycle for highest offer. Vallibel Finance PLC. No. 310, Galle Road, Colombo-03. Tel: 0711-210810. 014287

General

Educational Vocational

Learn to drive accurately and perfectly within the city without fear. Most welcome inexperienced driving licence holders. 0762905252, 0714225441. 013935

Real Estate

Luxury Apartments/Houses/Condominiums
To Let / Lease

Wanted an active driver who could serve for a company cum residence in Colombo. Accommodation will be provided. Should have driving experience abroad, age 35-45 years. Strictly non alcoholic. Salary Rs. 45,000/= and above, Rs. 10,000/= . Food allowance. Also national identity card and Grama Sevaka Certificate are essential, police certificate will be an additional qualification. Contact: Roshan 077-0478052. 014243

Professional Consultancy
Services
Consultancy in labour issues, fraud prevention, conflict resolving. No political interference. De Abrew & Co. 0722062919. 014053

Positions Vacant
Drivers/Chauffeurs

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. 014347

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CEYLON FISHERY HARBOURS CORPORATION (CFHC)

VACANCY

Applications are hereby invited from citizens of Sri Lanka for vacancy mentioned below.

Designation : General Manager

General conditions, Academic and professional Qualifications and Experience which should be fulfilled by the applicants are mentioned in the CFHC website. (www.cfhc.gov.lk)

Duly Completed applications should reach the Human Resources Manager, Ceylon Fishery Harbours Corporation, Rock House Lane, Colombo 15 within the 07 days of this advertisement.

Chairman
Ceylon Fishery Harbours Corporation

National Transport Medical Institute
(State Ministry Of Vehicle Regulation, Bus Transport Services and Train Compartments and Motor Car Industry)

VACANCIES

The National Transport Medical Institute is an Institution established by the National Transport Medical Institute Act No. 25 of 1997, functioning under the State Ministry of Vehicle Regulation, Bus Transport Services and Train Compartments and Motor Car Industry and its vision is to placing a healthy driver behind each steering.

As the contribution of professionals are needed to achieve the above vision as the leader in the Transport Medical field, applications are invited from Sri Lankan citizens to fill the undermentioned vacancies on permanent basis.

INTERNAL AUDITOR

Qualifications

Internal Auditor - MM 1-1 (01 Vacancy)

External Applicants (Qualification 1,2 or 3 below)

- Obtained degree in Business Administration, Accountancy, Commerce or Management recognized by University Grants Commission.
and
and Possess a minimum of three (03) years experience in the relevant field after obtaining degree.
- Obtained Higher National Diploma in Accountancy (HNDA)
and
And possess a minimum of three (03) years experience in the relevant field after obtaining diploma.
- Passed the Intermediate Examination at a Sri Lanka Institute of Chartered Accountancy SLICA or stage I or II examination at CIMA or stage I or II examination at ACCA.
and
And possess a minimum of three (03) years experience in the relevant field after obtaining above professional qualifications.

Internal Applicants (1 or 2 below)

- Should fulfill the qualifications relevant to the external applicants above.
- Complete a satisfactory services period of five (05) years in the relevant field in the "Junior Management" JM Service Category

- Age** : Should not be below 22 years and not above 45 years. Internal applicants are not affected by the upper age limit.
- Salary code No. and monthly salary scale relevant to the category :**

Salary Scale: Salary will be paid as per the schedule II of the management Services Circular No. 02/2016 along with the other allowances.	MM 1-1 - Rs. 53,175/- 10x1,375 - 15x1,910 - 95,575/=
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General Qualification required for above post Every applicant should be :

- A Citizen of Sri Lankan
- Physically and mentally fit to discharge the duties of the post well and serve in any part of the island.
- Possess excellent moral character.

The final decision in the selection of suitable person rests with the National Transport Medical Institute. Self prepared applications containing the bio data along with certified copies of relevant certificates and names, address and telephone numbers of two non-related referees should be sent by **Registered post/Fax/E-mail or Hand over to the undermentioned address to be received on or before 10.03.2021.** The cover containing the application should be marked the post applied for at the left side top corner.

The Chairman
National Transport Medical Institute
No. 170, High Level Road, Nugegoda.
2021.02.24
Tel : 011 2814849 / 011 2852868
Fax : 011 2809305
Email : ntmi@sitnet.lk

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BOARD OF INVESTMENT OF SRI LANKA (BOI)

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

CONSTRUCTION OF AN ELECTRIC FENCE FOR PHASE I OF PROPOSED PHARMACEUTICAL ZONE AT ARABOKKA

CONTRACT NO.: BOI/TS/Pharma/2021/02/08.003

- The Chairman, Department Procurement Committee, on behalf of the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for construction of an electric fence for phase I of proposed pharmaceutical zone at Arabokka.
The Construction period is 90 days.
- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding procedure.
- To be eligible for contract award, the successful bidder shall not have been blacklisted and shall meet the following requirements.
Required SL/DA Registration
Specialty. : Electrical & Mechanical Services
Grade : EM4 or above
- Qualification requirements to qualify for contract award include:
Experience as a main Contractor for at least successfully completed one work of a similar nature and complexity equivalent to the proposed works over the period of last 5 years.
- Interested bidders may obtain further information from Director (Technical Services), Board of Investment of Sri Lanka on Tel. No. 011-2433600, 011-2427280, Fax No. 011-2441826 and inspect the Bidding Documents from the address given below between 0900 hrs and 1600 hrs during week days.
- A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of a written application on a business letterhead to Director (Technical Services), Board of Investment of Sri Lanka, Level 5, West Tower, Echelon Square, Colombo 01 from 25.02.2021 until 17.03.2021 between 09.00 hrs and 1500 hrs upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 3,500.00 + VAT. The method of payment will be by cash.
- Sealed Bids shall be delivered in duplicate to Director (Technical Services), Board of Investment of Sri Lanka, Level 5, West Tower, Echelon Square, Colombo 01 on or before 18.03.2021 at 2.00 p.m. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened soon after closing in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend.
- Pre-bid meeting will be held at 11.00 a.m. on 08.03.2021 at the zone office.
- Bids shall be valid up to 17.06.2021.
- All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid security of Rs. 100,000.00. Bid Security shall be valid up to 15.07.2021.

Chairman
BOARD OF INVESTMENT OF SRI LANKA

UNIVERSITY OF JAFFNA, SRI LANKA
UNIT OF SIDDHA MEDICINE

VACANCIES

University of Jaffna will entertain applications up to 10.03.2021 from suitably qualified persons for the undermentioned post on Temporary basis.

Temporary Assistant Lecturer / Temporary Demonstrator in Siddha Medicine

Required Qualifications:

- A Degree with Specialization in the relevant subject with First or Second Class (Upper Division) Honours;
OR
- A Degree with Specialization in the relevant subject with Second Class (Lower Division) Honours;
OR
- (a) A Degree with Specialization in the relevant subject without Honours or any other degree with at least second class Honours and (b) a recognized postgraduate degree in the relevant subject.

Note : Candidates who are awaiting the results of the final degree examinations may also apply for the Temporary Demonstrator position.

SALARY AND OTHER BENEFITS:

POSTS	SALARY SCALE
Temporary Assistant Lecturer	Rs. 49,860/ p.m. (fixed)
Temporary Demonstrator	Rs. 40,920/- p.m. (fixed)

In addition to the above salary, the allowances approved by University Grants Commission will also be paid.

Closing date :
Applications should reach us on or before 10.03.2021.

Application forms and other details will also be available in the University website: www.jfn.ac.lk. Applicants are requested to send the prescribed application form downloaded from the University website with the paid Bank Slip for the deposit of a sum of Rs.100/- credited to the People's Bank Account No: 162-1-001-6-0000880 of Bursar, University of Jaffna.

Candidates who apply for more than one post should submit separate applications along with separate Bank Slip. The post applied for should be marked on the top left hand corner of the envelope.

Perfected applications shall be sent to the Deputy Registrar/Academic Establishments, University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka under registered post with the photocopies of statement of the Degrees and Service Certificates. Submission of Applications will not be entertained in person.

Applicants from the University System/Government Departments /Corporations and Statutory Boards should channel their applications through the Heads of respective Institutions. Illegible, incomplete and applications received after the closing date will be rejected without intimation. Only short-listed applicants will be called for an interview.

Registrar
University of Jaffna,
Sri Lanka
23.02.2021

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No. 84 FORM OF NOTICE TO BE PUBLISHED BY THE PROBATE OFFICER Notice under Section 529 (2) of the Civil Procedure Code

It is hereby notified that the following applications have been made for the proof of will/probate/grant of letter of administration / issue of certificates of heirship, in respect of the estates of the deceased persons described in the Schedule hereto.

Any person having objections to the making of an Order declaring a will proved or the grant of probate or letters of administration with or without a will annexed or the issue of certificates of heirship to the persons named in the petitions, shall make such objections in writing supported by affidavit and filed on or before the dates fixed by the respective District Courts specified below:

SCHEDULE

District Court of Jaffna Last date for filing of objections 26th day of March 2021 SCHEDULE Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant).

District Court of Matara Last date for filing of objections 24th day of March 2021 SCHEDULE Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant).

District Court of Attanagalla Last date for filing of objections 22nd day of March 2021 SCHEDULE Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant).

District Court of Moratuwa Last date for filing of objections 24th day of March 2021 SCHEDULE Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant).

District Court of Kandy Last date for filing of objections 26th day of March 2021 SCHEDULE Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant).

District Court of Hatton Last date for filing of objections 26th day of March 2021 SCHEDULE Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant).

District Court of Panadura Last date for filing of objections 01st day of March 2021 SCHEDULE Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant).

District Court of Mt. Lavinia Last date for filing of objections 25th day of March 2021 SCHEDULE Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant).

District Court of Kesbewa Last date for filing of objections 26th day of March 2021 SCHEDULE Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant).

District Court of Hingurakoda Last date for filing of objections 11th day of February 2021 SCHEDULE Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant).

District Court of Homagama Last date for filing of objections 30th day of March 2021 SCHEDULE Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant).

District Court of Kalutara Last date for filing of objections 24th day of March 2021 SCHEDULE Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant).

District Court of Balapitiya Last date for filing of objections 24th day of March 2021 SCHEDULE Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant).

District Court of Moratuwa Last date for filing of objections 25th day of March 2021 SCHEDULE Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant).

District Court of Matugama Last date for filing of objections 19th day of March 2021 SCHEDULE Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant).

District Court of Kaduwela Last date for filing of objections 26th day of March 2021 SCHEDULE Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant).

District Court of Gampola Last date for filing of objections 23rd day of March 2021 SCHEDULE Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant).

District Court of Attanagalla Last date for filing of objections 22nd day of March 2021 SCHEDULE Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant).

No. 84
FORM OF NOTICE TO BE PUBLISHED BY THE PROBATE OFFICER
Notice under Section 529 (2) of the Civil Procedure Code

It is hereby notified that the following applications have been made for the proof of will/probate/grant of letter of administration / issue of certificates of heirship, in respect of the estates of the deceased persons described in the Schedule hereto.

Any person having objections to the making of an Order declaring a will proved or the grant of probate or letters of administration with or without a will annexed or the issue of certificates of heirship to the persons named in the petitions, shall make such objections in writing supported by affidavit and filed on or before the dates fixed by the respective District Courts specified below:

SCHEDULE

District Court of Gampaha
Last date for filing of objections 24th day of March 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Galle
Last date for filing of objections 24th day of March 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Colombo
Last date for filing of objections 26th day of March 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Batticaloa
Last date for filing of objections 24th day of March 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Bandarawela
Last date for filing of objections 24th day of March 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Horana
Last date for filing of objections 26th day of March 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Nawalapitiya
Last date for filing of objections 25th day of March 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Nugegoda
Last date for filing of objections 26th day of March 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Negombo
Last date for filing of objections 23rd day of March 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Negombo
Last date for filing of objections 22nd day of March 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Walapane
Last date for filing of objections 23rd day of March 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Kegalle
Last date for filing of objections 28th day of March 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Jaffna
Last date for filing of objections 30th day of April 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Kandy
Last date for filing of objections 29th day of April 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Galle
Last date for filing of objections 28th day of April 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Attanagalla
Last date for filing of objections 27th day of April 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Moratuwa
Last date for filing of objections 28th day of April 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Kandy
Last date for filing of objections 29th day of April 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Hingurakgoda
Last date for filing of objections 04th day of March 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Minuwangoda
Last date for filing of objections 29th day of April 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Mathugama
Last date for filing of objections 22nd day of April 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Avissawella
Last date for filing of objections 27th day of April 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

District Court of Pugoda
Last date for filing of objections 27th day of April 2021
SCHEDULE
Table with 4 columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant)

No. 84
FORM OF NOTICE TO BE PUBLISHED BY THE PROBATE OFFICER
Notice under Section 529 (2) of the Civil Procedure Code

It is hereby notified that the following applications have been made for the proof of will/probate/grant of letter of administration / issue of certificates of heirship, in respect of the estates of the deceased persons described in the Schedule hereto.

Any person having objections to the making of an Order declaring a will proved or the grant of probate or letters of administration with or without a will annexed or the issue of certificates of heirship to the persons named in the petitions, shall make such objections in writing supported by affidavit and filed on or before the dates fixed by the respective District Courts specified below:

SCHEDULE

District Court of Mount Lavinia
Last date for filing of objections 28th day of April 2021

Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant). Includes cases for Jayampathy Indrasiri Bandara Samarakoon, Glori Kamalini Flora Stephen, Mohamed Fauzy Sithy Razana, etc.

District Court of Nugegoda
Last date for filing of objections 30th day of April 2021

Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant). Includes cases for Aukman Nalinda Galhena, Pushpa Chandrani Kolambage, Wajira Susantha Ruberu, etc.

Date : 05.01.2021 Signed Probate Officer - District Court of Nugegoda

District Court of Kesbewa
Last date for filing of objections 27th day of April 2021

Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant). Includes cases for Gamaachchige Piyasena, Jayalath Achchige Don Dulias Gunasena, Gamsooriya Gahagedara Manel, etc.

Date : 08.02.2021 Signed Probate Officer - District Court of Kesbewa

District Court of Kandy
Last date for filing of objections 30th day of April 2021

Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant). Includes cases for Subaya Hakuru Nandawathie, Waththage Premalal, Sithy Fathima Japper, etc.

Date : 06.01.2021 Signed Probate Officer - District Court of Kandy

District Court of Kegalle
Last date for filing of objections 02nd day of May 2021

Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant). Includes case for Mohamed Imithaz Cader.

Date : 18.01.2021 Signed Probate Officer - District Court of Kegalle

District Court of Matugama
Last date for filing of objections 23rd day of April 2021

Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant). Includes case for Aji Nishantha Hettiarachchi.

Date : 02.02.2021 Signed Probate Officer - District Court of Matugama

District Court of Avissawella
Last date for filing of objections 27th day of April 2021

Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant). Includes case for Hewawasam Puwakpitiyage Kamal.

Date : 19.01.2021 Signed Probate Officer - District Court of Avissawella

District Court of Matara
Last date for filing of objections 21st day of April 2021

Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant). Includes case for Dissanayaka Mohottige Gaminii Lakhman.

Date : 20.11.19 Signed Probate Officer - District Court of Matara

District Court of Panadura
Last date for filing of objections 31st day of May 2021

Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant). Includes case for Don Kularathna Jayaneththi.

Date : 12.02.2021 Signed Probate Officer - District Court of Panadura

District Court of Badulla
Last date for filing of objections 07th day of April 2021

Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant). Includes case for Rathnayaka Mudiyansele Nadika Priyadarshani.

Date : 27.01.2021 Signed Probate Officer - District Court of Badulla

District Court of Colombo
Last date for filing of objections 23rd day of April 2021

Table with columns: Column I (District Court Registration No.), Column II (Name and Address of Deceased), Column III (Whether Deceased left Will), Column IV (Name and Address of Applicant). Includes cases for Don Thomas Jayamanna, Samarawickrama Liyanage Sunil Lalindra Jayawardena, Agampodi Sarath Hemachandra Silva, etc.

Date : 02.02.2021 Signed Probate Officer - District Court of Colombo

